

Covenant between CRA and AMPJP

Introduction

This Covenant document articulates the relationship between Catholic Religious Australia and AMPJP to:

1. Enliven God's mission;
2. Specify the commitment to the relationship; and
3. Identify areas for common purpose and action.

CRA and AMPJP are committed to advancing God's mission for the Church in Australia and to strengthening its ecclesial communion, by assisting their member Religious Institutes, Societies of Apostolic Life and Ministerial PJPs to also engage in *missio* and in *communio*.

The Covenant is:

- enduring - those with leadership responsibility in the Church are bound through Christ to each other;
- an act of communion – this Covenant is a loving expression of different identities living in unity; and
- for the purpose of Mission – this Covenant exists to facilitate the Reign of God in the Church and in the world.

This Covenant thus reflects:

- the importance of the relationship
- the commitment of both parties to:
 - an open, honest, respectful and transparent relationship;
 - fulfill their respective roles within the Church with due consideration of the other;
 - work cooperatively on shared objectives and on action items that might emerge.

This understanding means that both parties solemnly promise to take the Covenant and its manifestations seriously.

Mutual CRA and AMPJP contribution to the Covenant

Recognising that most MPJPs have arisen from the transferral of ministries from Religious Institutes to newly established MPJPs, CRA and the AMPJP can mutually contribute to the Covenant in a number of areas:

- live their Baptism and their vocation to leadership in, and for, the Church;
- share knowledge and experience of ministry leadership and governance;
- share knowledge of Church ministries, specifically health, education, aged care, community and social services.

CRA contribution to the Covenant

As the peak body that comprises around 150 Leaders of Religious Institutes and Societies of Apostolic Life in all states and territories of Australia, CRA can contribute to this Covenant in the following areas:

- provide support to the leadership of its members to ensure that contemporary religious life in Australia is animated and enriched, enabling the wisdom and heart of the many charisms of religious to transform lives
- encourage and enable religious to celebrate their diverse charisms, while bringing each together as a synodal, ecclesial community within the universal Church, that is collaborative and inclusive
- bring alive a Gospel spirituality that gives expression to the collective, prophetic voice of religious, through advocacy on issues both within the Church and society, including justice (social and environmental), professional standards and Church governance, with a particular focus on the marginalised and vulnerable
- respond proactively to the emerging issues of religious and the broader Church, especially in the areas of governance, legislation, Vatican edicts, policies and training
- facilitate communication and cooperation with the AMPJP, ACBC and the wider Church

AMPJP contribution to the Covenant

The AMPJP comprises MPJPs who are a new expression of ecclesial governance. The AMPJP could contribute in the following areas:

- facilitate the discernment and common action of MPJPs for their ministries and for the people who they serve;
- development and implementation of a Formation Framework for MPJP (canonical) Stewards;
- facilitate the common action of MPJPs in formation and recruitment of potential MPJP (canonical) Stewards; and
- facilitate MPJP communication and cooperation with ACBC, CRA and the wider Church.

The CRA-AMPJP Relationship

The following elements are key in this Covenant between CRA and AMPJP:

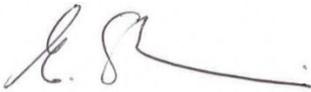
- Cooperation of ACBC, CRA and AMPJP as Members of Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd.
- Regular dialogue of CRA leadership with AMPJP leadership, at least three times per year
- AMPJP will host CORMSAA as the primary forum for communication and collaboration of Religious Institute and MPJP Church Authorities who sponsor Catholic schools
- CRA invitation to events it holds where appropriate
- Mutual invitation to relevant Church leadership gatherings
- Mutual respect between Leaders of Religious Institutes and MPJP (canonical) Stewards – each being recognised as ecclesial leaders with distinct and at times interrelating roles;
- Facilitate the common action of Religious Institute and MPJP Church Authorities who sponsor Catholic schools, health, aged care, community service and other ministries;
- Collaboration of CRA and AMPJP on formation and matters of shared concern;
- Mutual education regarding the nature of, and issues of, both respective bodies (CRA and AMPJP) and members (Religious Institutes and MPJPs); and
- CRA and AMPJP actively seek each other's advice on matters concerning their ecclesial leadership.

CRA and AMPJP note that their members are not bound by this Covenant unless they specifically agree.

Review of the Covenant

This Covenant will be reviewed by both parties at 18 months, and then at three-yearly intervals.

Executed for and on behalf of ASSOCIATION OF MINISTERIAL PJPS
(ACN 612 227 559) by its authorised
Representative:



Signature of Authorised Representative

Eva Skira AM

Print Name

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Executed for and on behalf of CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS
AUSTRALIA (ABN 92 291 126 804) by its authorised
Representative:



Signature of Authorised Representative

Peter Carroll FMS

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DATED: 20 June 2022