

NEWS

CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS URGE AUSTRALIA TO COMMIT TO CULTURE OF PEACE

CRA has written to the Australian Prime Minister expressing concerns about the recently announced nuclear submarine deal and urging the government to ratify the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Read the [CRA media release](#) here.

14 NOVEMBER 2021: NEW LAUNCH DATE FOR LAUDATO SI' ACTION PLATFORM

Please note the new official launch date for the Vatican's Laudato Si' Action Platform (LSAP), which has been moved from 4 October to 14 November 2021. This change could give Congregations more time to prepare for their signing up to the Plan. Read the [full version of this bulletin item](#) here.

AFGHAN REFUGEE ASSISTANCE FUND LAUNCHED BY MSCs AND PARTNERS

GAP Legal Services announces that the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart Mission Office and Mr Patrick Ryan, Independent Humanitarian Advocate, have launched The Afghan Refugee Assistance Fund through [MSC Missions](#). Enquiries: Patrick Ryan 0404 492 736, ryan.pttm@gmail.com. Read the [press release](#).

FRANK BRENNAN SJ CRITIQUES QUEENSLAND VAD LAW

Last week the Queensland parliament legislated for Voluntary Assisted Dying, despite concerns voiced by Catholic leaders and health care agencies caring for vulnerable people. Read Frank Brennan SJ's analysis, just prior to the vote, 'Three ways Queensland's assisted dying bill goes too far' in [Eureka Street](#).

ADVISERS AND CHAIRPERSONS NAMED FOR PLENARY COUNCIL

With two weeks until the first general assembly of the Plenary Council, the chairpersons and the advisers who will support the members in their task of discernment have been named. Download the Catholic Bishops' [media release](#) and find the list of names at the [Plenary Council website](#).

DONATIONS INVITED TO SUPPORT NEW FILM BY INDIGENOUS FILMMAKER

Rachel Perkins, Aboriginal filmmaker, is seeking donations to raise \$70,000 to complete a new documentary series, *The Australian Wars* (Blackfella Films), telling an important foundational story in Australian history. To learn more, [click here](#) to read a letter of endorsement from one of our Member Congregations, followed by a Project Outline by Rachel Perkins. Film excerpts can be viewed on request by contacting Jackie Hanson at ISMAPNG: jackie.hanson@ismapng.org.au.

VINNIES WELCOMES REPORT ON REFUGEE EXPERIENCES

The St Vincent de Paul Society in Australia has welcomed the release of the 2021 Report *Foundations for Belonging - Insights on newly arrived refugees: Women and digital inclusion*, which tracks the experience and contributions of newly arrived refugees in Australia. Read the [media release](#) and [the Report](#).

EVENTS/WEBINARS

2021 CRA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY – NOW ONLINE

CRA will re-issue registration details for the new online event which will be held 22 – 25 November 2021.

2022 CRA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY - SAVE THE DATE

The 2022 CRA National Assembly will be held from 29 August to 1 September 2022 in Melbourne.

CRA NSW LEADERS AND TEAMS DINNER - POSTPONED

CRA NSW Leaders and Teams Dinner scheduled for 19 October has been postponed and a new date will be rescheduled soon.

CRA NATIONAL WEBINAR: BUILDING BRIDGES: REACHING OUT TO OUR LGBTQIA+ COMMUNITY

Spirituality author, James Martin SJ, will explore how the Catholic Church in Australia can do more to welcome and respect the dignity of LGBTQIA+ Catholics and build bridges with the LGBTQIA+ community.

Title: Building Bridges: Reaching out to our LGBTQIA+ community

Date & Times: Tuesday 26 October 2021

10.00 am AEDT in ACT, NSW, TAS, VIC during Daylight Savings | 9.30 am ACDT in SA | 9.00 am AEST in QLD | 8.30 am ACST in NT | 7.00 am AWST in WA

Registration: Free [online registration](#) at the [CRA website](#); The link is included in the Trybooking confirmation when you register. It will also be sent the day prior to the email address on your registration.

CRA NATIONAL WEBINAR: SYNODALITY & CO-RESPONSIBILITY

'Synodality and Co-Responsibility' is the second online conversation of a series of conversations about 'The Light from the Southern Cross' Report. Its purpose is to discover the richness of the Report and provide a source of formation. [Download the flyer](#).

Title: Synodality & Co-Responsibility

Date & Times: 1 November 2021, 10.00 am – 3.00 pm in NSW, VIC, QLD

9.30 am in SA | 9.00 am in QLD | 7.00 am in WA

Registration: [Free online registration](#). Further details at the [CRA website](#)

ST HILDEGARD OF BINGEN – ONLINE COURSE

This free video event, presented by spirituality author Matthew Fox, explores St Hildegard of Bingen's teachings for our times, including meditation accompanied by her music.

Title: Discover Hildegard of Bingen's Alchemies to Heal and Evolve your Soul

Date & Time: Thursday, 23 September 2021, 10.30 am AEST in NSW, VIC, QLD, TAS |
10.00 am in SA | 8.30 am in WA

Registration: [Register free online](#). Click [here for further details](#).

CREATION SPIRITUALITY – OPEN TO ONLINE PARTICIPATION

Please note that ‘Creation Spirituality,’ the online presentation by Kathleen Duffy SSJ PhD – Physics and Teilhard scholar – has been opened to online participation, and the RSVP date extended to 24 September. Kathleen will offer her expertise on one of the most influential mystics of the 20th century, Pierre Teilhard de Chardin SJ. [Download the flyer](#).

Title: [Creation Spirituality](#) (view webpage)

Date & Time: Tuesday 28 September 2021, 9.00 am – 10.30 am, Perth time |
10:30 am Adelaide | 11:00 am Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Hobart

Venue: Online, or in-person at St Joseph’s Convent, 16 York St, South Perth

Registration: Cost: \$20 per participant, in person or online
Register by 5.00 pm on 24 September at [Trybooking](#)
Enquiries: Shelley Barlow RNDM: sbarlowrndm@gmail.com

ACRATH CONVERSATION - ONLINE

Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans (ACRATH) invites us to a Zoom conversation to hear ACRATH’s Colleen Jackson RSC, Oceania Coordinator of Talitha Kum and Abby Avelino MM, Talitha Kum’s Asian Coordinator, discuss human trafficking globally. [Download the flyer](#).

Title: Human trafficking, global and local perspectives

Date & Times: Wednesday 29 September 2021
Cuppa at 11.00 am, Conversation 11.30 am to 12.00 noon in NSW, VIC, QLD, TAS
| 10.30 am Cuppa in SA | 9.00 am Cuppa in WA

Zoom link: Please click on the flyer to access the Zoom link

SVD ANNUAL MISSION DAY – ZOOM EVENT

This online event, organised by the Divine Word Missionaries and the Australian Association for Mission Studies, aims to increase opportunities for collaboration with local indigenous communities around the country, and to celebrate their contributions to church and society. [Download the flyer](#).

Title: Exploring Australian Indigenous Cultures, Mission and Spiritualities

Date & Time: Saturday 2 October 2021, 3.00 pm to 6.00 pm AEDT in ACT, NSW, TAS, VIC during
Daylight Savings | 2.30 pm SA | 2.00 pm QLD | 1.30 pm NT | 12.00 pm WA

Registration: [Free registration online](#)

ABRAHAM CONFERENCE – LIVE-STREAMED EVENT

The Abraham Conference plays an important role in bringing Jews, Christians and Muslims together to discuss contemporary issues of concern for the members of the three religions and for the wider society. [Download the flyer](#).

Title: Women Leaders in the Abrahamic Traditions: Role Models for Our Time

Venue: Live-streamed via Zoom

Dates: Sunday 10 October 2021, 2.30 pm to 4.00 pm AEDT in NSW, ACT, VIC, TAS |
2.00 pm in SA | 1.30 pm in Qld | 11.30 am in WA

Registration: Free registration at [Humanitix](#)

RESOURCES

TOWARDS A MORE WELCOMING AND INCLUSIVE CHURCH

Two articles of interest that call us to be more welcoming of people who identify as LGBTQ+: 'Sexual and gender minorities among those most excluded in our Church,' by Patty Fawcner SGS writing in [The Good Oil](#), and 'How parishes can welcome LGBT Catholics,' by James Martin SJ writing in [America](#) Magazine. James Martin SJ will present at a [CRA webinar](#) on 26 October 2021 – see *Events* above.

MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES SUNDAY 2021

Our 'we', says Pope Francis, is crumbling due to aggressive forms of nationalism and radical individualism, and the price is being paid by foreigners, migrants, the marginalised. Read a reflection on this theme by Kevin O'Neill SSC in the [Columban e-Bulletin](#).

UNHCR PODCAST - 'FORCED TO FLEE'

To mark the UNHCR's 70th anniversary, a new seven-part podcast series revisits major upheavals that shaped the period through the eyes of displaced people and others. Find [details and a trailer here](#).

LAUGHTER THERAPY 😂

