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Australian Catholic Religious
Against Trafficking in Humans

ACRATH MEDIA RELEASE: 18 March 2026 ACRATH Members Urged to Continue Advocacy in Canberra



Pictured: ACRATH members, staff and national committee members with Keynote speaker Anti-Slavery Commissioner Chris Evans, 16 March 2026, Baulkham Hills

Members of the Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans (ACRATH) from across the country met in Baulkham Hills for a two-day Gathering, reflecting on twenty years of advocacy and planning future actions to eliminate human trafficking and its harms.

The event brought together over 40 members, staff, and committee representatives. It featured insightful discussions and collaboration, reaffirming ACRATH's commitment to ending human trafficking and supporting victim/survivors.

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A highlight was the keynote address by Australia's first Anti-Slavery Commissioner, Chris Evans, who commended ACRATH's dedication and urged

continued advocacy

in Canberra. "Your presence and advocacy are keenly felt in Canberra," Mr Evans said during a lively Q&A, also stressing that survivor voices remain vital in shaping the national response to modern slavery.

The Gathering lets members share project updates, exchange ideas, and engage in spiritual reflection and prayer, keeping victim/survivor voices central.

"I found these days enlightening, informative, energising and most enjoyable," one participant remarked...Chris Evans was an outstanding speaker and advocate."

Sr Louise Cleary, ACRATH co-founder, addressed the group via video message, emphasising the importance and power of collective action: "I am convinced that a group of like-minded people coming together can do something... We can make significant changes in the world when we join in collective efforts. Keep working at it."

The gathering celebrated ACRATH's legacy and built a strong foundation for future advocacy. Re-energised, members left determined to further the organisation's mission, especially in the Australian Parliament in Canberra.

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