

NEWS

AURORA MAGAZINE: WE NEED ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS THAT WORK

CRA was invited to provide an Opinion Editorial in the August issue of *Aurora*, the magazine of the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. This month, *Aurora* is dedicated to ecological issues. CRA's article by Anne Walker and Emma Carolan is entitled, '*We need environmental laws that work*' and based on the submission to government in relation to Australia's Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. [Read in the Aurora magazine](#) on page 8 or view the [article alone](#) here, also on the [CRA Justice News](#) page.

MISSION STORIES FROM DAUGHTERS OF OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART

Anne Gardiner OLSH, Senior Australian of the Year in 2017, reflects on her life and work among Tiwi Island communities in this television interview for [The Drum](#); and a recent issue of [The Southern Cross](#) interviews Helen Armstrong OLSH, returned missionary from South Africa, now working in Henley Beach Parish, Adelaide.

COLUMBANS: STORYTELLING IN MISSION

Storytelling is an ancient art of passing on wisdom and experience. Jesus used stories to invite his listeners to join his mission. Even after 2,000 years, the parables still move us. The August [Columban e-Bulletin](#) offers six effective elements for telling our own personal stories of mission.

SISTERS OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN STUDY AND MENTORING PROGRAM

The Sisters of the Good Samaritan Study and Mentoring (SAM) program offers financial assistance for women undertaking tertiary studies at a recognised theological institution. Core components of SAM include opportunities for spiritual direction, mentoring and dialogue with like-minded women. Applications are invited for 2022. [Download the SAM program flyer.](#)

SURVEY SHOWS HIGH LEVELS OF HOMELESSNESS AMONGST PEOPLE SEEKING ASYLUM IN SYDNEY

The findings of a survey by Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Australia and Western Sydney University (WSU), show that people seeking asylum faced considerable financial hardship and high levels of homelessness during the first twelve months of the pandemic. [Read the full findings at the JRS Australia website.](#)

ACSL PUBLISHES 20TH AND 21ST SAFEGUARDING AUDIT REPORTS OF AUSTRALIAN CHURCH ENTITIES

Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd (ACSL) has published safeguarding audit reports of the Marist Sisters Australian Unit (MSAU) and the Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea (ISMAPNG). The audit reports are available on [ACSL's website.](#)

EVENTS/WEBINARS

CRA ONLINE PRAYER SERVICE FOR MYANMAR

All are welcome to a CRA online gathering to pray for peace and interethnic, interfaith reconciliation in Burma/Myanmar, in the wake of a military coup that began in February 2021 and the worsening pandemic. The service is timed to closely follow the U.N. International Day Commemorating Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief. [Download the flyer.](#)

Title: Catholic Religious in Solidarity with the People of Burma/Myanmar:
Prayer for Peace, Justice & Reconciliation

Date: Tuesday 24 August 2021, 11.00 am (AEST) | 9.00 am (AWST) | 10.30 am (ACST)

Registration: Register using the [Trybooking](#) link at the [CRA website](#). A Zoom link will be sent to registered participants prior to the event.

SILENT RALLY

An Australian Josephite Sister invites us to join an ongoing Silent Rally of 'inner deep listening and quiet, still awareness' for our homeland Earth, and to be set free from the pandemic. The Rally commenced 8 August 2021, Feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and is ongoing 'until all is well'.

Title: Silent Rally

Date & Time: One-minute silence, each day at noon (ongoing)

Registration: Free. [Download the flyer](#)

WEBINAR: LAY PEOPLE AND SYNODALITY

French Xavierian Sister [Nathalie Becquart](#), recently appointed by Pope Francis as under-secretary to the Vatican Synod of Bishops, will address an [Australian Cardijn Institute](#) webinar on the theme of 'synodality' which features prominently in the agenda for the Australian Plenary Council.

Title: Lay People and Synodality

Date & Time: Thursday 19 August 2021 at 7.00 pm (AEST) | 5.00 pm (AWST) | 6.30 pm (ACST)

Registration: [Free online registration at this link](#)

ECOLOGICAL CONVERSION WEBINAR

This Ecological Conversion Webinar is hosted by Lawrie Hallinan and Sue Martin of the Reconciliation with Creation Committee of the Australian Province of the Jesuits.

Title: Discerning the Magis: Sharing a Framework to Assist Ministries in Responding to *Laudato Si'*

Date & Times: Thursday 26 August 2021, 1.00 pm AEST | 11.00 am (AWST) | 12.30 pm (ACST)

Registration: [Free registration using this link](#). Enquiries: sue.martin@sjasl.org.au

EMPLOYMENT

DIRECTOR: HEART OF LIFE CENTRE FOR SPIRITUAL & PASTORAL FORMATION

The Missionaries of the Sacred Heart are seeking a fulltime [Director for the Heart of Life Centre](#), to commence 1 January 2022. For a position description, email secretary@heartoflife.melbourne or telephone (+61 3) 9890 1101. Applications close Friday 10 September 2021.

RESOURCES

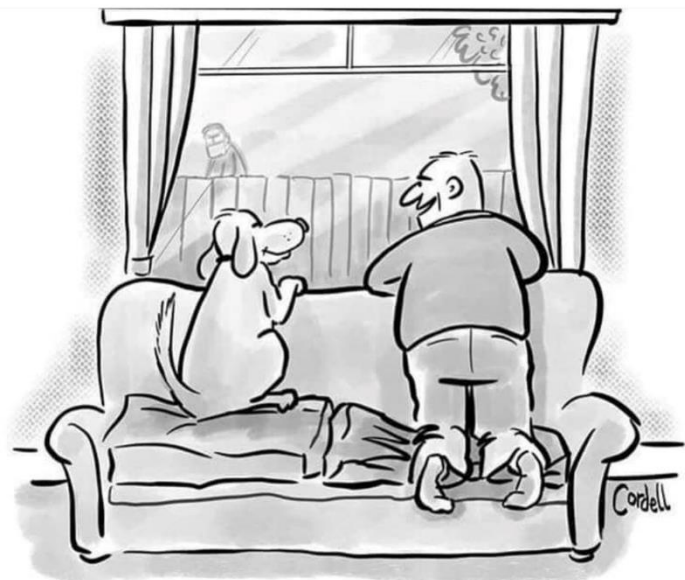
AUSTRALIAN DYING AT HOME PROGRAM OFFERS A BLESSED ALTERNATIVE TO ASSISTED SUICIDE

Dr Helen-Anne Manion, co-founder of the [Dying At Home Program](#), describes it as “aligning perfectly with Pope Francis’ dream for our world in *Laudato Si’*”. Read [Helen-Anne’s reflection](#) here. Find a [summary of the program](#) here. See also the [personal testimony](#) of Vivienne Goldstein SM.

RESOURCES FOR TRAINING PARISH LEADERS

‘The parish . . . continues to be the Church living in the midst of the homes of her sons and daughters’ (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 28). The [Foundations of Missionary Leadership](#) course, offered by the *Arête* Centre, a work of the Missionaries of God’s Love, is open to anyone passionate about parish renewal.

LAUGHTER THERAPY 🤔



“Until now, I never understood why you got so excited when someone walked past the house.”

The Lighter Side of Lockdown

Day 121 at home and the dog is looking at me like, “See? This is why I chew the furniture!”

What’s the difference between Covid-19 and Romeo and Juliet?

One’s the coronavirus and the other is a Verona crisis!