

NEWS

CRA SUPPORTS FIRST NATIONS PEOPLE THROUGH A CONSTITUTIONALLY ENSHRINED VOICE

CRA has long been a supporter of the Uluru Statement from the Heart and has issued a [media release](#) and new edition of CRA's [Just Now](#), supporting a constitutionally enshrined First Nations Voice to Parliament and Executive Government, as will be proposed at the upcoming Referendum on 14 October.

CRA PROMOTES CONVERSATION IN CHURCH ON MATTERS CONCERNING LGBTQIA+

At the invitation of CRA, [Dr James Alison](#), a prominent Catholic theologian and author is currently speaking at events around the country until 18 October 2023, to facilitate conversation and outreach in the Church on matters concerning LGBTQIA+ people. See *Events* below.

MERCY INTEGRAL ECOLOGY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM 2024

The Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea (ISMAPNG) is taking applications for its [2024 fellowship program](#) for emerging leaders in Integral Ecology awareness and animation.

ISMAPNG LEADERSHIP CHANGES

[Five Mercy Women](#) have been elected at the Institute's Third Chapter to guide the Institute for the next four years: Elizabeth Moloney, Margaret Madden, Theresia Tina, Karon Donnellon and Duyen Nguyen.

SUICIDE DATA SHOWS ONGOING NEED FOR SPECIALISED BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

In a [media release](#), Jesuit Social Services comments on Australian Bureau of Statistics' annual Causes of Death data, released last week, showing that the suicide rate has sadly continued to increase over the past decade.

CAMPAIGN TO SAVE 80-YEAR-OLD CHURCH ON TIWI ISLANDS

In an [ABC article](#) (1.10.23), Anne Gardiner OLSH speaks of fundraising efforts to restore the first church where she served as a Religious Sister on the Tiwi Islands to its former glory.

THE SYNOD ON SYNODALITY

- Archbishop Tim Costelloe SDB shares his reflections on the Synod in [The Record](#).
- Patrick McInerney SSC reflects on synodality and interfaith relations in the Columban Interfaith [eBulletin](#).
- The Synod of Bishops committee of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference continues to collate content relevant to the first assembly on the Synod on Synodality, which can be accessed [here](#).
- Pope Francis responds to "dubia" (questions) presented by five Cardinals – see [Vatican News](#).

MELKITE PATRIARCH TOURS AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

The Melkite Catholic Patriarch, His Beatitude Joseph Absi, will visit Australia and New Zealand in November and December at the invitation of Aid to the Church in Need (ACN), speaking at events in Melbourne, Brisbane and Auckland, and drawing attention to Christians living their faith in desperate circumstances in Syria and Lebanon. Read the [ACN media release](#) (courtesy *CathNews*).

EVENTS/WEBINARS

JAMES ALISON IN CONVERSATION ABOUT INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY IN AUSTRALIA

During this month there will be a number of events hosted by those with whom CRA has collaborated – click here to [see the list](#).

Here is the final CRA-hosted event:

Title:	Developing a pastoral response to LGBTQIA+ members and their families
Audience:	Religious, their associates, staff and friends who wish to explore and discuss a pastoral approach to inclusivity and diversity in our Church and in our community
Date & Time:	Monday, October 16, 2023, 12.00 – 4.00 pm
Venue:	Redemptorist Monastery, 190 Vincent Street, North Perth WA
Fee:	FOC (includes light lunch)
Registration:	Register at Humanitix and download the flyer
ENQUIRIES:	Please contact Gillian Lee: Ph: 02 9557 2695 Email: secretariat@catholicreligious.org.au

CRA ONLINE PRAYER GATHERING – AFTER THE REFERENDUM

CRA invites you and your friends to join us to pray for Reconciliation – Healing, Unity and Hope – in the context of the Voice Referendum. Whatever the outcome of the Referendum, prayer is an important dimension of moving forward together. Download the [brochure](#) at the *CRA Events* page.

Title:	Reconciliation prayer service
Date & Time:	Monday, 16 October 2023, 10.30 am AEST
Registration:	Free registration at Humanitix; Zoom link will sent out two days prior to gathering
Further information:	Gillian Lee P: 02 9557 2695 E: secretariat@catholicreligious.org.au

RITUAL OF REMEMBRANCE – CRA RELIGIOUS OF QUEENSLAND

The Ritual of Remembrance is an annual Religious of Queensland network event.

Title:	Ritual of Remembrance (see webpage and download flyer)
Date & Time:	Thursday 2 November 2023, 10.30 am (Brisbane time)
Venue:	St Vincent's Chapel, Sisters of Mercy, 131 Queens Road Nudgee QLD
Registration:	https://events.humanitix.com/ritual-of-remembrance/tickets
Livestream link:	The link will be provided closer to the date, through the CRA Bulletin

ANNUAL MISSION DAY – DIVINE WORD MISSIONARIES

Divine Word Missionaries and Yarra Theological Union invite us to the [SVD Annual Mission Day 2023](#), with Bishop Long OFM Conv., Patricia Fox NDS, Prof Dorothy Lee, Gusty Siga SVD and Albano Da Costa SVD.

Title: Your light must shine before others
Date & Time: Saturday 7 October 2023, from 3.00 pm
Venue: Yarra Theological Union, 98 Albion Rd, Box Hill VIC
Registration: Register at www.tinyurl.com/svd23

VINNIES ROSALIE RENDU SOCIAL JUSTICE FORUM

We are invited to the annual Vinnies [Rosalie Rendu Forum](#) which acknowledges the contributions of women to the community, inspiring women's leadership, and social justice issues of relevance.

Title: Cost of Living: Who pays the price for a society divided?
Date & Time: Thursday, 19 October 2023, 6.00 – 7.30 pm AEDT
Venue: University of Notre Dame, Chippendale, NSW. Online streaming available.
Registration: Register free at [Eventbrite](#) | Enquiries: social.justice@vinnies.org.au

AUSTRALIAN CARDIJN INSTITUTE WEBINAR – LAUDATO DEUM

The next webinar hosted by the Australian Cardijn Institute will focus on Pope Francis' newly announced apostolic exhortation, *Laudato Deum*. Special guest will be Jacqui Remond, former director of Catholic Earthcare, a lecturer at Australian Catholic University and a member of the Vatican Ecology Taskforce.

Title: *Laudato Deum*
Date: Tuesday 10 October 2023, 7.30 pm AEDT (6.30 pm Qld, 4.30 pm WA)
Registration: To register, [click here](#)

PASTORAL MINISTRY NETWORK – ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Pastoral Ministry Network (PMN) is holding its annual one-day conference in Sydney, on themes relating to Synodality: Communion, Participation and Mission. Visit the [Conference website](#) for details.

Title: Alive in the Spirit
Date: Wednesday 25 October 2023
Venue: Hornsby RSL (Sydney)
Registration: Tickets \$99 for PMN members, \$149 non-members. Register at [Trybooking](#).

ONLINE IGNATIAN SERIES

This [Online Ignatian Series](#) introduces us to the life and spirituality of St Ignatius Loyola, and invites us to reflect on our own life journey, while exploring core elements of what it means to live the Ignatian Way.

Title: On the way with Inigo
Dates: Every Monday for five weeks from 30 October to 27 November 2023
Cost: \$200 AUD for all five sessions including input, guided contemplation, spiritual conversation, and all program material
Registrations: [Register online](#) and pay by Sunday 29 October 2023

ACU WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP COURSE 2024

The *Women's Leadership for Mission* programme offered by Australian Catholic University in 2024 is a contemporary expression of a commitment to the spiritual and intellectual formation of women through a holistic framework of academic and formative experiences. For details, [download the flyer](#).

Title: Women's Leadership for Mission
Dates: Commencing February 2024
Enquiries: For more information, visit the website acu.edu.au/L4M

HOLY LAND EASTER PILGRIMAGE

The Mission Team of the Sisters of Our Lady of Sion is offering 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. [Details are here](#).

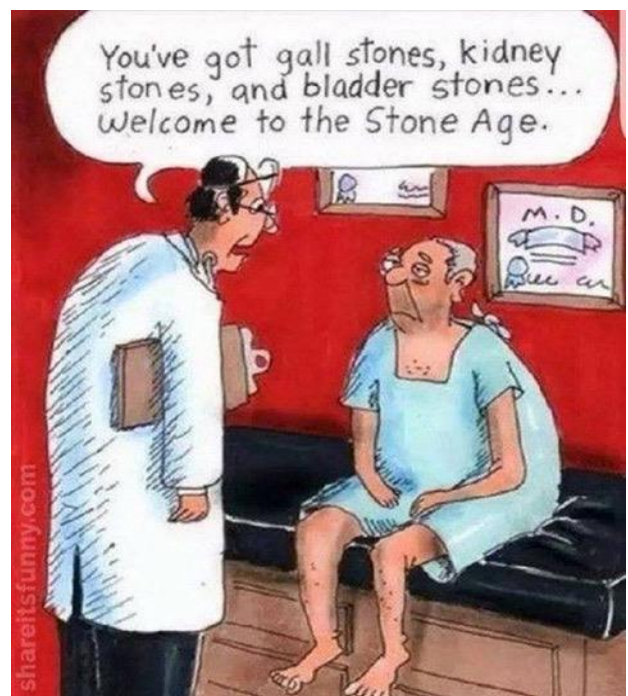
Title: Dialogue with the Book, the Land and the People: An Easter Pilgrimage
Dates: 16 March to 1 April 2024
Enquiries: Enquire and register your interest: sionpilgrimage@gmail.com
For further details, download the [brochure](#)

RESOURCES

CARMELITE CENTRE MELBOURNE

The Carmelite Centre Melbourne facilitates spiritual journeys, personal growth and community in the Carmelite tradition. [Click here](#) for its latest listing of opportunities to gather and grow.

THE LIGHTER SIDE



I get most of my exercise these days shaking my head in disbelief. 😊