

NEWS

NATIONAL WEEK OF SOLIDARITY, 6-12 SEPTEMBER

There are more than 16,000 children and young people seeking asylum in Australia, and their families are ineligible for JobKeeper, JobSeeker and Medicare.

[The Refugee Council of Australia](#) is launching a campaign called, National Week of Solidarity to support the expansion of a basic safety net for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent economic downturn, so people are not left destitute and homeless. The campaign consists of a week of events, online and in-person, in schools, education centres and community groups across the country.

Ways you can help:

- Share [the email drafted by campaign ambassador Dorothy Hoddinott AO](#) inviting your networks to join the week
- Share the [social media posts](#) to your networks
- Share the [joint statement for educators, students and parents to sign](#) or sign on as a [concerned member of the public](#)

If you are part of a religious Institutes with education connections, please consider how you might assist. For further information, contact Samuel Dariol, Refugee Council of Australia, Phone: (02) 9211 9333 or samuel.dariol@refugeecouncil.org.au

CRA SIGNS INTERFAITH LETTER IN SUPPORT OF THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

The 75th anniversary of the Hiroshima bombing was commemorated on 6 August and the [hibakusha](#) honoured, with an [interfaith open letter](#) sent to the Prime Minister and the leader of the Opposition, and emailed to all federal parliamentarians. CRA is one of the 58 faith-based organisations which signed the letter, which is a contribution towards the stigmatisation and elimination of nuclear weapons.

COLUMBAN MESSAGE OF PEACE AND NONVIOLENCE

On the 75th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the St Columban Mission Society published a message of peace and non-violence; [read it here](#).

CRA SIGNS MODERN SLAVERY ACT 2018 ePETITION

The NSW Legislative Assembly went live this week with its new ePetition facility. One of the first parliamentary ePetitions in the state is [Proclaim the NSW Modern Slavery Act 2018 Now](#). Click on the link to sign; the closing date is 1 September 2020. Please share this link with your congregational members.

CRA SEND MESSAGES OF SOLIDARITY TO LEBANESE COMMUNITY

Following the tragic explosion in Beirut on 5 August, CRA has sent messages of solidarity to the leaders of Lebanese religious congregations in Australia, the Maronite Diocese of Australia and the Lebanese Consul-General, on behalf of Catholic religious women and men around the country, assuring them of our prayers.

POPE FRANCIS APPOINTS SIX WOMEN TO ECONOMY COUNCIL

On 6 August, Pope Francis named 13 new members to the Council for the Economy, which oversees Vatican finances and the work of the Secretariat for the Economy. Among them were six European women who are high-level experts in finance. Read the [article on Catholic News Agency](#).

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS OCEANIA PROVINCE – NEW LEADERSHIP TEAM

The Congregation Leader of the Christian Brothers, Br Hugh O’Neill, has appointed the following Brothers to form the new Oceania Leadership Team from 8 September 2020.

- Br Gerard Brady Province Leader
- Br Paul Conn Deputy Province Leader
- Br Tim Moloney Team Member
- Br Martin Sanderson Team Member
- Br Geoff Whitefield Team Member

NEW BISHOP OF PORT PIRIE

Pope Francis has appointed Fr Karol Kulczycki SDS as the new Bishop of Port Pirie, a diocese in regional South Australia. Karol is currently serving in Poland but served in Australia for more than 20 years across a range of ministries in Western Australia. He was the head of the Society of Divine Saviour, better known as the Salvatorians in Australia, during his time in this country. Read the [ACBC media release](#), [a statement from Bishop-Elect Karol Kulczycki](#) and a [statement from Bishop Greg O’Kelly](#).

PROFESSOR ZLATKO SKRBIS APPOINTED NEW VICE-CHANCELLOR OF ACU

On 6 August, Australian Catholic University (ACU) appointed Professor Zlatko Skrbis as the University’s next Vice-Chancellor and President. Read the [ACU media release](#).

FORMER CONVENT TO BECOME CENTRE FOR QUEENSLAND MOTHERS

The conversion of the former convent for the Brisbane Sisters of Mercy into Queensland’s largest centre for mothers suffering from postnatal depression is due to be completed by the end of 2022. [Read the article in CathNews](#).

CHURCHES MARK EARTH OVERSHOOT DAY FOR 2020 – 22 August 2020

Earth Overshoot Day aims to raise public consciousness and create a call for transformation of our attitudes and actions towards the consumption of the Earth’s resources. [Read more here](#).

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

JUSTICE RESEARCH OFFICER FOR CRA

CRA is seeking a part-time Justice Research Officer to undertake evidence-based research, produce publications and assist the CRA Justice Committee and the CRA Secretariat in advocating for the marginalised and more vulnerable in our society.

Please circulate to your networks, in particular, principals of congregational schools who may be able to identify recent school or university graduates. Read the [advertisement and position description](#) here.

Applications close 27 August. For further enquiries, email Carmel Warnock: cpc@catholicreligious.org.au.

EVENTS/WEBINARS

ACNC EXTERNAL CONDUCT STANDARDS - ONE YEAR ON

Date: Thursday, 27 August 2020

Time: 12.00pm to 1.00pm (AEST)

Topic: The Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission's External Conduct Standards govern how registered charities must manage their activities and resources outside Australia. One year on from their arrival, this webinar will look at some of the burning issues charities have experienced in complying with the Standards over the past 12 months, as well as the importance of the standards in the current global climate. This webinar will be especially relevant to charities that have operations overseas.

Register: Free. [Registration form](#) or click on [website](#)

RESOURCES

2020 UPDATED ACTS OF EXTRAORDINARY ADMINISTRATION

Click here to download the document, [2020 updated Acts of Extraordinary Administration](#) regarding Temporal Goods Administration.

HOLDING AGMs REMOTELY

[Read the ACNC's guidelines](#) for holding your charity's Annual General Meeting remotely, prepared by the Australian and Charities Not-for-profit Commission (ACNC).

7 DAYS OF CREATION REFLECTION-RETREAT: YEAR A

7 Days of Creation Reflection-Retreat offers a prayerful way for believers preparing to celebrate as **World Day of Prayer for Creation** (1 September) proclaimed jointly by Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholome & Pope Francis from the Vatican and from the Phanar, 1 September 2017. This seven-day reflection reinforces the officially sanctioned ecumenical celebration of the World Day of Prayer for Creation. [View here](#).

A BIT OF COVID HUMOUR:

