

NEWS

JESUIT RELIEF EFFORTS IN UKRAINE – ONE YEAR ON

Friday 24 February marked the one-year anniversary of the war in Ukraine. During this time, Jesuit relief efforts have supported over 56,000 Ukrainian refugees in need. Learn more from [Jesuit Mission](#) including a [video update](#) from Director of Jesuit Refugee Service Europe.

SVD CHARISM IN SUPPORT OF INTERFAITH AND ECUMENICAL WORK

Two Divine Word Missionaries from the Australia Province have recently been appointed to diocesan ecumenical or interfaith bodies, to help promote dialogue and understanding among faith communities. [Continue reading](#) at the SVD website.

ADOPTION OF SIMPLE LIFESTYLES

The Christian Brothers Oceania Province has released a guide [Care of the Earth: Handy Hints and Behaviours](#) for putting the goals of *Laudato Si'* into practice at an individual level and fostering the adoption of simple lifestyles.

AUSSIE ICON STATUS FOR MERCY SISTER'S VERSION OF THE LORD'S PRAYER

Mercy Sister Janet Mead's version of The Lord's Prayer has been selected as one of 10 new additions to Sounds of Australia, a project of the National Film and Sound Archive of Australia (NFSAA), reports Jenny Brinkworth in *The Southern Cross*. [Continue reading](#).

AN INDIGENOUS VOICE TO PARLIAMENT

Here are some resources to consider regarding an indigenous voice to Parliament:

A new book by Frank Brennan SJ, [An Indigenous Voice to Parliament](#) (Garratt, 2023), "fairly outlines both the 'Yes' case and the 'No' case, so that voters can make up their own minds before casting their vote in the referendum" according to the publisher.

In an [open letter](#) to Federal parliamentarians, leaders of Australia's major religious organisations call MPs "to find ways to collaborate constructively across political divides."

Senator Jacinta Nampijinpa Price is one of the [leading voices](#) of the No campaign against the proposed Voice to Parliament, as is [Warren Mundine](#).

On 20 February, CRA was invited to attend the launch of [Statements from the Soul: The Moral Case for the Uluru Statement from the Heart](#), edited by Shireen Morris & Damien Freeman (La Trobe University, 2023) is a collection of essays by diverse religious leaders and thinkers.. The launch was hosted by Executive Council of Australian Jewry and The Great Synagogue, Sydney.

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 (TOMORROW)

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.

Title: Stewardship Seminar (Director responsibilities) Download the [brochure](#)
Date & Time: Wednesday 1 March 2023, 9.30 am - 12.30 pm (AEDT)
Registration: \$40 per person - [register online](#). 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 online gathering is for women, and men, temporary professed and newly finally professed members, rather than formators. Download the brochure at the [CRA Events](#) webpage.

Title: Our Synodal Journey: An opportunity to look at our Synodal journey and to share our experience of this
Date & Time: Saturday 4 March 2023, from 2.00 – 4.00 pm AEST
Registration: You are invited to use [this link](#) to register before Friday, 3 March 2023

CRA - THRESHOLDS OF TRANSFORMATION

CRA will host a Zoom session to present [Thresholds of Transformation](#) – an opportunity for personal, communal and systemic transformation. To learn more about how your Congregation can be a part of this global movement of Women Religious, register below.

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 online for free.](#)

CRA NSW LEADERSHIP DINNER

In its first social gathering for the year, CRA invites Leaders and Leadership Team Members of Religious Institutes to come together for a meal and a chat in Sydney. [Download the flyer](#) at the CRA website.

Title: CRA NSW Leadership Dinner
Date & Time: Tuesday, 28 March 2023, from 6.00 pm
Venue: Silverwater Hotel (previously Dooleys Waterview Club), 214 Silverwater Road, Silverwater NSW
Registration: [Register](#) by 24 March. Enquiries 02 9557 2695; ea@catholicreligious.org.au
Note: Looking ahead, the next Dinner will be held 24 October 2023.

CARMELITE CENTRE MELBOURNE

Centering Prayer Meditation will be held on the first Tuesday of the month at 12.45 pm, commencing 7 March 2023, at the Carmelite Centre Melbourne. The details for this and many more opportunities for spiritual nourishment can be found in the [March newsletter](#) of the Carmelite Centre.

MULTI-FAITH PRAYER SERVICE – DIVESTMENT WEEK OF ACTION

All are invited to share in prayer, music and meditation with others from diverse traditions, as part of a global Divestment Week of Action during the Christian Lent, organised by the *Laudato Si'* Movement. Organised by ARRCC (Australian Religious Response to Climate Change).

Title: A prayerful call to divest from fossil fuels
Date & Time: Thursday 9 March, 9.30 – 10.30 am
Venue: St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta NSW
Enquiries: Contact: Thea Ormerod info@arrcc.org.au or 0405 293 466
[Download the flyer](#) and connect via [Facebook](#)

WEBINARS – CATHOLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS

Two upcoming webinars offered by Catholic Employment Relations (CER) for its members will cover what an employer can do to prevent sexual harassment and promote mental wellbeing in the workplace.

Title: Sexual harassment and Respect@Work
Date & Time: Wednesday 29 March 2023, 10.30 - 11.30 am Sydney time
Title: Creating a mentally healthy workplace
Date & Time: Wednesday 12 April 2023, 10.30 - 11.30 am Sydney time
Registration: CER members can [register at this link](#).
Enquiries: (02) 9189 5999 or enquiry@cer.catholic.org.au

MORE RETREAT OPPORTUNITIES

For upcoming retreats, sabbaticals and programs of the Sisters of Saint Joseph Retreat Centres Australia, download their [brochure](#). The Carmelite retreat program for 2023 at Varroville (NSW) can be found [here](#). See also retreats of the Sisters of Mercy [Santa Casa Retreat Centre](#), Victoria, at [this link](#). Also, Jesuit and Ignatian Spirituality Australia offers its latest retreat schedule [here](#). Further links to retreat centres can be found at this [CRA webpage](#).

ECO-IMMERSION EXPERIENCE 2023

Seville Mercy Conference Centre is a unique facility, founded by the Sisters of Mercy, nestled in a tranquil, tropical setting in far north Queensland. In 2022, Seville ran a successful Eco-Immersion Experience for Sydney high school students. A similar program is offered in 2023. See Seville's [latest brochure](#) for details.

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* (MOHMY)
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 MOHMY Conference website](#)

RESOURCES

SBS DOCUMENTARY – INTERFAITH ENCOUNTERS

Students from Padua College (Franciscan Friars) and Mt Alvernia College (Mercy Partners; founded by Missionary Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception), in Kedron Qld, have participated in an [SBS documentary](#), "The Swap", about an interfaith exchange with Islamic College of Brisbane. Starting 8 March 8.30 pm on SBS.

A LENTEN RESOURCE

A Short History of Happiness: Lent to Easter is a [Lenten resource](#) from St Columban Mission Society. It offers individuals and groups a short introduction to happiness, through scriptural texts about creation, and the human journey.

SOUL FOOD PODCAST – NATHALIE BECQUART XMCI

The latest "[Soul Food](#)" podcast from the Diocese of Parramatta features Nathalie Becquart XMCI discussing the practice of synodality and how it leads us beyond "I", to "we" and "us".

FROM ACRATH NEWS

The February edition of [Stop Trafficking!](#) looks at how human trafficking in relation to climate change.

THE LIGHTER SIDE 🤔

