

## NEWS

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### **ACT GOVERNMENT ACQUISITION OF CALVARY PUBLIC HOSPITAL BRUCE**

In a [statement](#) Calvary National CEO, has expressed extreme disappointment in the ACT Government's unexpected and unilateral decision to introduce legislation that effectively dissolves Calvary's partnership on public health delivery in the Territory. Download the [letter](#) of Archbishop Prowse to the people of the Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn and a [media statement](#). If the proposed legislation is passed at the end of the month, Calvary Hospital Bruce will cease to operate under the governance of the Little Company of Mary. Please sign the [online petition](#) if you wish to support Calvary Hospital Bruce.

### **BISHOPS ISSUE STATEMENT ON INDIGENOUS VOICE TO PARLIAMENT**

As a vote on an Indigenous Voice to Parliament nears, Australia's bishops have encouraged Catholics to read and discuss the Uluru Statement from the Heart – the document from which the Voice proposal emerged. Continue reading the ACBC [media release](#) and download the ACBC's full [statement](#) here.

### **ACRATH REJOICES IN ADVOCACY SUCCESS**

ACRATH (Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans) is celebrating the news that the Government will fund a project to offer victims and survivors of human trafficking the opportunity to access support *without* having to speak with law enforcement. ACRATH has been advocating for this for many years and had joined an NGO network to work intensively to achieve this. [Read more here](#).

### **WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY**

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in Australia is observed in the week between Ascension and Pentecost, 21 - 28 May 2023. Download [resources](#) on this year's theme ("Do good: seek justice", Isa 1:17).

### **LAUDATO SI' WEEK**

Seven years after Pope Francis' Encyclical Laudato Si' appeared, it is still worth revisiting, writes Andrew Hamilton SJ at the Australian Jesuits [website](#) as Laudato Si' Week approaches (21-28 May 2023).

### **RENOWNED ABORIGINAL ELDER TO MEET POPE FRANCIS**

Australia's Ambassador to the Holy See, Ms Chiara Porro, has announced a series of special events from 29 May to 3 June 2023, focused on reconciliation with Indigenous Australians. [Continue reading](#).

### **CARITAS INTERNATIONALIS WELCOMES ITS THIRTEENTH PRESIDENT**

Archbishop Tarcisius Isao Kikuchi has been elected as the [new President](#) of Caritas Internationalis.

## EVENTS/WEBINARS

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### **2023 CRA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY — REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**

Registrations are now open for the 2023 National Assembly. Please [download the brochure](#).

Title: Daring to Dream  
Dates: Monday, 31 July to Thursday, 3 August 2023  
Venue: Novotel Parramatta, 350 Church Street, Parramatta NSW  
Registration: Please go to the [CRA website](#) and [register online](#)

### **CRA-VIC NETWORKING GENERAL MEETING**

The CRA-VIC Networking General Meeting will be held later this month as follows:

Title: CRA-VIC Networking General Meeting  
Date: Tuesday, 23 May 2023, 10.00 am to 3.00 pm  
Venue: Tarrawarra Abbey, Tarrawarra, Victoria  
Registration: RSVPs to Jill Harding FCS, [jillburma@gmail.com](mailto:jillburma@gmail.com) by Wednesday 17 May 2023

### **CRA ONLINE SEMINAR SERIES FOR VOCATION & FORMATION MINISTERS**

The CRA Initial Formation Committee and Mary Pat Garvin RSM have prepared an online seminar series for 2023: Continuing Education eCourse for Vocation & Formation Ministers. Download the [brochure](#).

Title: Windows on the Divine  
Dates: Thursday, 8 June; then four monthly Tuesday sessions  
Time: 9.30 am QLD, NSW, VIC, TAS | 9.00 am SA | 7.30 am WA  
Fee: \$300.00 AUD. Participation includes course access to [SLIConnect](#)  
Registration: [Register online](#) by 15 May  
Enquiries: Taylor Coutinho 02 9557 2695, or [ea@catholicreligious.org.au](mailto:ea@catholicreligious.org.au)

### **CRA NATIONAL JUSTICE SEMINAR 2023**

This CRA Justice Seminar will focus on the *Uluru Statement from the Heart* and advocacy in relation to constitutional change, and the Voice to Parliament, featuring speakers, Rachel Perkins, Shireen Morris, and Frank Brennan SJ. The format will include table discussions and Q&A, morning tea and lunch included. The audience is leaders and members of Religious Congregations, justice animators and colleagues of religious congregations, students and their teachers.

Date: Wednesday 19 July 2023  
Time: Registration from 8:45 am for a 9.30 am start. Finish at 3.40pm  
Venue: Peter Cosgrove Centre, ACU, Level 18, Tenison Wood House 8 Napier Street, North Sydney  
Registration: Details available soon. Enquiries: Lucy O'Connell 02 9557 2695  
[secretariat@catholicreligious.org.au](mailto:secretariat@catholicreligious.org.au)

## STORYTELLERS & BRIDGEMAKERS

Together For Humanity & Sydney Jewish Writers Festival present acclaimed international storyteller Noa Baum as part of her Australian tour with local guest storytellers Nardi Simpson and Olatundji Akpo-Sani.

Title: Building bridges of peace and understanding through story  
Date & Time: 7 June 2023, 6.30 pm  
Venue: Urban Winery, Bldg 121 Bent Street, Entertainment Quarter, Moore Park Sydney  
Registration: Tickets \$30 – information and details for registration are available at [this link](#)

## CTC ONLINE UNIT – TEACHING MEDITATION AND PRAYER

Catholic Theological College (Melbourne) is running an [online unit](#) to develop skills to teach meditation and prayer in a variety of contexts. It can be undertaken for academic credit or for personal enrichment.

Title: Teaching Meditation and Prayer  
Dates & Time: 17, 24 June; 7, 14 October, 10.00 am – 4.30 pm + 12 hours asynchronous learning  
Registration: Visit the [CTC webpage](#) for details of fees and registration

## THREE RETREAT OPPORTUNITIES

The Good Samaritan Sisters draw our attention to three retreats being held later this year, facilitated by:

- Laura Swan OSB: [The Desert Ammas](#) and the Wisdom of the Beguines, from 22 - 29 August 2023
- Laura Swan OSB: *How does [Benedictine Wisdom](#) speak in our contemporary context?* 2 September
- Colleen Rhodes RSM: [Rest, Reflect, Renew](#), from 18- 24 September 2023

Refer to the linked flyers (above) for further information and to register your booking.

## RESOURCES

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### RECLAIMING GOD AS FATHER

“I endeavour to avoid referring to God as Father, but the memory of a past experience has caused me to rethink my relationship with God as Father”, writes Patty Fawcner SGS in the latest issue of [The Good Oil](#). She describes an appreciation of addressing God as Father, as well as the need for a plethora of images of the divine.

### NOT FOR PROFIT LEADERS REPORT

HLB Mann Judd's third annual Not For Profit Leaders Report on strategic planning provides leaders with insights on better practice for developing and reviewing their plan to ensure they are managing their risk and meeting the goals of their organisation. [Download](#) it from the Australian Charity Guide newsletter.

### CROSS CULTURAL COMPETENCY COURSE

The [Cross Cultural Competency Course](#) is a programme developed by NATSICC as a tool in helping increase understanding of Australia's First Peoples. It provides an opportunity for religious leaders and staff to build on skills already gained in this space. The course fee is only \$20 per person and can be completed in one to two hours, with a rich array of supplementary material for further learning. [Register here](#).

**TWO NEW BOOKS FROM ATF PRESS**

*Put Right Something That's Wrong.* This is a collection of articles by and interviews with South African Dominican Albert Nolan OP who died in October 2022 at the age of 88. The articles date from the 1980s and all bring out his links to the Cardijn inspired movements either explicitly or implicitly. [Click here](#) for purchase details.

*The Dye of God: Essays on Islam and the Qur'an* by Anthony Johns opens the spirituality of the Qur'an and the manifold tradition of Islam, carefully and respectfully exploring its theological distinctiveness as well as its resonances with other Abrahamic faiths. [Click here](#) for purchase details.

**THE LIGHTER SIDE** 😄

