

NEWS

CRA COMMUNICATIONS THIS WEEK

- Read CRA's [media release](#) following last weekend's referendum result here.
- CRA has endorsed the ['Black Mist and the Ban' statement](#) organised by the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) to mark 70 years since the first mainland nuclear test in Australia.
- The latest (October) edition of CRA's [Pathways](#) is now available.

RESPONSE TO THE 7 OCTOBER HAMAS ATTACKS & WAR IN GAZA

The International Union of Superiors General (UISG) invites the members of religious congregations and all their collaborators to answer the call of the Bishops of the Holy Land for [a day of fasting and prayer](#) on October 17, dedicated to peace and reconciliation.

APPEAL FOR SAFE RELEASE OF ABDUCTED CATHOLICS IN NIGERIA

Prayers are being sought for the "safe release" of three Catholic nuns, a seminarian, and a driver reportedly abducted from Nigeria's Abakaliki Diocese. Continue reading at [CNA](#).

See also a recent report about targeted violence against Christians in Nigeria in [America](#) magazine.

"BEYOND THE REFERENDUM, IT'S TIME FOR A NEW BEGINNING"

Bishop Charles Gauci, chair of the Bishops Commission for Relations with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, has prepared a statement following the result in the referendum on the Indigenous Voice to Parliament and Executive Government. Download the [statement](#) and read the [press release](#).

LEADERSHIP CHANGES - PATRICIAN BROTHERS

At its General Chapter, the Patrician Brothers have elected their new [Congregation Leadership Team](#).

REQUEST FROM ACU: WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP FOR MISSION PROGRAM

The [Women's Leadership for Mission Program](#) of Australian Catholic University has been redeveloped in the light of an extensive external review. ACU invites CRA members to consider supporting the program in two ways: (i) supporting women's access financially or otherwise; and (ii) providing women religious to accompany program participants by offering a monthly online time of prayer and reflection. Please contact Sandie Cornish by phone 02 9465 9583 or email L4M@acu.edu.au if you are able to assist in leading prayer. If you would like to discuss how you might support women's access to the program, please phone Janine Luttick on 03 9230 8419 or email at L4M@acu.edu.au to arrange a conversation.

THIS WEEK IS ANTI-POVERTY WEEK

Read more about [Anti-Poverty Week](#) which commenced 15 October 2023.

A CONTRIBUTION TO THE SYNOD FROM ACI

The Australian Cardijn Institute (ACI) has submitted its [contribution and appeal](#) to participants at the Synod on Synodality 2023-24, giving voice to a variety of individuals, movements, groups and networks from 33 countries.

DISABILITY COMMISSION HANDS DOWN FINAL REPORT

The [final report](#) by the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability has been tabled in federal parliament, with 222 recommendations for change. [Continue reading](#).

EVENTS/WEBINARS

CRA National Day of Sorrow and Promise - Sunday 22 October 2023
For [prayer resources](#) go to the CRA website

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

CRA ONLINE SEMINARS - ECO-SPIRITUAL PRAXIS TODAY

These CRA online seminars focus on ecological spirituality, with practical exercises and thoughtful exploration to foster confidence among participants, empowering them to return to their congregations, capable of cultivating, practicing, and celebrating ecological spirituality. [Download the flyer](#).

Title: Eco-Spiritual Praxis Today
Dates: Tuesday 21 and 28 November 2023, 9.30 am – 12.00 pm AEDT
Speakers: Margie Abbott; Sally Neaves; Sue Martin
Audience: Leaders, Leadership teams, Ecology Advocates, those in formation for mission
Registration: Cost: \$80 Per Person for the two seminars (No option to register for one seminar)
To register, [click here](#) and find further information at the CRA [Events](#) webpage.

BISHOP VINCENT PRESENTS CHRISTOPHER WHITE

As part of the *Bishop Vincent Presents* series (Diocese of Parramatta), Vatican correspondent and Pope Francis expert Christopher White from the National Catholic Reporter is coming to Australia for a series of free events in Parramatta and Melbourne. [Find further details here](#).

Title: Bishop Vincent Presents Christopher White

SYDNEY EVENT

Date: Thursday 9 November 2023, 6.00 – 7.30 pm AEDT
Venue: Our Lady of Mercy College, Parramatta - Ailsa Mackinnon Community Centre

Address: 2-6 Victoria Rd, Parramatta NSW
Registration: Register for the [Sydney event](#)

MELBOURNE EVENT

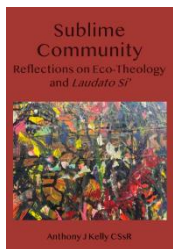
Date: Thursday 16 November 2023, 5.00 – 6.30 pm AEDT
Venue: Newman College, 887 Swanston St, Parkville VIC
Registration: Register for the [Melbourne event](#)

WISDOM, MISSION, CONVERSION, TRANSFORMATION: A SABBATICAL FOR RELIGIOUS

This sabbatical is offered at St Joseph's Centre which sits within beautiful, spacious grounds at Baulkham Hills, 40 minutes north-west of Sydney's CBD and Sydney Harbour.

Title: Wisdom, Mission, Conversion, Transformation – Sabbatical
Dates: 5 April - 17 May 2024
Cost: \$ 8,806.50. Closing date for applications is 25 March 2024
Venue: St Joseph's Centre Baulkham Hills NSW
Further information: [Refer to flyer](#) and [application form](#) for further details.

RESOURCES



NEW BOOK BY PROF. ANTHONY KELLY CSsR

Sublime Community: Reflections on Eco-Theology and Laudato Si' (ATF Press, 2023) is a volume of essays looking at many aspects of an eco-theology and Pope Francis' Encyclical *Laudato Si'*. Renowned Australian Catholic theologian Anthony J Kelly, CSsR, is a professor in the Faculty of Theology and Philosophy at Australian Catholic University and a member of the International Theological Commission for 10 years (2004-2014). [Click here to order.](#)

THE LIGHTER SIDE



... AND THE POIGNANT SIDE OF LIFE



A man hurried to his 8.00 am medical appointment. He wanted to finish quickly so he could go to another appointment. The doctor asked what it was and he proudly said that every morning at 9.00 am at the hospital he had breakfast with his wife.

The doctor asked what his condition was. He replied that for five years she has had Alzheimer's and hasn't known who he is. The doctor asked why he continues if she has no idea who he is. The man replied, "Because I still know who she is."