

NEWS

CRA URGES GOVERNMENT TO REVISE FAIR WORK AMENDMENT BILL IN LATEST SUBMISSION

CRA has urged the government to consider revisions to the *Fair Work Amendment (Supporting Australia's Jobs and Economic Recovery) Bill 2020* in a submission highlighting elements of the proposed Bill which leave certain workers vulnerable, compromising workers' rights and the common good of the Australian society. Read [CRA's media release](#) here and the [submission here](#); CRA's submissions and others are listed on the [Parliamentary website](#).

CRA ENDORSES THE SYDNEY STATEMENT

CRA endorses *The Sydney Statement*, an interfaith charter developed by Youth PoWR (Parliament of the World's Religions), supporting the call of The Sydney Statement to "build bridges between believers from different religions." Read [CRA's media release here](#); or read about the initiative by [Youth PoWR](#).

STELLA MARIS AGED CARE FACILITY, CRONULLA – CONCESSIONAL BED VACANCIES

Stella Maris Aged Care Facility, Cronulla, a sponsored work of the Sisters of Mercy Parramatta, currently has some concessional bed vacancies. Stella Maris is positioned overlooking the ocean and the residents are cared for by a team of very competent and caring staff. For more information you can call (02) 8522 1200.

CENTRAL STATISTICS OFFICE IN THE VATICAN

In order for your religious institute to be counted in the statistical return to the Vatican, the Archdiocese of Melbourne has asked CRA to send the following forms to our members with religious in the Archdiocese of Melbourne: [Religious priests](#); [religious sisters](#); [religious brothers](#); they ask that you to send your response to the Vicar General's Office no later than Friday, 12 February 2021 by email to: alina.tsakonas@cam.org.au or by post: Vicar General's Office, PO Box 146, East Melbourne VIC 8002.

POPE FRANCIS APPOINTS WOMAN WITH RIGHT TO VOTE AS UNDERSECRETARY OF SYNOD OF BISHOPS

Breaking with tradition and opening a new door in the synodal process, Pope Francis has appointed a woman, Sister Nathalie Becquart, as one of two new undersecretaries of the synod of bishops. [Read about it in America Today](#).

U.S. CATHOLIC BISHOPS SIGN STATEMENT TO LGBT YOUTH: 'GOD CREATED YOU, GOD LOVES YOU'

A group of U.S. Catholic bishops, including a cardinal and an archbishop, have signed a statement of support for L.G.B.T. youth, telling them, "God created you, God loves you and God is on your side." [Read about it in America – Jesuit Review](#).

CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP - AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC MIGRANT AND REFUGEE OFFICE

Fr Khalid Marogi commences his appointment as Director of the Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office on Monday, 3 May 2021, Fr Maurizio Pettenà CS, from the Scalabrinian Province remains the Director until then. Read the notice from the [Bishops Conference here](#).

EVENTS/WEBINARS

A COUNTRY CALLED FORGIVENESS - INTO A STRANGE LAND – ONLINE

Date: Sunday, 21 February 2021
Theme: 5-day online retreat for Lent: "We will be walking the arduous and sometimes lonely journey from unforgiveness to forgiveness: the journey that has the possibility of leading to joy and peace of soul that remains elusive, until we are able to let go and forgive."
Organiser: Sr Antonia Curtis OSB, Jamberoo Abbey
Program Fee: \$200 p/p
Registration: [Click here to register](#) or [download the flyer](#) with more information

LENTEN RETREATS AT DON BOSCO

Venue: Don Bosco Retreat Centre
Address: 465 Lysterfield Rd, Lysterfield VIC (at the foothills of the Dandenong Ranges)
Dates: Sunday, 21 – Friday 26 February: [Lent & Easter Retreat – A Journey of Reconciliation](#)
Saturday 13 March: [Family Retreat Day](#)
Saturday 20 March: [Youth and Young Adult Reflection Day](#)
Friday 26 March: [Seniors Retreat Day](#)
Registration: Download each flyer (above) for registration details or [Lenten Retreats 2021 poster](#)

FEMINISM AND AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN WOMEN - ONLINE

Presented by: Women and the Australian Church (WATAC)
Date: Wednesday 10 February 2021
Time: 6pm Sydney/Melbourne | 5.30pm Adelaide | 5pm Brisbane | 4.30pm Darwin | 3pm Perth
Speakers: Dr Kathleen McPhillips and Dr Trish Madigan OP (see the flyer)
Information: Download the [media release](#) and the [flyer](#) for more information
Registration: visit www.watac.net.au to participate

RETIREMENT FOR MISSION SABBATICAL

Date: 18 April – 3 June 2021
Venue: St Joseph's, Baulkham Hills, metropolitan Sydney
Topics: Download the flyer for a list of [topics and speakers](#)



Enquiries: Lil Girardi RSJ by email: lianella.girardi@sosj.org.au or ph: 0418 554 463
 Fee: \$8,320 p/p (applications close: 30 March 2021)
 Bookings: email: bookings@stjosephscentre.org.au or ph: 02 9634 2317

GETTING ELECTED – FIRST NATIONAL CONVENTION FOR COMMUNITY MINDED INDEPENDENTS

Date: 26 – 28 February
 Speakers: Hosted by [Cathy McGowan AO](#), speakers include [Dr Helen Haines MP](#), [Professor Kerry Phelp AM](#), workshops, a panel discussion, virtual and real-time networking dinners
 Fee: \$55 p/p – ONLINE EVENT
 Registration: Click here for more information and [to register](#)

WOMEN OF THE WELL

Theme: Creating sacred space to share story, listening for the Spirit’s whisper in our lives
 Date: 19-21 February: St Joseph’s, Kincumber
 26-28 February: The Hermitage, Mittagong
 18 – 20 June: St Joseph’s, Kincumber
 Cost: \$100 p/p
 Flyer: [Download the flyer here](#)

CRA EVENTS

- [CRA National Health & Well-being Seminar "Dementia Care"](#) Wednesday 21 April, Brisbane, QLD
- [CRA Professional Development & Networking Day for Administrators](#) Monday 3 May, Sydney, NSW
- [CRA 2021 National Assembly](#) Monday 2 – Thursday 5 August, Sydney, NSW

RESOURCES

CARITAS VIRTUAL IMMERSIONS

Caritas is offering Virtual Immersions to educate people about the overseas development work that funds raised by Project Compassion will go towards. For each week of Lent, you can register for a virtual Q & A and watch an accompanying film before attending. Click here [to register and find out more](#).

LAUDATO SI’ LENT

The Global Catholic Climate Movement has launched *Laudato Si’* Lent. Sign up to receive weekly reminders and ideas about a journey of ecological conversion, and suggested activities on a Lenten calendar, with each week featuring a “mini-fast” to help reduce your ecological footprint and reflect on your relationship with God and all creation. [Click here to find our more](#).

THE TRANSITIONS FILM FESTIVAL: FEBRUARY 26 – MARCH 15

The Transitions Film Festival showcases short, feature, and Virtual Reality documentaries about the social, environmental, and technological innovations that are shaping our collective future. Focusing on the mega-trends disrupting our lives and the pathways to building a better world, the Festival celebrates and inspires positive change around the issues that matter most. This year, films will be available to watch online, on-demand for the duration of the Festival period, click [here to find out more](#).

LAUGHTER THERAPY

