

NEWS

CRA EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – Please see below in the *Employment* section.

CRA ECOLOGY ALLIANCE COMMITTEE OFFERS SUPPORT FOR LSAP USERS

Members of the CRA Ecology Alliance Committee are offering their assistance to Congregations embarking on the Laudato Si' Action Plan (LSAP). Should you need assistance, please contact secretariat@catholicreligious.org.au and an Ecology Alliance member will reach out to you. Similarly, should you have LSAP work already happening we would welcome hearing from those Congregations.

WORLD DAY OF CONSECRATED LIFE 2023 - LOCAL ITEMS

Thank you to all who attended the [CRA event](#) with Nathalie Becquart XMCJ on World Day of Consecrated Life. In a further step to mark WDCL 2023, CRA, in collaboration with St Pauls Publications, has produced a book *Our Stories, Our Lives, Our Mission – Catholic Religious in Australia*, featuring 60 Congregations. Details of the book launch will be available soon.

WORLD DAY OF CONSECRATED LIFE 2023 – OVERSEAS ITEMS

A [letter](#) to all consecrated persons from the *Dicastery for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life* marking World Day of Consecrated Life (2 February) is accompanied by news of the launch of the [Pentecost Project with and through Sisters](#). Its objective is to construct a network of cooperation to testify to the work carried out by women Religious around the world.

SISTERS OF SAINT JOSEPH CELEBRATE DIAMOND JUBILEE

Over 30 Sisters of Saint Joseph from across the Congregation celebrated their Diamond Jubilee in January, marking 60 years since their first profession. Continue reading the SOSJ [media release](#).

USA BOOK PRIZE FOR AUSTRALIAN PRESENTATION SISTER MARY COLOE PBVM

The Catholic Media Awards USA were announced in January and the work of Australian Presentation Sister Prof [Mary Coloe](#) pbvm has been awarded an honourable mention in the category of Scripture — Academic Studies. [Continue reading](#) at the University of Divinity website.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER AND AWARENESS AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Pope Francis has designated 8 February, the feast of St Josephine Bakhita, as the International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking. Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans (ACRATH) invites you to participate in this event – for details visit the [ACRATH website](#).

MERCY FOUNDATION SOCIAL JUSTICE SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM

The Mercy Foundation is now accepting applications for its [Social Justice Small Grants Program](#). Grants up to \$10,000 are available for community initiatives addressing social justice issues at the grassroots. Projects that prevent or respond to family and domestic violence will be prioritised. Applications close at midnight on Monday, 13 March 2023. Enquiries: 02 9911 7390.

BLESSING OF NEW CENTRE – SISTERS OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN

The Sisters of the Good Samaritan have completed major renovations to their St Scholastica's Congregational Centre in Glebe. A Blessing and Opening was held on February 2, their Foundation Day. Continue reading the SGS [media release](#) and the [online story](#).

EVENTS/WEBINARS

2023 CRA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY — SAVE THE DATE

The next Assembly will be held from Monday 31 July to Thursday 3 August 2023 at the Novotel Parramatta.

CRA STEWARDSHIP SEMINAR - ONLINE

This seminar is an important opportunity for those who are company directors to be reminded of their responsibilities, obligations and the consequences and penalties for lack of compliance. The speaker is Josephine Heesh, Partner, Carroll & O'Dea Lawyers. Download the [brochure](#) at the CRA Events webpage.

Title: Stewardship Seminar (Director responsibilities)
Date & Time: Wednesday 1 March 2023, 9.30 am - 12.30 pm NSW, VIC, TAS, ACT | 8.30 am QLD | 9.00 am SA | 6.30 am WA
Registration: \$40 per person. [Register at Humanitix](#). Zoom details provided closer to the event RSVP by 24 February. Enquiries: Taylor Coutinho, ea@catholicreligious.org.au

CRA ONLINE GATHERING OF TEMPORARY PROFESSED

This inter-congregational gathering of Temporary Professed women and men is an opportunity to share your experience of living Religious Life in today's world and to learn from others who share in this journey.

Title: Online gathering of temporary professed
Date & Time: Saturday 4 March 2023, 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm NSW, VIC, ACT, TAS | 11.00 am WA | 1.30 pm SA
Registration: [Register at Humanitix](#). Zoom details will be sent to registrants prior to the event.

ONLINE FILM SCREENING

You are invited to an online screening of [Planet Local: a Quiet Revolution](#) with community activator and regenerative mentor Helen Andrew; hosted by Catholic Earthcare and Being with God in Nature.

Title: Planet Local – a Quiet Revolution
Date & Time: Friday 17 February 2023, 6.00 pm NSW, VIC, TAS | 5.00 pm QLD | 3.00 pm WA
Registration: [Register free at Trybooking](#). Bookings are essential.

SYDNEY MEETING – INDIGENOUS VOICE TO PARLIAMENT

Catholics in Coalition for Justice and Peace and the Sisters of Mercy Parramatta will host a meeting with guest speaker Pat Anderson AO, an Alyawarre woman known nationally and internationally as an advocate for the rights and health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Download the [brochure](#).

Title: The Process, Significance and Need for an Indigenous Voice to Parliament in the Constitution
Date & Time: Thursday, 23 February 2023; 4.00 pm – 6.00 pm
Venue: Sisters of Mercy Congregation Centre, 6 Victoria Rd, Parramatta
Registration: This is a free event. Enquiries: ccjp@bigpond.com or phone (02) 9745 0820

LAUDATO SI' INSPIRED RETREAT

As an outcome of reflection on *Laudato Si'* and Ecology, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Social Justice Group, Seven Hills (NSW) is presenting an Evolutionary Spirituality Retreat themed "In the Holy Spirit the whole universe is linked together in one nurturing, enveloping embrace". Download the [brochure](#) and [poster](#).

Title: Evolutionary Spirituality Retreat
Dates: 7.00 pm 3 March to 2.00 pm 5 March 2023
Venue: Guntawang Environmental Bushland Retreat at Oakdale NSW
Registration: \$95.00. Enquiries & applications: antiphon1@outlook.com or phone 0429595231

CRA - THRESHOLDS OF TRANSFORMATION

To learn more about how your Congregation can be a part of a global movement of Women Religious making a world of difference, CRA will host a Zoom session to present this opportunity for personal, communal and systemic transformation in more detail. You are also invited to visit the [Thresholds of Transformation](#) website.

Title: Thresholds of Transformation - Presentation
Date & Time: Monday 6 March 2023, 11.00 am NSW, VIC, TAS. [Click here](#) for other time Zones.
Registration: [Register free at Humanitix](#)

2023 CONFERENCE: MISSION - ONE HEART MANY VOICES

Catholic Mission and CRA invite you to [save the date](#) for the sixth biennial national Mission Conference.

Title: *Mission: One Heart Many Voices* (MOHMOV)
Dates: Wednesday 3 May to Friday 5 May 2023
Venue: SMC Conference & Function Centre, 66 Goulburn St, Sydney AND online
Registration: Details to follow. In the meantime, visit the [2023 MOHMOV Conference website](#)

TROPICAL RETREAT - CAIRNS

The Seville Mercy Conference Centre in Cairns is holding a five-day ecological conversion retreat: contemplative walking in nature in different parts of far North Queensland, led by Dr Peter Saunders.

Title: Tropical Retreat in Nature
Dates: 2-8 July 2023
Registration: \$3000 + GST; see [brochure](#) for details or priscilla@mcauleyministries.org.au

EMPLOYMENT

CRA TEAM ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

CRA is seeking a Team Administrative Assistant to join the Secretariat team, 3 days per week. Please share [the job advertisement and position description](#) with your networks. Applications are to be forwarded to Taylor at ea@catholicreligious.org.au by Monday 20 February 2023.

RESOURCES

POPE FRANCIS' MESSAGE FOR WORLD DAY OF PEACE

CRA draws your attention to Pope Francis' Message for World Day of Peace (1 January 2023). We invite you to share this Message with your Congregational networks - there is a link to it at the [CRA website](#).

THE CARMELITE CENTRE MELBOURNE

The [Newsletter](#) of the Carmelite Centre Melbourne invites us to a bible study on Letter to the Romans; a reading group on the life of Bishop Geoffrey Robinson; a conversation about Blessed Baptist Spagnoli of Mantua (1447-1516), Carmelite poet, Renaissance humanist and religious leader; and much more.

NCEC RESOURCE

At the end of last year, the National Catholic Education Commission published [Our Quest for Hope - The Gift of Faith](#). This discussion paper supports a shared conversation between families and school leaders to reflect on the commitment to partnership with families as first educators.

THE LIGHTER SIDE

