

NEWS

Please note that next Tuesday 19 December 2023 will be the last CRA Bulletin for the year as we all spend time celebrating Christmas. The Bulletin will recommence

STIPEND RATES AVAILABLE AT CRA WEBSITE

Recommended stipend rates for Religious in Queensland, Northern Territory, South Australia, Victoria and Tasmania have been updated for the 2024 calendar year at this [CRA webpage](#). Ministerial stipends and stipends for NSW/ACT and WA can be found at the same link and are determined for the financial year.

COURT RULING ON TELEHEALTH AND VAD

Archbishop Peter Comensoli has welcomed the Federal Court's ruling that voluntary assisted dying (VAD) is considered suicide under criminal law, clarifying it is not lawful for doctors to give patients information about euthanasia by means of telehealth, email or phone call. Continue reading at [Melbourne Catholic](#).

WHOLE-OF-CHURCH APPROACH TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Bishop Greg Bennet and Victorian Minister for Prevention of Family Violence, Vicki Ward, have [launched](#) the report on the pilot project undertaken by Catholic Social Services Victoria and the Catholic Diocese of Sale. It is titled [Shining a Light: A collaborative project working to build capacity for a whole-of-Church response to domestic and family violence](#).

PROPOSED REFORMS OUTLINED BY PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION

This [media release](#) from the National Catholic Education Commission, "Direct attack on faith communities by the Productivity Commission", is in response to the proposed reforms outlined by the Productivity Commission in its draft Future Foundations for Giving report.

CHRISTMAS APPEALS

This Christmas season, Australian Marist Solidarity (AMS) invites support for Kulugia Primary School in rural Timor-Leste. Read the [AMS media release](#).

St Vincent de Paul Society invites us to support the Vinnies Christmas Appeal at [this link](#).

INTERFAITH RELATIONS

The latest issue of "[Bridges](#)" from the Columban Centre for Christian-Muslim Relations is now available.

See, too, "[An Open Letter](#) to Pope Francis and to the Faithful of the Catholic Church" by Jewish scholars, leaders, and long-time practitioners in Jewish-Christian dialogue, in Israel, USA and Europe.

EVENTS/WEBINARS

2024 CRA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY – DATE CLAIMER

Please mark your diaries for next year's CRA National Assembly:

Title: 2024 CRA National Assembly
Dates: Monday 26 August 2024 to Thursday 29 August 2024
Venue: TBC - Brisbane
Programme and registration details will follow in the new year in due course.

2024 CRA HEALTH AND WELLBEING SEMINAR – DATE CLAIMER

The CRA Health and Wellbeing Committee have engaged diabetes educators and a dietician to present a one-day seminar next year. Please mark your diary and share this information with interested people.

Title: Understanding Diabetes
Date & Time: Wednesday 17 April 2024, 9.30 am to 3.40 pm
Venue: Peter Cosgrove Centre, ACU, 8 Napier Street, North Sydney
Registration: Open from 31 January 2024
Enquiries: Stephen Middleton: phone 0401 050 595 or email cpc@catholicreligious.org.au

WATAC ADVENT & CHRISTMAS REFLECTION - ONLINE

Women and the Australian Church (WATAC) invites us to an online evening of reflection and prayer, delving into the texts of Isaiah and the Gospels that accompany us during Advent. Read WATAC's [media release](#) and download the [flyer](#).

Title: Advent & Christmas Reflection
Date: Wednesday 13 December 2023, 7.00 pm NSW, ACT, VIC, TAS | 6.30 pm SA | 6.00 pm QLD | 5.30 pm NT | 4.00 pm WA
Registration: Please register via the website (www.watac.net.au) at [this link](#)

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](#)

ACCOMMODATION

ACCOMMODATION SOUGHT IN SYDNEY

The Missionaries of God's Love Sisters are seeking accommodation for one of their members next year from February to December 2024 in the Sydney region. If you can help, they would welcome hearing from you. Please contact Therese Mills MGL on 0432 228 250 or therese.mgl@gmail.com.

RESOURCES



ADVENT RESOURCE FROM CARITAS AUSTRALIA

Caritas Australia's [Advent resource](#) invites participants to journey through the four weeks of Advent, reflecting on Scripture and sharing in the stories of people around the world.

FREE ADVENT MUSIC AND VIDEOS

Regarding last week's item about Emmaus Productions' free [Advent music and videos](#) for adults and children: many have asked for a [downloadable version and for the music](#) - which can now be found here.

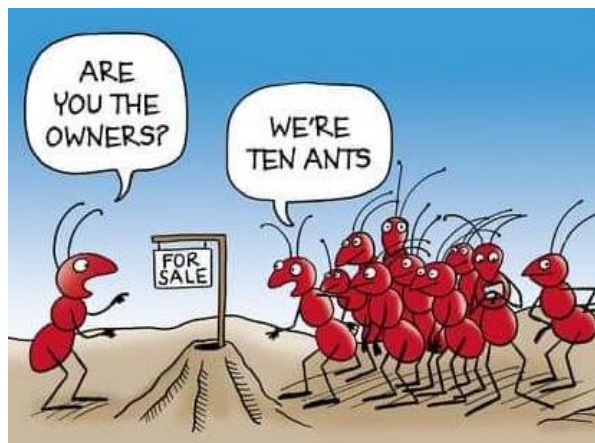
LITURGICAL RESOURCE CALENDAR FOR SCHOOLS

Liturgy, Ritual, Prayer (LRP) offers a 2024 [Liturgical Resource Calendar](#) for Catholic Schools, featuring the art of Susan Daily IBVM OAM, and quotes from *Laudato Si'* and *Laudate Deum* alongside corresponding Scripture references. Please find the [order form](#) here and information about [LRP membership](#) here.

THE LIGHTER SIDE



Instead of a sign that says 'do not disturb' I need one that says 'already disturbed proceed with caution'



We always get each other ironic gifts, but my brother killed it this year.

