

## NEWS

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### **CRA 'SYNODAL JOURNEY' UPDATE**

Sincere thanks to the 26 Religious Institutes who responded to CRA's invitation for a reflection on synodality as part of Pope Francis' consultation towards the 2023 Synod of Bishops. The CRA Secretariat has drafted a synthesis of the responses, to be forwarded this week to the 26 Religious Institutes, inviting their comment by end of March 2022.

Meanwhile, last minute submissions can be accepted by CRA until 30 March (absolute cut-off date).

### **2022 FLOODS –PRACTICAL ASSISTANCE AND PRAYER**

Please find here the link to the St Vincent de Paul's [Flood Appeal](#). Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with all impacted by the floods, the Sisters of St Joseph have [shared this prayer](#).

### **GOOD SAMS EXPAND MINISTRY FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN CRISIS**

A collaborative effort of Good Samaritan Inn, a local parish and the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne will result in an expansion of residential services for women and their children, reports [The Good Oil](#).

### **CATHOLIC MISSION: EMERGENCY AND PASTORAL RELIEF FOR UKRAINE**

Catholic Mission is responding to an urgent call for help from its mission partners in Poland and Romania supporting refugees fleeing Ukraine. Click here to [read more and to assist](#) with relief efforts.

### **ICAN FAQs**

International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) has responded to some [frequently asked questions](#) regarding Russia, nuclear weapons and the role of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in moving us beyond the nuclear status quo.

## EVENTS/WEBINARS

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### **JOAN CHITTISTER OSB – IN-PERSON SEMINAR**

CRA and the Diocese of Parramatta have prepared an inspirational afternoon with Sr Joan Chittister OSB, which Joan will tailor to religious men and women and to the clergy of Parramatta. Joan will focus her presentation on the responsibility of Religious and Clergy to be the voice that the world needs. The spirituality involved is found in the Eighth Beatitude – Happy are those who are willing to be persecuted for my Name's sake. [Please see the flyer](#) or [webpage](#).

Title: Roots and Wings: the Emergence of a Synodal Church with Joan Chittister OSB  
Date & Time: Wednesday 25 May 2022, 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm (Registration at 1.15 pm)  
Venue: Novotel, Parramatta NSW  
Registration: \$55 p/p. Visit the [CRA website](#) for more information or click on the [registration link](#). Registrations close 11 May, *unless tickets are sold out prior*

#### **FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH – FOR RELIGIOUS IN WA & SA – IN PERSON AND ONLINE**

Title: For a synodal Church: Participation, Communion, Mission  
Date and times: Monday 21 March 2022  
11.30 am – 1.00 pm SA | 9.00 am – 10.30 am WA  
Venue: Join in-person at Kensington, SA  
Online: Join online in SA and WA. See [brochure](#) for details  
Registration: Free online registration at [Trybooking](#)  
Enquiries: Kath Hitchcock RSJ by mob: 0418 887 008 or E: [kathleen.hitchcock@sosj.org.au](mailto:kathleen.hitchcock@sosj.org.au)

#### **CRA DISCERNMENT PROCESS | TOWARDS THE PLENARY COUNCIL – SECOND ASSEMBLY**

This event is for Religious Leaders who are Members of the Plenary Council. Participants will enter a discernment process with other leaders: What is the voice of religious at the Plenary Council? What would assist the Church to hear from Religious? [Download the flyer](#).

Title: Towards the Plenary Council Second Assembly: CRA Discernment Process  
Date: Monday 21 March and Wednesday 30 March 2022 (You are welcome to attend one or both sessions) 2.00 pm – 4.30 pm QLD | 3.00 pm – 5.30 pm NSW, VIC, TAS, ACT | 2.30 pm – 5.00 pm SA | 12.00 pm – 2.30 pm WA | 1.30 pm – 3.00 pm NT  
Registration: Free online registration at [Trybooking](#). Enquiries: Taylor Coutinho 02 9557 2695 or E: [secretariat@catholicreligious.org.au](mailto:secretariat@catholicreligious.org.au)

#### **CRA HEALTH & WELL-BEING WEEKEND RETREAT ONLY 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](mailto:events@catholicreligious.org.au) or Ph 9557 2695

#### **SAVE THE DATE – CRA SEMINAR: ECOLOGY AND ECONOMICS**

CRA, through three of its Committees - Ecology Alliance, Stewardship and Justice - identified that ecological and financial decisions must be made together. Save the date for this seminar.

Title: Ecology and Economics. Everything is Connected  
Date & venue: Tuesday 24 May 2022, 9.30 am – 3.15 pm | Sydney

Registration: \$150.00 per person (Morning tea and lunch included.) Further information and registration details will be available soon at the CRA website

### **SAVE THE DATE – CRA HEALTH AND WELLBEING SEMINAR**

The CRA Health and Wellbeing Committee is developing a new seminar to follow-up the Dementia Care Seminar held last year in Brisbane. Liam Whitely from Catholic Healthcare has been engaged as one of the presenters. Save the date, with further details to come.

Title: Creating a Culture of Supportive Care  
Date & Time: Wednesday 15 June 2022, 9.00 pm - 3.30 pm  
Venue: Mary MacKillop Place Auditorium, North Sydney  
Registration: Registration details will be available soon

### **CRA CONTINUING EDUCATION E-COURSE FOR VOCATION & FORMATION MINISTERS**

This eCourse, facilitated by Mary Pat Garvin RSM, PhD, provides an opportunity for participants to explore topics related to accompanying women and men discerning Religious Life. [Download the flyer.](#)

Title: Centred in God, Sent on Mission  
Dates & Times: Thursday, 16 June 2022 - optional introductory session followed by 4 sessions held monthly on Mondays: 27 June; 25 July; 22 August; 12 September 2022; 9.00 am start NSW, QLD, VIC, TAS | 8.30 am SA | 7.00 am WA  
Mode: Online 2½ -hour Zoom presentation  
Registration: \$260.00 AUD for the entire eCourse. [Register online.](#) Enquiries: Taylor Coutinho Ph: 02 9557 2695. Email: [secretariat@catholicreligious.org.au](mailto:secretariat@catholicreligious.org.au)

### **SAVE THE DATE – CRA NATIONAL JUSTICE SEMINAR**

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 the website will be available soon.

### **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!

## **EMPLOYMENT**

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### **SEEKING A SAFEGUARDING OFFICER**

CRA has been contacted by a Religious Institute enquiring if any other Religious Institute has a safeguarding officer they could share for one day a week or perhaps knows of someone who has availability to assist this Religious Institute. If you can assist, contact Kaylie: [ea@catholicreligious.org.au](mailto:ea@catholicreligious.org.au) or by phone: 02 9557 2695.

## RESOURCES

### SAINTS RESOURCES

For input on some Saints celebrated this week: 15 March: [St Louise de Marillac](#) (founder, Daughters of Charity); 17 March: [St Patrick](#); 18 March: [St Cyril of Jerusalem](#); and 19 March: [St Joseph](#), Spouse of Mary.

### COLUMBANS CONTINUE TO PIONEER IN INTERFAITH RELATIONS

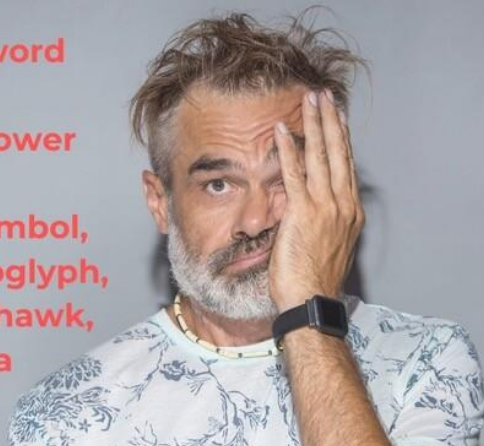
The [Columban Centre for Christian-Muslim Relations](#) was a pioneer in interfaith relations when it was established in 1997, and it continues to give prophetic leadership in this missionary apostolate.

### NEW LENTEN RESOURCE

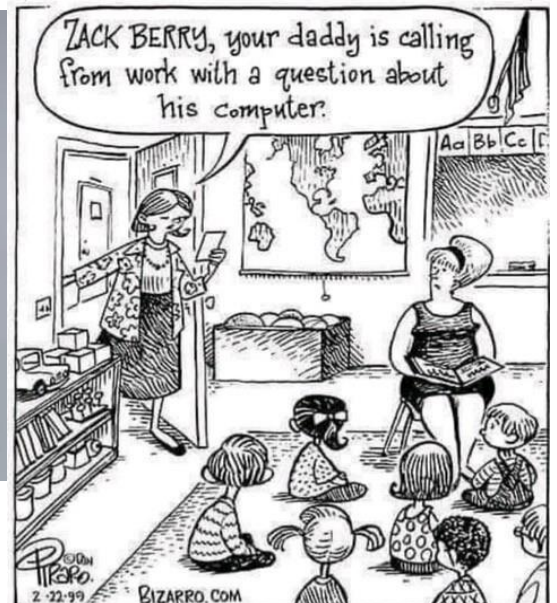
Based on decades of research, this series of short videos newly available at the [website](#) of the International Council of Christians and Jews (ICCJ) considers how Jesus' Passion can be presented in fresh ways that do not perpetuate anti-Jewish biases and better illuminate the gospel message.

### THE LIGHTER SIDE of COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY 😊😊😊

Sorry.  
But your password  
must include  
an upper and lower  
case letter,  
a number, a symbol,  
a haiku, a hieroglyph,  
a feather off a hawk,  
& the blood of a  
unicorn.



IN ORDER TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT, HE  
FIRST HAD TO UPDATE HIS OPERATING  
SYSTEM, DOWNLOAD AN APP, GET A  
USERNAME, CHOOSE A PASSWORD, LOG IN  
TO A HEALTH PORTAL, NAVIGATE TO  
MESSAGES AND WRITE HIS DOCTOR...BY  
THEN IT WAS TOO LATE.



I finally realized it!



People are prisoners  
of their phones.  
That's Why they are  
called cell phones!