

NEWS

CRA CALLS FOR OVERHAUL OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS

CRA recently lodged a submission urging the Federal Government to reconsider its proposed environmental law reforms following an inquiry into a bill that seeks to amend the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act). Read the [CRA media release](#) here.

HELP ABS TO GIVE HOMELESS PEOPLE A VOICE

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is currently planning how best to ensure that homeless people feel empowered to have a voice and be counted in the forthcoming Census. CRA was approached to assist in the engagement of faith-based agencies who may be in a position to help provide the ABS with information or support in sensitively reaching out to homelessness people during the Census process. The purpose is to gain accurate figures of homelessness so that government funding can be allocated to support the homeless. [Download the ABS flyer](#) for details. If you or your members can assist, please contact Rowena York directly at the ABS by email rowena.york@abs.gov.au or by phone (03) 9615 7115.

PLENARY COUNCIL AGENDA RELEASED

In a [media release](#) the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference have announced the agenda for the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia. The two-page agenda can be [accessed here](#) online. It captures the six themes for the Council, under which 16 questions fall.

COLUMBAN FACES – MEMORIES AND INTRODUCTIONS

The latest Columban e-Bulletin shares memories of Noel Connelly SSC (1945-2020) through the [reflections of Trevor Trotter SSC](#) and in a [video tribute](#). Also, the video [Meet a Columban](#) introduces Fr Kwon Taemoon SSC who was ordained in South Korea in 2010 and has spent much of his years since in Taiwan.

LATEST REPORT FROM JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE

Jesuit Refugee Service Australia reports that last year it provided more than 20,000 unique instances of service, collaborated with thousands of parishioners and school students, and advocated for people seeking protection and temporary migrants not to be left behind in the pandemic. Read the entire JRS Australia Annual Report 2020 [here](#). To donate to the JRS Winter Appeal, [click here](#).

PALMS AUSTRALIA – THREE WAYS TO ENGAGE NEW SUPPORTERS

Palms Australia has issued a [media release](#) outlining three opportunities for engaging new people with its work: (i) overseas placements of skilled Australians; (ii) becoming a financial donor; (iii) attending the [Diamond Jubilee Lunch](#) in Sydney on Sunday 10th of October 2021.

REFUGEE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA SUBMISSION

The Refugee Council of Australia (RCOA) has recommended to the Federal Government that it boost its intake of refugees to 20,000 places by 2022–23, given the great reduction in recent years. The 2020-21 Program had a ceiling of 13,750 refugees – well down from the 18,750 places in 2018–19. This and other key recommendations can be found in the [RCOA's submission](#) regarding Australia's 2021–22 Humanitarian Program.

PEOPLE'S INQUIRY LAUNCHED BY IPAN – HAVE YOUR SAY

The Independent and Peaceful Australia Network (IPAN) has launched a national inquiry into the costs and consequences of Australia's involvement in the U.S.-led wars, the U.S. alliance and its alternatives. Submissions can be made until 31 July 2021 through [IPAN](#) or take a [5-minute questionnaire](#).

EVENTS/WEBINARS

THE LIGHT FROM THE SOUTHERN CROSS – CATALYST FOR CONVERSATION (ONLINE)

Title: Mission and Church
Date & Time: Wednesday, 7 July 2021; 9.00am to 2.00pm (AEST)
More information: visit the [CRA website](#) or [download the flyer](#)
Registration: [Register online – for free](#)

ACRATH LAUNCHES A NEW CONVERSATION SERIES – ONLINE

Join ACRATH's new Conversation Series and hear from people working with trafficked women and men. The first Conversation will focus on the Companionship Program, with companions Liz Payne and Kathy Fagan. ACRATH has 13 trained and supervised Companions who offer support and friendship to 34 trafficked women and their 45 children. [Download the Conversation Series flyer](#).

Title: Companions in Conversation
Dates & Times: Wednesday 30 June 2021
Cuppa at 11.15am; Conversation 11.30am sharp until 12 noon (Melbourne time)
Registration: No need to pre-register. Find the zoom meeting link at the [ACRATH webpage](#)

MID-WINTER ANNUAL RETREAT – FREE TO CRA MEMBERS – ONLINE

The Marists invite CRA members to their upcoming Marist Mid-Winter Retreat with Archbishop Mark Coleridge. The reflections will focus on the seven last words of Christ which become our own words as we live through this time of crucifixion, looking beyond the darkness of Calvary to the morning light of Easter where we hear the Lord say, 'Peace be with you'. For details [download the retreat flyer](#).

Title: Words from the Cross
Dates & Times: 8-9 July, 10.00 to 11.00am, and 12.00 to 1.00pm each day, Zoom mode
Registration: [Register online](#) – no cost for CRA members

REFUGEE ALTERNATIVES CONFERENCE

As part of the [Refugee Alternatives Conference](#), a one-day symposium will be held with a focus on ‘good practice’ teaching strategies for students from refugee and asylum-seeking backgrounds in a variety of contexts and across the educational life course. [Download the flyer here](#) or visit the [conference website](#).

Title: Culturally Responsive Teaching for Students from Refugee and Asylum-Seeking Backgrounds (SRABs): Showcasing Innovative Pedagogies of Reconnection
Date/Time: 5 July 2021; 10am to 4.00pm
Venue: Western Sydney University (Parramatta South Campus)
Speakers: View a full [list of presenters](#) here
Registration: Attend in-person or by zoom. Free registration at [Eventbrite](#)

CLOSING THE GAP CONFERENCES

Over three days in November, two conferences on Indigenous Health issues will be held in one location, featuring top First Nations guest speakers, designed to inspire and provide ideas and resources for enhancing organisational strategies. For full details visit the [Indigenous Conference Services](#) website.

Title: Closing the Gap Indigenous Health Conference and Indigenous Chronic Diseases Conference
Dates: 20-24 November 2021
Venue: Seaworld Resort, Gold Coast
Registration: Register online at the [Indigenous Conference Services](#) website or email adminics@iinet.net.au

RESOURCES

ETHICA SHOPPING INFORMATION

ethica is the social enterprise of Mary MacKillop Today, specialising in quality Fair Trade products (e.g., alpaca jumpers, beanies, ponchos, blankets) crafted in Peru by women in rural and marginalised areas. Shopping at *ethica* helps to sustain local communities in their employment opportunities, relationships and cultural identity. Download the [ethica brochure](#), or visit the [ethica website](#).

WHICH POPE SAID THAT? TAKE THE QUIZ

Throughout his pontificate, Francis has highlighted the plight of refugees. But he is not the first to do so. This year, mindful of [World Refugee Day](#), *America* magazine is testing readers’ knowledge of papal refugee statements. *Which Pope said What?* There are six questions – [test your knowledge here](#) in this online quiz.

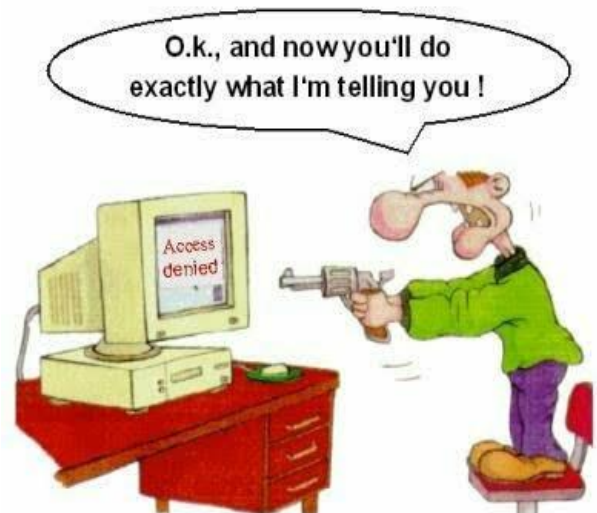
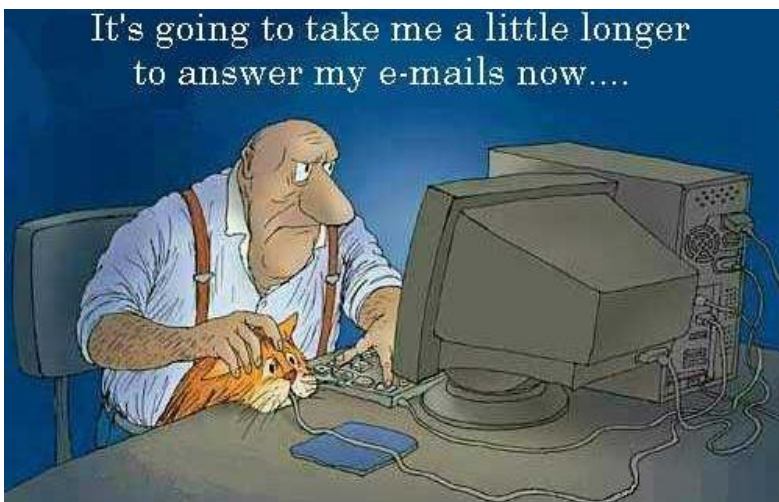
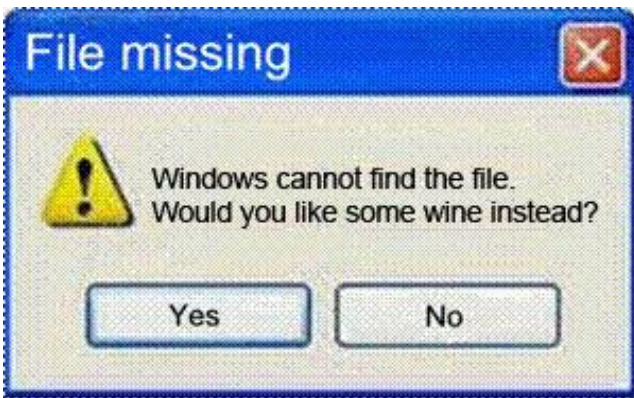
RESOURCES FOR SEA SUNDAY – 11 JULY

Stella Maris Australia (formerly Apostleship of the Sea) provides spiritual and welfare support for seafarers visiting Australia. Its 2021 suite of resources for Sea Sunday 2021 (11 July 2021) is now available, including [Parish Checklist](#) and [Poster](#), [Parish Bulletin](#) Text, [General Prayers of Intercession](#), and an [Appeal Talk](#). For further contact information visit the [Stella Maris Australia website](#).

CRA HEALTH & WELLBEING RESOURCES

The CRA Health and Well-Being Committee (H&WB) has developed a resource kit to enhance the lives of our members, now [accessible at the CRA website](#). It includes a variety of suggestions and tips shared by various Health Care workers and members of CRA, such as suggestions for outdoor activities, spirituality, and links to Quality Aging resources. The new H&WB Resource Kit is organic and will continue to grow with new initiatives and ideas. Please continue to share with the H&WB Committee any ideas and activities, no matter how big or small. Contact: Carmel Warnock cpc@catholicreligious.org.au.

LAUGHTER THERAPY 😂



Ever notice the older we get, the more we're like computers?
We start our with lots of MEMORY and DRIVE
then we become outdated, and eventually have to
get our parts replaced... 😊

o: "THIS COMPUTER IS EQUIPPED WITH AN AIRBAG IN CASE YOU FALL ASLEEP!"
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