

NEWS

CRA SUPPORTS FAIR WORK LEGISLATION BILL

CRA has supported the government's proposed Fair Work Legislation (Closing Loopholes) Bill 2023 in a submission supporting better protections for workers in precarious employment arrangements. Read CRA's [media release](#) and access [CRA's submission](#) here.

CRA JOB OPPORTUNITY - DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

CRA is seeking a [Director of Communications and Engagement](#); the position is both strategic and operational, with a focus on communication management and membership engagement. Applications close Thursday, 14 December 2023.

CHA ENDORSES MOVE TO ESTABLISH ANTI-SLAVERY COMMISSIONER

Catholic Health Australia (CHA) strongly endorses the federal government's move to establish an anti-slavery commissioner under a bill introduced to parliament. Continue reading the [CHA media release](#).

SYNODALITY - NCR ARTICLE

The National Catholic Reporter (28.11.23) features an article by Christopher White about Bishop Vincent Long: "Franciscan bishop implements Jesuit pope's synodal vision in Australia". [Read it here](#).

REMEMBERING PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

Three months after churches were attacked in the Punjab province of Pakistan, the Christian minority keeps a low profile as it faces discrimination. Continue reading in [La Croix](#).

In Nigeria, after a woman was killed over accusations of blaspheming and another set to stand trial, a Catholic prelate has denounced the country's blasphemy laws as a violation of basic freedoms. (See [Crux](#))

And in the Philippines, the humanitarian arm of the Philippines Church has called for security at Christian gatherings in the wake of a deadly bombing at a Mass. Continue reading at [UCA News](#).

ROYAL COMMISSION INTO IMMIGRATION DETENTION: CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

Sydney Archdiocese [Justice and Peace Office](#) has joined with refugee advocates and the Member for North Sydney for a public launch of a campaign for a Royal Commission into Immigration Detention.

CHRISTMAS PURCHASES THAT HELP OTHERS

Help support First Nations students by purchasing Christmas ornaments, made locally from sustainable Australian timber, from [Opening The Doors Foundation](#).

The “[Gifts for Change](#)” Program of Jesuit Mission Australia empowers vulnerable people to break out of the cycle of poverty; e.g., \$50 can help buy a bicycle for a child and give access to a quality education.

EVENTS/WEBINARS

LAUDATE DEUM WEBINAR

The Justice and Peace Office (Sydney), Catholic Earthcare Australia and North Sydney Catholics invite us to a webinar on Pope Francis’ apostolic exhortation *Laudate Deum*.

Title: Laudate Deum webinar
Date: Wednesday 6 December 2023, 7.00 – 8.00 pm (AEDT)
Registration: Join the webinar [here](#) (pw 223780)

CARDIJN LECTURE 2023 - ONLINE

The Cardijn Lecture will be presented by Dr Alana Harris from King’s College London. The organisers note that many religious sisters were in the YCS in their youth – this online lecture may be of interest.

Title: Reform or Revolution? The English Young Christian Students and their Pursuit of a Spiritual ‘68” [Download flyer](#)
Date: Thursday 14 December 2023, 7.00 pm AEDT (8.00 am UK)
Registration: Please register (free) [at this link](#)

RESOURCES

FREE ADVENT MUSIC AND VIDEOS

Emmaus Productions draws our attention to free [Advent music and videos](#) for adults and children. Listen to a sample, “Raise Up the Good”, also posted at our CRA website.



CARMELITE CENTRE MELBOURNE - NEWSLETTER

The December activities of the Carmelite Centre Melbourne can be [accessed here](#).

THE LIGHTER SIDE



The biggest joke on humanity is that computers have begun asking humans to prove they aren’t a robot.



I have many hidden talents.

I just wish I could remember where I hid them.

Don't wait for the perfect moment, take the moment and make it perfect!