

NEWS

CRA AGAINST COVID-19 VACCINE NATIONALISM

Catholic Religious Australia is opposed to the stockpiling of COVID-19 vaccines by wealthy nations and supports an equitable distribution of vaccines around the globe, particularly to developing nations. Read the [CRA media statement](#) here.

GRATITUDE, ENTHUSIASM AND CONFIDENCE – 200 YEARS OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION

[Read the joint CRA-AMPJP media statement](#) recognising the 200th anniversary of Catholic education in Australia and celebrating the collaboration of Religious Institute, Ministerial Public Juridic Person (MPJP) and Diocesan systems of schools.

THE SWEET BUT SOMETIMES-BITTER TRUTH ABOUT EASTER CHOCOLATE

In this, the UN declared Year of the Elimination of Child Labour, ACRATH is asking “what will you do in 2021 to help eliminate slavery or child labour?” Please visit the ACRATH website to access [information about the campaign and a range of resources](#) and [download the flyer](#).

11 MARCH 2021: GLOBAL DAY OF ACTION – SACRED PEOPLE SACRED EARTH

On March 11, the [GreenFaith International Network](#) will publicise a [multi faith statement](#) calling for a recovery from COVID to help create a more just world while tackling climate change. You are invited to [sign](#). To find an event near you, please [view the map](#). More information on the Day of Action can be found on the Australian Religious Response to Climate Change [website](#).

LORETO SISTERS SEEKING 5-BEDROOM PROPERTY FOR RENT – SYDNEY

The Loreto Sisters are opening a house of formation in Sydney and they are interested in any congregation which might have a 5-bedroom house, townhouses or similar accommodation for rent. Please contact Libby Rogerson IBVM by email: libby.rogerson@loreto.org.au or by phone: 0439 039 449.

FAILURE TO 'RAISE THE RATE' COULD ENTRENCH DISADVANTAGE

Catholic Social Services Australia CEO, Ursula Stephens, says the failure to retain the higher Jobseeker rate provided during the pandemic will create financial pressure on families that could last for generations. Read the [CSSA media release here](#).

JOBSEEKER AS PART OF OUR RECOVERY PLAN

The National Council of the St Vincent de Paul Society in Australia reiterates the call for the Federal Government to raise the rate of JobSeeker as a permanent feature of the income support system, saying the payment must never again fall below \$50 a day, or \$700 per fortnight. Read the [media release here](#).

JESUIT COMMUNICATIONS AUSTRALIA ANNOUNCES NEW EDITOR OF *EUREKA STREET*

Jesuit Communications Australia (Jescom) is pleased to announce the appointment of David Halliday as the Editor of *Eureka Street*. Read the [Jescom media release here](#).

EVENTS/WEBINARS

LAUDATO SI'+ CONFERENCE – ONLINE

Dates: Monday 15 to Wednesday 17 March 2021

Theme: Celebrating the Laudato Si' Anniversary Year - Realising the vision of regenerating Earth's community of life

Speakers: [Professor Celia Deane-Drummond](#), [Rev Dr Peter Loy Chong](#), [Professor Brian Swimme](#) and Sisters of Mercy and others whose work has been significant in the field.

Flyer: [Download flyer](#)

Registration: \$165 (+GST if applicable) [Click here to book](#). A limited number of fee-free tickets are available for students/unwaged, contact: laudatosi.conference.ismapng@gmail.com

Organiser's message: We encourage you to get together in small groups and form a local 'hub'. Any hub with a minimum of four ticket holders can invite additional participants at no extra charge.

ACRATH ZOOM MORNING TEA

Date: Thursday 4 March at 10.30am

Topic: An opportunity to discuss slavery-free hopes, intentions and commitments in 2021.

Registration: No need to register, join in for five minutes or for 30 minutes, [click the Zoom link](#).

INSTITUTE FOR MISSION FORMATION PROGRAMS – ONLINE

Date: starts Monday 1 March

Description: **Themes of Faith** is an online program that covers 10 key themes from the Catholic tradition through discussion groups. There is an option to meet face-to-face if preferred. Parishioners or those who has completed the RCIA program would benefit from Themes of Faith. [Submit your Expressions of interest here](#).

Date: starts Tuesday 2 March

Description: **Reflective Ministry** is an online, self-paced leadership program, with new material released each week in a presentation style format. Designed for those currently involved or looking to be involved in ministry at a parish. [Submit your Expressions of Interest here](#).

Both programs are free of charge, and suitable for consecrated persons, laity, PJs and anyone interested in faith life, living in Australia or overseas as long as they have access to the Internet. Click here to view [more information](#).

MARIST ONLINE SYMPOSIUM – ALIVE IN GOD

Speaker: Timothy Radcliffe OP, Master of the Dominican Order

Date and Time: Tuesday 2 March, 5.30pm – 6.30pm (AEDT)

Flyer: [Download the flyer](#)

Registration: [Click here to register](#)

REMEMBERING HOLY SATURDAY – THE TRANSFORMATIVE WORK OF THE TOMB

Date: March 28 (Palm Sunday) to April 4 (Easter Sunday)

Format: New online retreat from Jamberoo Abbey

Theme: Exploring the mystery of Holy Saturday; what it means to live in “in-between” times, liminal times.

Speaker: Rev Catherine Eaton, Anglican Priest, Spiritual Director, and Oblate of Jamberoo Abbey

Registration: [Click here to register](#) or [download the flyer](#) for further information

CHANGE OF DATE FOR THE CRA CANON LAW COURSE

Date: 20-23 September [Read the letter](#) regarding the change of date

Venue: St Joseph’s Conference Centre, Baulkham Hills

Registration: Go to [CRA website](#)

ECUMENICAL MENTAL HEALTH LITURGY

Date & Time: Wednesday 10 March, 7.30pm to 8.30pm

Venue: St Dominic’s Parish in Camberwell

Flyer: [Download the flyer](#) for further information

JESUIT COLLEGE OF SPIRITUALITY LENTEN LECTURE SERIES – ONLINE

Date: Thursday 25 February

Format: Public lectures may be attended individually or as a series

Lecturers: Professor Maryanne Confoy rsc, Fr Chris Gleeson SJ, Fr Michael Head SJ, and Frances Tilly

Flyer: [Download the flyer](#) for topics and further information

Registration: Free – RSVP two days prior to the chosen lecture by email to: <mailto:enquiries@jcs.edu.au>

HESBURG ONLINE LENTEN RENEWAL PROGRAM

Date: 22 February to 1 April

Organiser: Catholic Theological Union, Chicago

Format: Online but sessions are recorded for those not able to connect “live”

Cost: USD 350

Registration: Click here to [register](#) or [download the flyer](#)

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

MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS FOR LENT 2021

Pope Francis' message to us all this Lent is clear and easy to read, [full text here](#). There is also a short report on the letter from [Catholic Newsagency here](#).

PODCAST: RICHARD ROHR ON POPE FRANCIS, ORIGINAL SIN AND GIVING UP NOTHING FOR LENT

In this wide-ranging interview, Richard Rohr, Franciscan priest and author of several well-known books on spirituality, talks about Pope Francis, how we should think about original sin and why we don't need to give anything up this Lent (except maybe our ego). Find the [podcast here](#).

COLUMBANS MISSION LENTEN RESOURCE

This Year of St Joseph is the 150th anniversary of St Joseph being [named as patron of the Universal Church](#). St Columbans Mission Society has a particular association with St Joseph. He is the patron of the Church in China where the Columbans began their missionary work in 1920. After Jesus and Mary, many cathedrals and churches in China are [dedicated to St Joseph](#). Download the Lenten Resource: [St Joseph - Worker & Family Man](#).

BOOK: HOLY WEEK VOICES FROM THE HOLY LAND

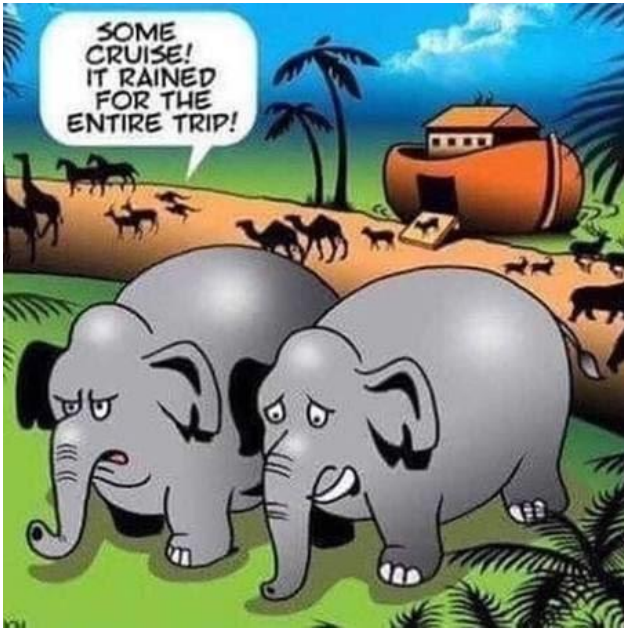
Holy Week Voices from the Holy Land juxtaposes immersive poetry from a priest who experienced Lent and Easter in lockdown London, with reflections from Christians living in crisis in the Holy Land in a new prayer resource. Cost is £7.99, purchase via the [website](#) or by email office@friendsoftheholylan.org.uk.

All funds from the book go to Friends of the Holy Land. An [eBook version](#) is available so you can browse the first chapter of the book.

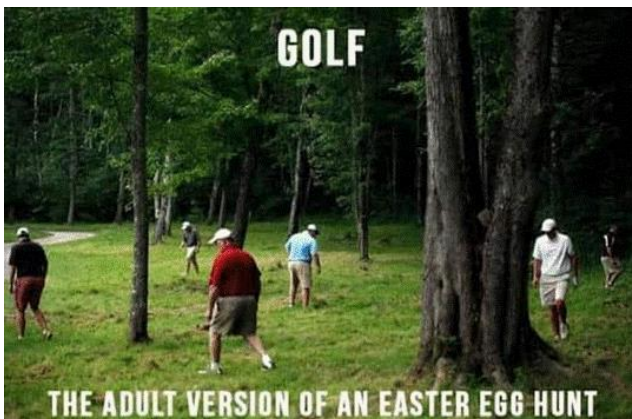
HOLY LAND LOCAL PRODUCTS AND ART PIECES

Meet Palestine is a registered company based in Bethlehem selling local products and art pieces designed and made by local small businesses, cooperatives, designers. Pieces include: Olive Wood Handicrafts, Seasonal Pieces for Christmas, Nativities, Fashion & Accessories, Kitchen & Home Accessories, Books, Music, Beauty & Dead Sea Products, Food & beverages and Art Paintings. They can offer competitive wholesale prices for all pieces. Please see the [website](#) or email info@meetpalestine.com.

LAUGHTER THERAPY



Our wireless doorbells
sitting on their chargers....



I didn't know how bad a driver I was until my Sat Nav said, "In 400 feet, do a slight right, stop and let me out."

We all know mirrors don't lie...
I'm just grateful they don't laugh.

It's a five-minute walk from my house to the pub
It's a 35-minute walk from the pub to my house
The difference is staggering