

NEWS

POPE ISSUES MOTU PROPRIO ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF INSTITUTES OF CONSECRATED LIFE

In the Apostolic Letter in the form of a Motu Proprio "*Authenticum charismatis*," Pope Francis amends canon law to require the Holy See's approval for the valid erection of Institutes of Consecrated Life. Read the [Vatican News article here](#).

CSSA WORRIED ABOUT CASHLESS DEBIT CARD EXTENSION

Catholic Social Services Australia (CSSA) has expressed its concerns about the continuation and extension of the cashless debit card system, arguing it is discriminatory and stigmatising. In its [submission to the Senate Committee on Community Affairs](#), CSSA outlines some of the financial challenges people encounter when they are required to participate in the scheme, as well as the mental health challenges that are often associated with using the cashless debit card. Read the [CSSA media release](#).

"GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY" TO HELP BREAK THE CYCLE OF POVERTY

Catholic Mission has launched its annual Christmas Appeal, focusing on the work of the Catholic Church in Ethiopia and supporting the education of children from disadvantaged backgrounds. Read the [Catholic Mission's media release](#) or visit the website [to donate](#).

VIRTUAL INDIGENOUS FILM FESTIVAL TO COMMEMORATE NAIDOC WEEK

Due to COVID restrictions, FanForce TV and the National NAIDOC Committee have launched a Virtual Indigenous Film Festival to commemorate NAIDOC week, from 8-15 November 2020. They are offering employers bulk passes at a discounted rate, providing access to five Indigenous films, followed by live-streamed Q&As with expert panel guests, and an interactive live chat. Learn more on the [FanForce website](#), view the [promo trailer](#) (1 min) or share the [Facebook event](#).

PURCHASE A BICYCLE AND GIVE A CHILD ACCESS TO EDUCATION

You can provide a child with access to a quality education by purchasing a bicycle for them from Jesuit Mission's Gifts for Change program. Read the [Jesuit Mission media release](#). Purchase [Gifts for Change online, click here](#) or call 02 8918 4109.

MAY THE PROGRESS OF ROBOTICS AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SERVE HUMANKIND

In his encyclical *Fratelli tutti*, Pope Francis says: "How wonderful it would be if the growth of scientific and technological innovation could come with more equality and social inclusion!" To learn more, [watch the The Pope Video](#).

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

House of Welcome, a project of St Francis Social Services, and the largest provider of transitional housing in Sydney, is seeking a Housing Maintenance Volunteer. For more information, download the [position description](#) or make contact by email: m.sneddon@houseofwelcome.com.au or by phone: 02 9727 9290.

EVENTS/WEBINARS

NEW DATES: CRA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Date: Monday 2 to Thursday 5 August 2021 *Save the dates!*
Location: Sydney

The CRA National Assembly has been postponed until August 2021 and will be held in Sydney, a venue will be confirmed soon. Refunds will be organised for all those who have registered and paid for the National Assembly in March 2021 in Melbourne. New registration forms will be prepared for the Assembly in August. It is hoped that we will hold the National Assembly in Melbourne in 2022. For more information on the topic or speakers, visit the [CRA website](#).

ST COLUMBAN DAY 2020

Date and time: Monday, 23 November 2020 at 12:00 noon

Join the live stream Mass in Essendon, to celebrate the feast of St Columban. For more information visit the [Columban website](#).

RETIREMENT FOR MISSION – SABBATICAL

Date: Thursday, 8 April – Thursday 3 June 2021
Location: St Joseph's, Baulkham Hills, Sydney
Bookings: by email: bookings@stjosephscentre.org.au or by phone: 02 9634 2317
Brochure: [Download the brochure](#) here

RESOURCES

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS RESOURCES FOR FAITH-BASED ORGANISATION

CRA works collaboratively with numerous organisations, one of which is the Association of Children's Welfare Agencies (ACWA) which has developed resources for faith-based organisations. These include free e-learning modules, some low-fee courses, reference material and more. Please visit the [ACWA website](#) to find out more.

NEW BOOK: SEEKING GOD IN SCRIPTURE

Steele Hartmann OSCO, Abbot of the Cistercian Monks in Australia, has a book coming out in December 2020, through Coventry Press. At the heart of *Seeking God in Scripture* is the conviction that only through deep prayer, reflection and meditation do people of faith come to know God and God's purposes for us. There is also an understanding that the Scriptures are themselves the sources of discipleship and

prayer; and that only by sustained reflection on their teachings do we become aware of the Spirits leading us to complete truth, about God, about the Christ, about the Spirit, about ourselves within the community of believers. To find out more or to purchase the book, [click here](#).

NEW HANDBOOK: ASSURING OUR COMMON FUTURE

Just released, this handbook focuses on parliamentary action to implement the disarmament agenda put forward by UN Secretary-General António Guterres in his 2018 report *entitled Securing our Common Future: An Agenda for Disarmament*. This agenda includes a set of goals and practical measures across the entire range of disarmament issues, including weapons of mass destruction, outer space, conventional weapons and future weapon technologies. [Download the ebook here](#).

ORDERS FOR THE LCWR OCCASIONAL PAPER ARE NOW BEING TAKEN

The (US) Winter 2021 issue of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious Occasional Papers, entitled *God's Infinite Vision*, explores how we might look upon this time of upheaval in society as a moment for transformation. A highlight of this issue is an interview with theologian Douglas Christie, author of *The Blue Sapphire of the Mind: Notes for a Contemplative Ecology*.

- Hard copy cost: \$20.00 each, including postage and handling. Please download the [order form](#), and return it to events@catholicreligious.org.au no later than Tuesday, 8 December 2020; or
- Digital copy: [subscribe](#) to the *Occasional Papers* at a cost of US \$15.00 p.a.

HELP US DEVELOP A HEALTH AND WELL-BEING RESOURCE KIT FOR YOU

The CRA Health and Well-being Committee is interested in developing a resource kit to enhance the health and well-being of our members and those we live and associate with, in our congregations and in our local communities. Carmel Warnock would welcome your feedback and be interested to know what you do already, whether it's spiritual exercise, flower arranging or sharing of a simple meal on a regular basis. Please contact Carmel with any ideas, by email cpc@catholicreligious.org.au.

LAUGHTER THERAPY



"My doctor told me to avoid any unnecessary stress, so I didn't open his bill."

When you lie on your resume but still get the job

