

# Daring to Dream

2023 NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

31 July to 3 August 2023  
Sydney



V. Clark



## Theme

CRA has chosen the theme, *'Daring to Dream,'* which follows the theme last year *'Daring to Lead with Hope and Gratitude.'* The theme will explore 'dreaming' in the context of discerning the synodal path, and 'daring' in the context of a vision for the future of Religious life. With this theme, we hope to offer a conference programme that will nourish Religious in their Gospel dreams and zeal and whole heartedness for Christ and his Church, so that they may continue to live and pray and minister in a spirit of prophetic hope.

## About the Artwork

The image on the cover was painted by Aunty Vicki Clark OAM, who is a descendant of the Mutthi Mutthi /Wemba Wamba people and will be a presenter at the 2023 National Assembly.

The image comes from her "two-way cross," on which she has painted the symbols of the seven sacraments, symbolising gifts given to her by her Aboriginal culture and gifts from her Catholic identity. This is the fourth gift on the journey, which relates to the sacrament of Confirmation and which brings the gifts of the Holy Spirit. It captures the colours of a flame, reminding us of the Holy Spirit, and includes the sacred trees, rocks, waterholes and boora rings along Dreaming tracks, where ceremonies of initiation were practiced as age-old rituals.

## Assembly Registration

Assembly registration includes a Welcome Buffet Dinner on Monday evening and lunch, morning and afternoon tea from Tuesday to Thursday: \$730 p/person.

Assembly Dinner on Wednesday includes pre-dinner drinks, three-course set menu accompanied by premium wine, beer and soft drinks: \$105 p/person.

## Accommodation

Single room with ensuite bathroom, including breakfast: \$230 p/night.

OR

Twin share room with ensuite bathroom, including breakfast: \$260 p/night

## Event Details

### Date

Monday, 31 July to Thursday, 3 August 2023

### Venue

Novotel Sydney Parramatta  
350 Church Street  
Parramatta, NSW  
Ph: (02) 9630 4999

### Enquiries

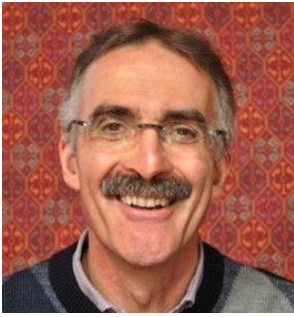
Lucy O'Connell, CRA  
Ph: 02 9557 2695

Email:

[secretariat@catholicreligious.org.au](mailto:secretariat@catholicreligious.org.au)

Register here: <https://events.humanitix.com/2023-cra-national-assembly>

## Presenters



### Christopher J Monaghan CP (Session 1)

Rev Dr Chris Monaghan is a Passionist priest who was born in Melbourne and studied at Yarra Theological Union, a member college of the University of Divinity. He undertook postgraduate studies at the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome and Jerusalem. He has taught New Testament at YTU since 1987 and has been the President of YTU since 2009. Some of Christopher's recent publications include *See with the Eyes of the Heart* and the forthcoming *A Friendly Guide to the Lost Gospels*. He is also the author of the Garratt Lenten Program Year B resource *It's All About Hope* and Year A resource *God is on the Journey, Too*.



### Maeve Heaney VDMF (Session 2 and 6)

Associate Professor Maeve Heaney VDMF is a consecrated member of the Verbum Dei Community and Xavier Chair for Theological Formation at Australian Catholic University. A theologian, musician, and composer, she specialises and researches in the areas of theological aesthetics, music, spirituality, ministry and leadership. She is currently President of the Australian Catholic Theological Association (ACTA). Her most recent publication is called *Suspended God: Music and a Theology of Doubt* (London: Bloomsbury, 2022), and in 2020 she released her 5th album of original music: *Strange Life: The Music of Doubtful Faith*.



### Vicki Joan Clark OAM (Session 3 by Zoom)

Vicki Clark OAM is a descendant of the Mutthi Mutthi /Wemba Wemba people. She was a Coordinator of the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Victoria for 25 years, took a leading role in the National Reconciliation Process, was co-chair of Reconciliation Victoria and is currently on the Council. She is a Trustee of Opening the Doors Foundation, a Director of Yingadi Aboriginal Corporation, a Secretary and past Chairperson of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council. She is on the board of Edmund Rice Education Australia, Mallee District Aboriginal Services and MacKillop Family Services and consulted to multiple other Catholic organisations.



### Ann Gilroy RSJ (Session 4 and 5)

Ann Gilroy RSJ lives in Dunedin in the south of New Zealand. For the last eight years she has been the editor of *Tui Motu* magazine, an independent Catholic monthly publication, available by subscription. Like many women religious, Ann began ministry as a school teacher and after studying at the University of Cambridge put her PhD to use teaching in the School of Theology at The University of Auckland. Lately Ann has taken up baking for the *Tui Motu* volunteers.

## Facilitator



### Karon Donnellon RSM

Karon Donnellon RSM is a member of the Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea. She has had many years' experience in facilitation and completed studies in the area of organisational change and leadership. She currently works with a number of religious congregations in Australia and coordinates and facilitates the Leadership Program and Dublin Pilgrimage offered by Mercy Ministry Companions. She has served on a variety of boards and is currently on the Ethos and Culture Sub-Committee of Mackillop Family Services Board.

# Programme

## MONDAY 31 JULY

2.00pm Hotel check-in and Assembly registration

6.15pm Welcome Dinner – *all welcome*

## TUESDAY 1 AUGUST

7.30am Mass

9.00am President's welcome Peter Jones OSA  
Welcome to Country

9.30am Session 1: *Your young ones will see visions. Your old ones will dream dreams* Chris Monaghan CP

11.00am Morning Tea

11.30am Session 2: *The Space of our Dreams: Daring to Imagine and the Importance of Uncertainty* Maeve Heaney VDMF

1.00pm Lunch

2.00pm Session 3: *Dare to Dream of an Ancient Story of the Two Ways* Vicki Clark

3.30pm Afternoon Tea

4.00pm Wrap-up Karon Donnellon RSM

4.30pm Close

6.00pm *Participants to make own arrangements for dinner*

## WEDNESDAY 2 AUGUST

9.00am Welcome back, prayer, acknowledgement Peter Jones OSA

9.15am Session 4: *Dare to Dream of Kinship and Community (part I)* Ann Gilroy RSJ

10.45am Morning Tea

11.15am Session 5: *Dare to Dream of Kinship and Community (part II)* Ann Gilroy RSJ

12.45pm Lunch

1.45pm Session 6: *God Still Calls: Welcoming God's Voice Whence She Chooses to Speak* Maeve Heaney VDMF

3.15pm Afternoon Tea

3.45pm Election results and commissioning of the new CRA Council

4.15pm Close

4.30pm Assembly Mass Peter Jones OSA  
Mercy Chapel, 6 Victoria Rd, Parramatta

6.00pm Pre-dinner drinks

6.00pm CRA Book Launch

6.30pm Assembly Dinner

## THURSDAY 3 AUGUST

7.30am Mass

9.30am CRA Business Meeting Peter Jones OSA & Anne Walker

10.30am Combined Leaders' Meeting Cath Reuter RSM

11.00am Morning Tea

11.30am Female Leaders' Meeting Monica Cavanagh RSJ

11.30am Male Leaders' Meeting Ben Ho SSS

12.30pm Lunch Peter Jones OSA

1.30pm Close Assembly

