

NEWS

POPE FRANCIS INSTRUCTS VATICAN TO PROVIDE VACCINES FOR 1,200 OF ROME'S POOREST PEOPLE DURING HOLY WEEK

At the Pope's instruction, the Office of Papal Charities has purchased doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine to give to over 1,200 of Rome's "poorest and most marginalized people" during Holy Week. [Read more on America Magazine.](#)

VITA CONSECRATA

Click here to read the letter from Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life on the 25th anniversary of the Apostolic Exhortation [Vita Consecrata](#).

INDONESIAN BISHOPS SAY PALM SUNDAY CATHEDRAL BOMBING 'DISGRACED HUMAN DIGNITY'

Indonesia's Catholic bishops have strongly condemned the Palm Sunday suicide bombing on the Sacred Heart of Jesus Cathedral on the island of Sulawesi which injured at least 19 people. [Read about it](#) on the Catholic News Agency website.

FACING A GROWING BUDGET DEFICIT, POPE FRANCIS CUTS PAY FOR CARDINALS AND OTHER TOP OFFICIALS

In an effort to reduce a budget deficit exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vatican is cutting salaries for 6,000 higher-level employees. [Read the article on America Magazine.](#)

ACRATH NEWS & CAMPAIGNS:

Stay up to date with [ACRATH Activities and News Items](#) or click on one of the many campaigns below. There are many more news stories on slaves being discovered in Australia on the ACRATH website.

- [The sweet, but sometimes-bitter truth about Easter Chocolate](#) – what will you do in 2021?
- ABC, Four Corners: [Enslaved](#) Four Corners reveals how a sex slave cult has been operating in plain sight here in Australia.
- Anti-Slavery Australia: [Human Mart](#) is the world's first supermarket installation filled with products containing the stories of modern slavery in Australia. There are over 60 products, each representing a real-life victim of modern slavery, and tells that person's story.
- [Ethical Fashion](#) and [Baptist Ethical Fashion Guide](#) Find out which companies are doing the most to protect workers in their supply chains.
- U.S. Catholic [Sisters Against Human Trafficking Newsletter](#)
- Human Rights Watch: [World Report 2021](#)

- Caritas India: [State Transport Department sensitized to combat Human Trafficking](#)
- Talitha Kum: [International Network of Consecrated Life Against Trafficking In Persons](#)
- Global Sisters [Report](#)

ICAN VISITS PARLIAMENT IN CANBERRA

Last week ICAN visited Parliament in Canberra to discuss the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) and advocate for Australia to attend the first meeting as a state party or signatory. Alexander Kmentt (President of the first meeting) zoomed into the Australian Parliament House last week to speak to parliamentarians, unionists and civil society at an event hosted by Parliamentary Friends of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Watch his speech [here](#).

CONFERENCE OF SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS AUSTRALIA – NEW WEBSITE

On Tuesday, 6th April at 4pm, during the Easter octave, Peter Carroll FMS, CRA President, will re-launch the Conference of Spiritual Directors Australia website via Zoom. If you would wish to participate, please register by email: secretary@csdaustralia.com.

EVENTS/WEBINARS

THRESHOLDS OF HOPE FOR HOLY WEEK

Date: Tuesday 30 March

Time: 8pm (Ireland Daylight Saving Time) (4.00am AEDT)

Singer: Deirdre Ni Chinneide

Where: Live streamed on 8 March via [Church Services TV, Ireland](#) (click here)

View [*Mary McAleese's personal invitation](#) to join her for this event (*former President of Ireland).

GOOD FRIDAY'S GOSPEL

Professor Mary Coloe PBVM of Yarra Theological Union will provide a reflection on John's Passion, always the Gospel for Good Friday, on Tuesday, 30 March from 7.00pm to 8.00pm. Click here for the [zoom link](#). The video will be available to those who register even if they miss the actual session on Tuesday, by contacting: marycoloe@presvic.org.au.

UNITED PEACE FOR JUSTICE WEBINAR

The webinar will provide an update on nuclear weapons policies and programs and an overview of relevant developments in international law.

Date: Tuesday, March 30, 2021

Time: 8:00 – 9:30 pm EDT; 7:00 – 8:30 pm CDT; 6:00 – 7:30 pm MDT; 5:00 – 6:30 pm PDT

Registration: [Click here to register](#)

NEWMAN AND THE NINETEENTH CENTURY CHURCH

Date & Time: Saturday online sessions from 10am - 1pm:

17, 24 April; 8, 15, 29 May; 26 June; 10 July; 7, 14, 28 August; 4, 18 September

Courses: Undergraduate, postgraduate and audit course are available at different prices.

Flyer: [Download the flyer](#)

Enquiries: By email dean@ctc.edu.au at the Catholic Theological College

CRA EVENTS

- [CRA Professional Development & Networking Day for Administrators](#), 'Living Your Best life', 3 May, North Sydney (download the [flyer](#))
- [CRA Health & Well-Being Weekend Retreat for Male Leaders of Religious Institutes](#) 16 to 18 July, Mittagong, NSW (download the [flyer](#))
- [CRA 2021 National Assembly](#) Monday 2 to Thursday 5 August, Novotel Parramatta, Sydney NSW
- CRA Interculturality Workshop, Friday 6 August, Novotel Parramatta, Sydney NSW (*More information and registration details to come*)

RESOURCES

CRA RESOURCES

- A number of interculturality videos are available to members via the [CRA Resources page](#).

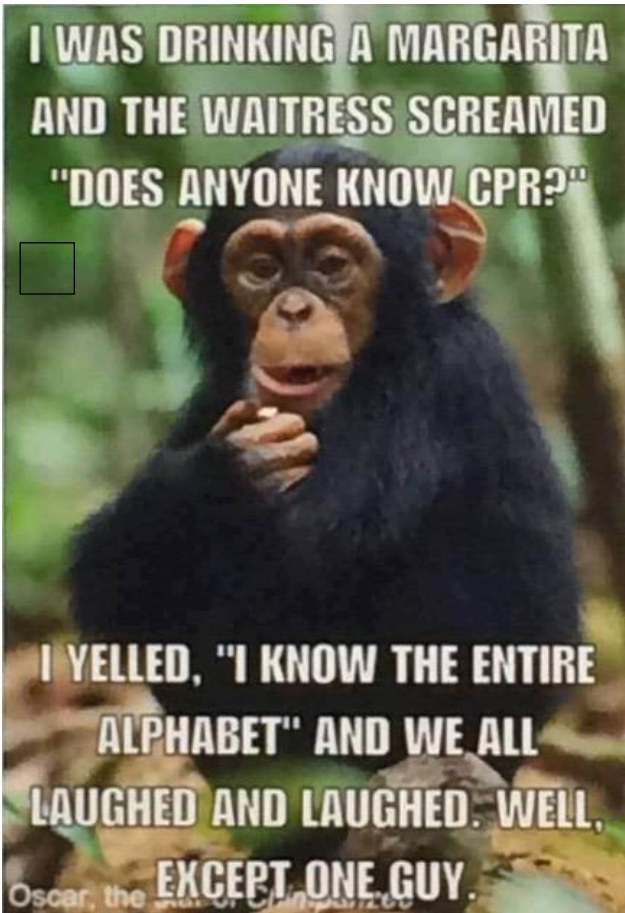
HOLY WEEK RESOURCES:

- Gospel reflection on the CRA website: [Passion/Palm Sunday - Carrying the Cross](#)
- Holy week and Easter videos are offered for free by Emmaus Productions, [click here](#).
- [Easter blessings](#) from the Passionist fathers, delivered by Tom McDonough CP, Provincial.
- **Way of the Cross – online.** Majellan Media with the assistance of the Redemptorist, a CRA member, has produced a virtual Stations of the Cross for people to view online in the lead up to Easter. In the twenty-minute presentation, John Hill CSsR reads a prayerful reflection at each of the 14 Stations that encompasses Christ's suffering and passion. Read [Majellan Media's media release](#). Click here to view [The Stations of the Cross](#).
- **Way of the Cross I Myanmar, today.** As we begin Holy Week, [this PPT](#) is a reminder of the Way of the Cross and an interpretation of the current situation in Myanmar, Burma.

LANDMARK SPEECH BY NOEL PEARSON

Noel Pearson gave a keynote address on 24 March 2021 advocating for an Indigenous Voice to Parliament to be enshrined in the Constitution, at the National Museum of Australia. [Watch the address here](#).

LAUGHTER THERAPY



Finally found out why the fish weren't biting..



**Ill never forget the
look on the cashiers
face, when she
scanned the packet of
bird seed,
And I asked her how
long does it take for
the birds to grow once
I plant them.**

