

NEWS

WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE: 2 FEBRUARY 2022

This Day is once again acknowledged by CRA with a [webpage](#), including a brief Gospel reflection, a Prayer of Thanksgiving for Consecrated Women and Men, and a Letter from CICLSAL.

In addition, CRA has chosen this Day to launch a new project: an online storytelling and teaching publication that provides an insight into the life and mission of Religious Institutes in Australia. A project description, sample story, and details for participating can be found on the CRA [webpage](#).

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

CRA warmly congratulates all Catholic recipients of 2022 Australia Day Awards, and in particular the following Religious Sisters awarded Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM): Rosalie Anne Hetherington RSM (QLD) - for service to the Catholic Church of Australia; Barbara McDonough RSM (NSW) - for service to education, and to the church; Dr Susan Pollard RSJ (SA) - for service to the Catholic Church of Australia.

AFGHANISTAN COMMITMENT NEEDS TO BE MORE GENEROUS

Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, chair of the Bishops Commission for Social Justice, Mission and Service, says that at least 20,000 more humanitarian places are needed for people fleeing Afghanistan. Read the [media statement](#) at the ACBC website.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

The website of the [Conference of Spiritual Directors Australia](#) is a reminder of the value and benefit of spiritual direction in our lives. It contains a list of spiritual directors, with details and contacts for each.

PEER SUPERVISION FOR SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS

Expressions of interest are sought from Spiritual Director/Companions to join a Peer Supervision group in Western Sydney. The group meets once a month, for two hours. Currently the venue alternates between Homebush and Windsor NSW. Enquiries: Pia Galea OSC, pgalea7@hotmail.com or 0423 656 444.

VALE CATHERINE SHELTON RSJ

The Sisters of St Joseph have asked that we share the sad news that Catherine Shelton RSJ died on 23 January in Whanganui after a brain haemorrhage. Catherine was known to several congregations in Australia through her ministries and leadership. We thank Catherine for sharing her life with us, for her creative and prophetic voice, her wisdom and insight and her warmth and encouragement.

STIPENDS

Information about stipends for 2022 is available on the [CRA website](#).

NEW UISG WEBSITE

A new [digital identity](#) has been launched for the International Union of Superiors General (UISG).

GRANTS TO REIGNITE MINISTRIES IMPACTED BY COVID-19

The Hilton Conrad Foundation is offering Grants (\$12,000 - \$15,000) to Women Religious Congregations to reignite ministries impacted by COVID-19, in the area of education, health, spiritual/social and income generating projects. Each Constellation has been asked to send a maximum of four projects to the UISG Grant Office. Enquiries: Monica Cavanagh RSJ, monica.cavanagh@sosj.org.au or text 0409 007 216 and she will follow up with you.

EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMMES IN VICTORIA

The Salvation Army welcomes referrals to their specialised Jobs Victoria programmes from Catholic religious who may be in touch with youth, asylum seekers and others who require assistance in finding sustainable employment. This [brochure](#) explains the initiative.

AN IMPORTANT YEAR FOR CATHOLIC MISSION

2022 marks significant anniversaries in the history of Catholic Mission as a global mission agency. These include 200 years of the Society of the Propagation of the Faith and the beatification of its founder, Pauline Jaricot. Download the Catholic Mission [media release](#).

EVENTS/WEBINARS

CRA 2022 NATIONAL ASSEMBLY - *SAVE THE DATE*

The 2022 CRA National Assembly will be held at the Novotel on Collins in Melbourne from Monday 29 August to Thursday 1 September 2022. Registrations are not yet open but please save the date!

CRA HEALTH & WELL-BEING WEEKEND RETREAT FOR MALE LEADERS OF RELIGIOUS INSTITUTES

Over two days, psychologist Campbell MacBean will facilitate professional discussion about secondary and vicarious trauma, while Graham Neist FMS will offer reflections on communion/spirituality, with time for relaxation in the beautiful Southern Highlands of NSW. [Download the flyer](#).

Title: 'Come apart and rest for a while' (Mark 6:31)

Dates: Friday, 1 April 2022, 5.00 pm to Sunday, 3 April 2022, 10.00 am

Venue: The Hermitage, 843 Old South Road Mittagong NSW

Registration: \$450 per person (accommodation & meals included). Register at [Trybooking](#).
Enquiries: events@catholicreligious.org.au or Ph 9557 2695

CRA NATIONAL WEBINAR FOR TEMPORARY PROFESSED RELIGIOUS

Juliet Mousseau RSCJ, from the Franciscan School of Theology, San Diego, CA, will explore key concepts for living a vowed life with authenticity. [Download the flyer.](#)

Title: Religious life in the here and now
Date: Saturday, 19 February 2022, 12.00 pm NSW, ACT, TAS, VIC | 11.00 am QLD | 9.00 am WA | 11.30 am SA
Mode: Online 2-hour Zoom presentation
Registration: \$40 per person. [Register online](#)

CRA NATIONAL JUSTICE SEMINAR – SAVE THE DATE

CRA is pleased to advise that the Justice Seminar, which was cancelled last year due to Covid, has been rescheduled and will now take place on 19 October 2022 at the Treacy Centre, Parkville, Melbourne. Registration details via TryBooking will be available soon.

CRA INTERCULTURALITY SEMINARS – POSTPONED

Please be advised that the CRA post-Assembly Interculturality seminars have been postponed and new dates will be advised as soon as they can be confirmed.

ARRCC BANKING WORKSHOPS – ZOOM

Learn about aligning your finances with your faith by divesting from fossil fuels. This workshop is organised by Australian Religious Response to Climate Change (ARRCC). It runs for 90 minutes on Zoom.

Title: Protect our planet with your finances
Date & Time: Tuesday 8 February or Thursday 10 February 2022. See [ARRCC website](#) for times.
Registration: Register free at [Trybooking](#).

PAX CHRISTI ONLINE CONFERENCE

AUKUS is our latest pact, but deeper questions remain. Do defense alliances make us truly secure? What value do we put on genuine diplomacy, including with China? What is the cost of *not* pursuing non-violent approaches to conflict prevention? This one-day online [Pax Christi Conference](#) will examine such concerns. Download a detailed [programme](#).

Title: Where does Australia's security lie?
Date & Time: Saturday 19 February 2022, 8.30 am to 5.30 pm in VIC, NSW, TAS | 5.30 am start in WA | 7.30 am in QLD | 8.00 am in SA
Registration: \$30 per head. Register at [Trybooking](#)

SABBATICAL - ST JOSEPH'S CENTRE BAULKHAM HILLS

This Sabbatical focuses on transitions and is suitable for those who are at the crossroads of life and ministry. [Download the brochure.](#)

Title: Invitation to Wisdom, Mission, Conversation, Transformation
Dates: 25 February to 8 April 2022
Venue: St Joseph's Baulkham Hills, 33 Barina Downs Rd, Norwest NSW 2153

Registration: \$8,550.00. Contact Lil Girardi RSJ, lianella.girardi@sosj.org.au or 0418 554 463

RETREAT OFFERINGS – ST MARY’S TOWERS DOUGLAS PARK

A list of 2022 retreats at St Mary’s Towers Retreat Centre Douglas Park NSW can be found at this [brochure](#).

Registration: For tariffs visit St Mary’s Towers Retreats [website](#)
To make a booking: contact@towersretreat.org.au

ONLINE FORUM FOR PARISHES – IMPLEMENTING LAUDATO SI’

This is a follow-up forum to an earlier event organised by St Dominic’s Parish, Camberwell, Victoria, with the assistance of the Parishes of Cheltenham and Highett. [Download the flyer](#) for details.

Title: Implementing Laudato Si’
Date & Time: Tuesday 8 March 2022, 7.30 pm – 9.30 pm in VIC, NSW, TAS | 7.00 pm SA | 6.30 pm QLD | 4.30 pm WA
Registration: Register free at [Trybooking](#)

ANCIENT FUTURES CONFERENCE – POSTPONED

The Ancient Futures Conference committee has decided to postpone the [3 – 5 March 2022 Conference](#) due to the uncertainty surrounding the COVID situation. Plans will be reviewed in March 2022.

RESOURCES

SUPPORTING AUSTRALIA’S FIRST PEOPLES

The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council (NATSIC) offers suggestions for what we can do in 2022 to strengthen Australia’s foundations by supporting Australia’s First Peoples. Available at the [CRA Resources webpage](#) and read NATISCC’s [media release published on Australia Day](#).

NEW BOOK CELEBRATES SEVENTY YEARS AS A SISTER OF MERCY

Softly Shines This Love: Seventy Years Inside Convent Gates (Coventry Press, 2022), a new book of poems by Marie Leonie Williams RSM, is a celebration of almost seventy years as a professed Sister of Mercy in Australia. Click [here](#) for information and purchase details, or email: enquiries@coventrypress.com.au.

THE LIGHTER SIDE OF SUMMER DAYS & SUMMER NIGHTS 😊

