

NEWS

NATIONAL REFUGEE WEEK 2023

This week is National Refugee Week, the theme for 2023 to 2025 is 'Finding Freedom' which asks us all to consider what it means to be free – to live without the fear of war, to have your basic human rights upheld, to live in equality and without the fear of persecution. Freedom should also be part of life in Australia for those who have experienced the perils of a refugee's journey to arrive here. This Refugee Week, we are asked to show compassion towards and celebrate the resilience of those who have resettled here – for freedom should not be an ask, it should be a way of life. [Read their stories](#) of over twenty refugee groups from countries including Iran, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ukraine and Afghanistan, as part of Refugee Week's digital campaign and discover how they envision this year's theme, "Finding Freedom".

LASALLIAN CHRISTIAN BROTHER HIGHLIGHTS NEED TO USE TECHNOLOGY FOR GOOD

Gale Condit, a Lasallian Christian Brother for 60 years, expresses the need in utilizing the technology for good purposes and calls people to be engaged with education, community service and the Church. Read the [Vatican News](#) article.

NOTHING REALLY CHANGED AFTER VATICAN II. BUT SYNODALITY MAY MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

"The word *synodality* has been around a year or so now and people are still asking what it really means – for them, of course. The last time the church said it was going to make changes was in 1965. Fifty-eight years ago. In the meantime, all the changes to be seen were basically meaningless ones. Not because change was forbidden. On the contrary," says Joan Chittister, renowned Benedictine sister and author from the United States, in her article in the [National Catholic Reporter](#).

PILGRIMAGES

DIALOGUE WITH THE BOOK, THE LAND AND THE PEOPLE: AN EASTER PILGRIMAGE

The Mission Team of the Sisters of Our Lady of Sion announces an opportunity for leaders in Christian schools and ministries to experience the Scriptures in the land that gave birth to them amongst the Jews, Muslims and Christians who live there. 16 March to 1 April 2024. [Details here](#).

HARVEST JOURNEYS – PILGRIMAGE IN THE GREAT SOUTH LAND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Domestic sacred journeys offer a time of faith renewal and encounter with Australia's natural beauty.

Footsteps of Mary MacKillop – celebrate Mary's Feast Day in Penola on a journey dedicated to Australia's first saint. 10 nights from Melbourne to Adelaide. 3 - 13 August 2023. [Details here](#).

Red Centre Pilgrimage – be among the first to visit The Forgiveness Cross on Memory Mountain, with the local Ikuntji people, in the very centre of Australia. 8 nights, Alice Springs to Uluru. [Details here](#).

EVENTS/WEBINARS

2023 CRA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Accommodation booking deadline is 29 June. Please [download the brochure](#) to learn about the Assembly.

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 SAFEGUARDING COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE – PROFESSIONAL NETWORKING EVENT

This in-person workshop is an important opportunity for Safeguarding Practitioners, Leaders of Religious Institutes, Members of CRA Safeguarding Community of Practice – safeguarding input with a focus on self-care. Learn more on the [CRA Events](#) webpage.

Title: CRA Safeguarding Community of Practice – Networking
Date & Time: Wednesday 28 June 2023, 9.00 am – 3.30 pm (optional dinner the night before)
Venue: St Francis’ Pastoral Centre, 326 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne
Registration: \$150pp (lunch and morning tea included) [Register at Humanitix](#)
Enquiries: Taylor Coutinho 02 9557 2695, ea@catholicreligious.org.au

CRA NATIONAL JUSTICE SEMINAR 2023

At this critical time, the [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 Institutes, justice animators and colleagues of religious congregations, students and their teachers. [Download the flyer](#).

Date: Wednesday 26 July 2023
Time: Registration from 8:45 am for a 9.30 am start. Finish at 3.40 pm
Venue: Peter Cosgrove Centre, ACU, Tenison Wood House, 8 Napier Street, North Sydney
Registration: [Register by 20 July](#) at Humanitix - \$160 CRA members, \$180 non-members
Enquiries: Taylor Coutinho, phone 02 9557 2695 or email ea@catholicreligious.org.au

MISSION AND DIALOGUE TODAY – ONLINE LECTURE SERIES

In response to the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia, the Divine Word Missionaries are offering a series of lectures on Formation for Mission “to promote the mission of evangelisation, and strengthen the witness of all the baptised through personal and communal conversion”. Download the [flyer](#).

26 June: The Who, What, Where, and How of Mission,
5 July: Prophetic Dialogue and Interculturality
7 August: Prophetic Dialogue as an Approach to Church Engagement with Stakeholders of the Digital Future
19 August: Faithful and Creative Discipleship in a Wounded World
2 October: Proposal of Ways for Proclaiming the Good News in the Digital Age
13 November: Interreligious Engagement as Mission

YARRA THEOLOGICAL UNION MID YEAR ENROLMENTS

Mid-Year [enrolments are now open](#), face to face and online classes commence 31 July. YTU is an inclusive and welcoming community offering Undergraduate and Postgraduate Theology awards of the University of Divinity. These awards help equip people in Schools, Hospitals, Churches and the Community.

EMPLOYMENT

AMPJP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Association of Ministerial Public Juridic Persons Ltd (AMPJP) is advertising for a new Executive Director. This is a key role within the maturing area of lay canonical governance of Catholic ministries. The position description and information about the job is on the [AMPJP website](#). Applications close 23 June 2023. Enquiries: Lawrie Hallinan 0419 447 217 or Moira Najdecki chair@goodsameducation.org.au

RESOURCES

MISSION CONFERENCE: ONE HEART MANY VOICES

The [footage of keynote presenters](#) and resources made available from presenters, are now available.

SEA SUNDAY RESOURCES 2023

Sea Sunday will be marked on July 9. Resources available are: Checklist; Prayers of Intercession; Appeal Talk; Bulletin text; Posters; Facebook Post Image, along with links to a [video message from Bishop Tim Norton SVD](#), Bishop Promoter of Stella Maris in Australia or visit the [Stella Maris website](#). For queries contact Roslyn Rajasingam E: roslyn.rajasingam@stellamarisaustralia.org or Ph: 0482 910 245.

NATSICC AND DAUGHTERS OF OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART MESSAGE

Watch a [YouTube video](#) message from the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in partnership with John Lochowiak, Chairperson, NATSICC, for the Feast of the Sacred Heart.

THE LIGHTER SIDE

