Spiritual and Theological Formation Offerings
2020 GUIDE
“It is neither a culture of confrontation nor a culture of conflict which builds harmony within and between peoples, but rather a culture of encounter and a culture of dialogue; this is the only way to peace.”

Pope Francis, Wednesday audience, Sep 1 2013.
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Welcome

In 2020, as we celebrate 175 years of Catholic education in Queensland and in this Archdiocese, and 200 years of Catholic education in Australia, we realise more than ever the high priority we must give to providing spiritual and theological formation for staff across Brisbane Catholic Education. This imperative is reflected in system wide programs and support, in school initiatives and in all strategic planning. Moreover, Catholic educators and leaders embrace an understanding of vocation that is larger and deeper than what we do and how we do it.

Who you are and why you do what you do has a most powerful and profound influence for the students in our schools. Never forget it!

I invite you to encounter the way of Jesus in the offerings outlined in this book. In particular I invite you all to our major conference, GATHER 2020, to celebrate the continuing flourishing of Catholic education here among us.

Wishing you every blessing in your life and your work.

Pam Betts
Executive Director of Catholic Education,
Archdiocese of Brisbane

“Catholic Schools, from the beginning have been places, hearths if you will, genuinely human hearths, where the young have learned what it means to live life in its fullness.”

Most Rev Archbishop Mark Coleridge
What is Spiritual and Theological Formation for Mission?

Christian Spirituality is sustained by personal and communal prayer (Jesus), lived in relationship with a Christian community (Communion) and expressed through working for God’s way of doing things in the world (Mission).

As a community in the Catholic tradition we are compelled by the message, life and love of Jesus Christ. As Catholic educators, our Mission is to form and energise young people to live lives of love and justice inspired by the vision of Jesus so that they can shape and enrich our world for all.

Spiritual formation
Spiritual formation nourishes the personal narrative of teachers, support staff and leaders, growing dispositions and behaviours that reflect our deepest identity and underpin our service to others.

Theological formation
Theological formation gives us a lens to understand our own spiritual experience; the big questions of life, of meaning and of God; and to dialogue with other wisdom traditions.

See pages 40 and 41 for more information about formation at BCE including the Formation Framework.

Strong Catholic Identity – Strategic Direction
The flourishing of our Catholic Christian identity into the future builds upon the good work already in evidence across our BCE community. The BCE Strong Catholic Identity Strategy gives focus to four key areas into the future: Mission, Formation, Culture and Learning and Teaching. Of these four dimensions, authentic staff and student formation has been widely identified as the critical factor in the continuing mission integrity of Catholic Education.
Spiritual and Theological Formation Offerings for Staff

Whether you are working in a BCE school or office, in leadership, teaching, supporting or other role, there are formation opportunities to cater for everyone!

All Brisbane Catholic Education Staff

Catholic Perspectives across the Curriculum¹

Embedding a Catholic Perspective across all curriculum areas is a key strategy towards strengthening our Catholic Identity in BCE’s system of schools. Our Catholic Perspective permeates every aspect of school life, including the curriculum. For effective implementation, staff need good quality theological formation so that they have the knowledge and confidence to articulate a Catholic Perspective in their teaching.

Quality professional learning has ensured the successful embedding of the five elements of the school-wide Catholic Perspectives Conceptual Framework (including RSE). All BCE schools and colleges have participated in the introductory Orientation to School-Wide RSE and have been asked to strategically plan how to develop ongoing school-wide implementation of the five elements of this framework.

DETAILS
• 1 session per term across 3 venues
• 1 specialised secondary day per term
• ongoing school support including staff meetings and twilight professional learning opportunities

CONTACT Anne Victor, avictor@bne.catholic.edu.au
Kris Rowlands, krowlands@bne.catholic.edu.au

Spiritual and Theological Formation Offerings 2020 Guide

Religious Education Accreditation Program (REAP)

REAP provides a supported pathway to completing one unit of four tertiary units required for Accreditation to Teach Religious Education in the Archdiocese of Brisbane and all Queensland Dioceses.

REAP Inservice is open to teachers from Brisbane Catholic Education (BCE) and Religious Institute (RI) schools and is offered through a series of lectures, workshops and seminars over four days. Please note that in BCE schools, teachers of Religious Education are required to be Catholic, or the faith partners of our ecumenical schools/colleges.

REAP Inservice is also a course which provides an opportunity for school leadership staff and all teachers who would like to upgrade knowledge and skills in Religious Education.

DETAILS The new Accreditation Cycle begins in 2020.
Search ‘Teacher Accreditation’ on Spire for requirements on maintaining accreditation both to teach in a Catholic school and to teach religion in a Catholic school.

CONTACT Cath Rodden, crodden@bne.catholic.edu.au

“We are all called to be holy by living our lives with love and by bearing witness in everything we do, wherever we find ourselves.”

Pope Francis, Gaudete et Exultate
ACU and BCE – An Introduction to the Catholic Dialogue Schools Project

ACU in partnership with BCE offer a week-long study intensive that engages with the underpinning theology and methodology of the Catholic Dialogue Schools Project. This course can be credited with ACU as part of a Master of Theology or an elective in the Master of R.E or Master of Educational Leadership or completed for audit. It is also cross credited with BBI TAITE and other higher education providers.

Those who are on school leadership teams and school and BCE office personnel who are leading Catholic Identity are prioritised for this course. Scholarships are also available.

DETAILS Applications for EOIs will be advertised in Term 1 2020. To be held in Brisbane, 25 - 30 August.

CONTACT Dr Jill Gowdie, jgowdie@bne.catholic.edu.au

School Based Spiritual Formation Planning

Formation should be an ongoing process providing staff with regular times throughout the year to stop, reflect and understand their own faith journey and the wisdom and mystery of the Catholic Christian Tradition.

Spiritual Formation Planning is an essential part of building and nurturing an authentic Catholic Christian community.

Members of the IMARE team are available to assist in the planning, implementation and facilitation of a variety of formation experiences. Themes may include spiritual and theological formation; Catholic Identity; School Vision, Mission and Values; the Capacities of a Christian Community; School Charism and much more.

Whole Days

Whole day formation experiences provide the time and the space for staff to really ‘retreat’ and develop their personal and professional identity. Whole day formation experiences are a great focus activity for school staff formation.

Twilights

Twilight formation experiences are an opportunity to ‘touch base’ with key strategies or themes that are the focus throughout the year. Twilights are custom-built in response to any staff group requests.

CONTACT Catherine Foley, catherine.foley@bne.catholic.edu.au Josh O’Keeffe, jokeeffe@bne.catholic.edu.au

“Becoming like Jesus is as much as about having a relaxed and joyful heart as it is about believing and doing the right thing, as much about proper energy as about proper truth.”

Strong Catholic Identity: Formation for Mission

The *Strong Catholic Identity: Formation for Mission* Modules are considered effective and expected practices for schools to incorporate into their *Strong Catholic Identity Formation Plans*. This program explores the distinctive features of a Catholic school through five modules, informed by the work of Thomas Groome “What Makes a School Catholic”.

Module 1. Anthropology: In God’s own image and likeness.
Module 2. Sacramentality: To see God in all things.
Module 3. Community: Made for each other.
Module 4. Tradition: To share the story and vision.
Module 5. Rationality: Faith seeking understanding

School based Spiritual Formation Planning involves intentionally thinking about formation offerings that support school and system strategic goals. These plans are custom-built in response to specific school needs. The IMARE team can assist in discerning what formation experiences best serve your community plan and goals, as well as suggesting a range of local and national facilitators.

**CONTACT** Catherine Foley, catherine.foley@bne.catholic.edu.au
Josh O’Keeffe, jokeeffe@bne.catholic.edu.au
Scripture Twilight

In 2020, numerous twilight sessions will be held across all 3 service centres (Northlakes, Springwood and O’Shea) as well as host schools, with the flexibility to bring participants in with virtual attendance. The aim of the workshops is to help participants translate what they learnt about Scripture into teaching Scripture well in the classroom.

CONTACT  Ask your APRE or contact your EORE for more details of the 2020 program.

World Religions and Spiritualities Days

The focus will be on: how do we live and understand the rich religious diversity and dialogue open to us in Australia in today, as well as in the classroom and as a school community. It will also have a curriculum focus for teachers of the P-12 Religion and the Senior School Religious Education offerings. There will be an opportunity to dialogue and learn from adherents from various faith backgrounds such as: Aboriginal Spiritualities, Islamic, Jewish, Hindu and Buddhist.

DETAILS: 2 Day offering for an interfaith and dialogical experience.

CONTACT: Paul Blom, pblom@bne.catholic.edu.au
          Cath Rodden, crodden@bne.catholic.edu.au

Sabbath Time

A spiritual formation experience, Sabbath Time is a gentle retreat which gives participants time and permission to step away from busyness and work. Sabbath Time participants are invited to attend as many times as they like without cost to them or their school. The content of the retreat varies from year to year.

DETAILS  Retreat 1 in June/July school holidays
          Retreat 2 in the September school holidays

CONTACT  Josh O’Keeffe, jokeeffe@bne.catholic.edu.au

Staff with Spirit

A spiritual formation program, Staff with Spirit provides an opportunity to enrich the personal spiritual journey; enhance an understanding of Catholic culture and tradition; reconnect ‘soul’ and ‘role’ – who you are and what you do; refresh and rejuvenate body, mind and spirit.

Staff with Spirit is a three-level program. Different groups will be offered a retreat experience targeted to their particular roles. Participants begin with the Level 1 retreat and may then engage, when ready, with the Level 2 and Level 3 Retreats. Engagement across three consecutive years is not required.

DETAILS  Staff with Spirit (Level 1) 2020 dates to be advised
          Staff with Spirit (Level 2) 2020 dates to be advised
          Staff with Spirit (Level 3) will be offered for the first time in 2021.

CONTACT  Catherine Foley, catherine.foley@bne.catholic.edu.au
BCE Principals and Senior BCEO Staff

KU Leuven Theological Intensive
Hosted by the Catholic University of Leuven (KU Leuven), the KU Leuven Theological Intensive offers principals and senior office staff a two week opportunity to engage with renowned lecturers in the field of theology in the university town of Leuven in Belgium. Participants will need to access their professional renewal funding to attend and places are limited. This intensive will support participants’ knowledge and understanding of the theology that underpins the Catholic Dialogue Schools Project and wider BCE Strong Catholic Identity Strategy.

**DETAILS** 25 May – 5 June

**CONTACT** Dr Jill Gowdie, jgowdie@bne.catholic.edu.au

School Leadership Teams and Senior BCEO Staff

PRESENCE Annual Leadership Retreats
The PRESENCE Annual Leadership Retreats are designed to continue to build leadership capacity while exploring and deepening relationship with self, others, God and creation.

**DETAILS** 2020 retreats will be offered to different targeted leadership groups: Principals (including early career principals), Senior BCEO Leaders and Heads of School, and School Leaders (APREs, APAs, DPs)

**CONTACT** Catherine Foley, catherine.foley@bne.catholic.edu.au

BCEO Staff

Welcome to the Catholic World
This series of seminars are ‘pop up’ opportunities which introduce basic Catholic ideas, culture and practices. They have been specifically designed as an induction for new BCEO staff but are open to all office staff members. Topics covered are:

- Religion: The Great Questions
- For the Love of God
- Jesus, Mary and Joseph
- Popes, Prelates and People
- On A Wing and A Prayer
- Bells, Smells, Songs and Stories
- Going to Mass?

**CONTACT** Michael Blanchfield, mblanchfield@bne.catholic.edu.au

Staff Wellbeing and Formation Experiences
Staff Wellbeing and Formation Experiences are opportunities for individuals and teams with an emphasis on personal, interpersonal, spiritual wellbeing and growth and have been designed to respond to the focus areas of our BCE Vision.

**DETAILS** Short workshop/retreat style experiences approximately 2.5 hours duration in the afternoon. Dates and times will be advertised across BCEO.

**CONTACT** Kerry Bird, kbird@bne.catholic.edu.au
Early Career Teachers

The Teacher’s Calling

The Teacher’s Calling engages with Early Career Teachers over a three-year period. The formation program sits as an integral and integrated part of the broad Early Career Teacher program, which explicitly names Christ-centred formation as a key area of support for Early Career Teachers.

Using the My Story, Our Story, The Story scaffolding of the Formation Framework, the program focuses on nurturing of Early Career Teachers in their first three years as a Catholic school teacher.

The program has four aims:

1. To create a space to reflect on and explore the personal experience of being a teacher
2. To situate that experience within the wider arc of the teacher and the leader in the Catholic school
3. To develop basic habits and insights to sustain and grow the spirituality of each teacher
4. To introduce skills and perspectives towards post-critical belief

CONTACT Josh O’Keeffe, jokeeffe@bne.catholic.edu.au

Pre-Service Teachers

Faith Companioning Pilot Program

In 2020, the Faith Companioning Pilot Program will be extended with the aim of supporting pre-service teachers during their BCE placements across the year. The program will allow pre-service teachers to explore what it means to be a teacher in a Catholic school, to reflect on and develop their own meaning making and spiritual growth at the same time as their professional confidence and capacity is emerging.

CONTACT Dr Jill Gowdie, jgowdie@bne.catholic.edu.au

Why not be a teacher?
You’d be a fine teacher; perhaps a great one.

If I was, who would know it?

….You;... your pupils; ...your friends; ...God....
Not a bad public, that.

from A Man for All Seasons
School Boards, Parents and Friends and Other Partners

School Board Formation: Keeping Faith

Keeping Faith sessions for School Boards are designed to provide a formative praxis developed around the nine capacities for Christian community identified in the BCE Formation for Mission Framework. As such, each session has short readings and these are included in the accompanying ‘Collection of Readings.’ The final session uses the reflection time to review the year and its gifts and insights.

Each session has a prayer format so that the reflection and sharing occur within this structure. The wisdom principle is that we deepen our understanding through a ‘head, heart and hands’ engagement with the tradition, the scholars, each other and our own reflection and experience.

DETAILS 10 short sessions at the beginning of board meetings

CONTACT Michael Blanchfield, mblanchfield@bne.catholic.edu.au

Reviewing and/or Renewing Vision, Mission and Values Statements

Whether your school is interested in revisiting and perhaps redeveloping the Vision, Mission and Values statements, or you simply just think there needs to be a focus on these to bring them more fully to life, the School Board should be significant contributors to these processes. A variety of resources are available to help the school board understand the purpose of the Vision, Mission and Value statements of the school and how these can most effectively be brought to life.

CONTACT imare@bne.catholic.edu.au

Catholic Dialogue Schools

Catholic Dialogue Schools Project

The Catholic Dialogue Schools Project is a collaboration between BCE and the Catholic University of Leuven (KU Leuven) assisting schools to better understand how their Catholic identity is expressed in work and practice. The project offers strong theological underpinnings and allows schools to profile their community through the use of comprehensive online survey tools. The data which emerges provides schools with a snapshot of their community as well as recommendations that can inform the school’s future direction. The report generated through engagement in the project informs the school’s strategic planning for 3-5 years. It is a expectation that every school community within BCE will engage in the program and with their data over the next five years. Schools are required to respond to an EOI for a place in the next round.

DETAILS Opportunities include Dialogue Schools Network Meetings, Dialogue Schools Drop-In Days and Story Fire Retreats

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Michael Blanchfield, mblanchfield@bne.catholic.edu.au
PEARL Pilot

As we look to shape the narrative of BCE beyond 2020, an essential platform for ongoing sustainability is to provide formation for staff, particularly emerging leaders, to lead confidently with a contemporary approach to Catholic Identity. The theology and methodology of re-contextualisation provides a foundation for such an approach.

PEARL is the Program for Emerging and Aspiring Recontextualising Leaders. A pilot program, it focuses on three ‘hinges’ we can identify for the Catholic leader in a recontextualising school: namely the need to be an expert, a witness and a facilitator (mediator).

The pilot is a 6-day live-in program with two key staff from each of 8 Dialogue schools.

Two days each will be given to developing capacity in:

- ‘doing theology’ (Becoming Expert), with focus on developing post-critical belief through theology and scripture
- ‘being spiritual’ (Becoming Witness) with focus on personal and communal spiritual formation
- ‘enabling dialogue’ (Becoming Facilitator) with a focus on practical skills for leading dialogue

This innovative program is the first of its kind and is timely and well informed by both research and practice.

**DETAILS**

A closed cohort during the Pilot phase but it is expected to be extended in the future.

**CONTACT**

Dr Jill Gowdie, jgowdie@bne.catholic.edu.au

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Story Fire: Growing Catholic Identity

*Story Fire* is a retreat program for Catholic Identity teams within Dialogue Schools. It is also open to office-based staff.

Program participants are invited to reflect on their personal story, their faith story and their vocational story in the context of ongoing engagement with the Catholic Dialogue Schools Project.

**DETAILS**

Unfolding over three consecutive years, cohorts begin Year 1 together and continue the journey in Year 2 and Year 3.

**CONTACT**

Natalie Dean, natalie.dean@bne.catholic.edu.au

Michael Blanchfield, mblanchfield@bne.catholic.edu.au

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Catching Fire Programs – Spiritual Formation for Mission

In 2020, schools still involved in the *Guiding Lights* and *Spirit Fire* programs will complete their final (3rd) year. Those cohorts still involved in the *Keepers of the Flame* program will be completing years two and three respectively.

**CONTACT**

Catherine Foley, catherine.foley@bne.catholic.edu.au
Brisbane Catholic Education schools have a strong commitment to quality ongoing formation for their students that reflects a resonant Catholic worldview within a rich and diverse cultural landscape.

To this end students participate in a comprehensive program of formation which from year to year during their time in a BCE school link in the sequential, developmental, holistic shaping of habits of mind and heart that help students remain open to God and active for the reign of God in the world.

In this way, each student explores the meaning making of their own story and finds resonance in the meaning making of the shared Catholic tradition and their own place in the great narrative of the deep presence and action of God in the world.

### Plan of Approach

**What we do:**

1. **Centrally supported initiatives:**
   - eg. PoTENtial and Year 7-9 Sports Ministry

2. **Building school-based capacity initiatives:**
   - eg. Year 5/6 Formation Day and Youth Sings

3. **Growing system-wide, system-deep strategy:**
   - eg. Annual Strategic Planning

**What informs and is informed by “What we do”**

- Staff Formation
- BCE Student Markers
- Plenary Council
- Senior Schooling
- Wellbeing (ENGAGE Strategy)
- Catholic Identity Narrative
- Parent Engagement

**Line of sight**

- with staff framework
- with BCE Student Markers
- research data informing initiatives
- Line of sight with aspirations
- Experiential student formation
- Integrated into whole of senior school experience
- Identified transition markers in concert with wellbeing ENGAGE strategy
- Line of sight with theology and principles of a Catholic Dialogue school
- Complementarity and better student formation and initiatives for “parent engagement”

**Key processes and rationale for all initiatives**

- Embedding student formation into wellbeing
- Identified transition markers in concert with wellbeing ENGAGE strategy
- Line of sight with theology and principles of a Catholic Dialogue school
- Complementarity and better student formation and initiatives for “parent engagement”
BCE students participate in a comprehensive program of formation which, from year to year during their time in a BCE school, link in the sequential, developmental, holistic shaping of habits of mind and heart that support students in remaining open to God and active for the reign of God in the world. To this end students are provided the opportunity to encounter Christ through a broad range of experiences called Encounter Points. These experiences are shaped to be invitational, intentionally meeting young people where they are and targeting a variety of interests including sport, creative arts, dialogue, peer-to-peer ministry and prayer.

### Approach to Student Formation

The BCE approach to student formation is predicated on our profound desire that students grow into their deepest identity. The BCE Student Markers provide a set of touchstones for all involved in Catholic Education that keep our focus on what we are about in our ministry of Catholic education.

Brisbane Catholic Education advocates that schools and colleges commit to an explicit school-wide plan for student formation providing a sequential, developmental and holistic shaping of habits of mind and heart that support students in remaining open to God and active for the reign of God in the world. This is fundamental to the purpose and ethos of Catholic schools.

**CONTACT** imare@bne.catholic.edu.au
Further Opportunities

A range of conferences, gatherings, pilgrimages are available throughout 2020. There are also opportunities and resources provided by our Independent providers along with Archdiocesan and organisational partners.
Conferences and Gatherings

Gather 2020
Encounter the Way! 20

23-25 AUGUST 2020

Gather 2020 promises to be a world-class event where Catholic educators across the nation will join in dialogue to ‘Encounter the Way!’ The conference marks 175 years of Catholic Education in Queensland, and 200 years of Catholic Education in Australia.

The pre-eminent Catholic Identity event on the Australian education calendar, Gather 2020 will explore four key streams: Mission, Formation, Curriculum and Culture. This conference will provide a wonderful opportunity for Catholic educators to explore, celebrate, discover and dialogue in a re-imagining of our story into the future.

The exceptional quality of leading international and national scholars, prophetic voices, artists and storytellers, musicians and liturgists as well provocateurs headlining Gather 2020 promises an unforgettable experience. Included in the program will be keynote input from Fr Ron Rolheiser, Professor Amy-Jill Levine, Dr Michele Connolly, Professor Didier Pollefeyt, Sr Kathleen Bryant and Fr Frank Brennan.

Be sure to join us for this major event!

DETAILS  23 to 25 August (educators and clergy)
26 August (Year 9-12 students)
Royal International Convention Centre, Bowen Hills, Brisbane

CONTACT  imare@bne.catholic.edu.au

“God’s vision is big...We are being asked to participate in that vision by not relying on what we know of the past but by breaking camp and walking through the city gates into the City of God – the Big Tent and discovering the new way He wants to work.”

Archbishop Mark Coleridge
Transforming Service-Learning Conference

The Transforming Service-Learning Conference is for educators involved in leading or organising service learning activities in Australian schools. Transforming Service is an ecumenical initiative that recognises the rich variety of approaches to service learning across Australian faith-based schools. The conference will focus particularly on secondary schools but recognises that many schools adopt a whole-of-school approach to service learning. International and cross-cultural service encounters will be a focus of discussion, alongside local endeavours.

Join other passionate educators to shape the direction and practice of service learning in schools!

**DETAILS**  
16-18 April, 2020  
St Joseph’s College Gregory Terrace

**CONTACT**  
Josh O’Keeffe, jokeeffe@bne.catholic.edu.au

“Each one of you has to be God’s microphone”

Archbishop Oscar Romero
Plenary Council 2020

A Plenary Council is the highest formal gathering of all local churches in a country. Our Plenary Council 2020 is being held so that we can dialogue about the future of the Catholic Church in Australia.

The Council will be held in two sessions in order to enable to deeper discernment, further learning, dialogue and listening where it may be needed and to write or rewrite anything in response to the dialogue of the first session.

Most importantly, the time in between will allow us to ensure we are "listening to what the spirit is saying". Rev 2:7

DETAILS The Plenary Council will be held in two sessions:
Session One: 4-11 October 2020, in Adelaide.
Session Two: mid-2021.

VISIT plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au

"God is stirring among us to form us in his own image – which is the image of Jesus Christ."

Most Rev Archbishop Mark Coleridge, Brisbane Assembly, October 2019
Pilgrimages

Celtic Pilgrimage
Walk in the footsteps of the Celtic mystics and saints and allow their spirit of courage and trust give you strength and healing. Hear the stories that shaped their lives and journeys. Listen to the music and songs that moved them to dream, fired their passionate longings and brought them to stillness. Imagine and reflect by megalithic tombs and high crosses where they found meaning, comfort and peace. Be silent on the sacred pathways that will give you space to awaken to the dreams and longings of your own heart.

DETAILS  Monday 20th July – Thursday 30th July 2020
VISIT  www.celticspiritpilgrimage.com

Josephite Colloquium – Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney
The word ‘Colloquium’ comes from the Latin word meaning ‘Conversation’ or ‘Conference’. The Josephite Colloquium provides an opportunity for people in Josephite ministries to come together and discuss and reflect on what it means to be part of the Josephite family. The three-day course allows participants to grow in their understanding of the Josephite mission to work with those pushed to the edges of society. It challenges participants to identify how they are a valued part of this mission, modelled in our past through Mary MacKillop.


Santa Teresa NT – Indigenous Australia
Ltyentye Apurte (Santa Teresa) is an Aboriginal Community established as a Catholic Mission in 1953. Situated approximately 80kms south east of Alice Springs, the artists of the community are renowned for their use of colour, their detailed style, and their presentations of their culture and its stories. The Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre has an important role in the community and Catholic Parish. As well as being a place of traditional healing, the Centre is the venue for many spiritual and artistic activities.

CONTACT  santateresacc@gmail.com

Aussie Camino
The Aussie Camino is a pilgrimage route running from Portland in Victoria to Penola in South Australia, inspired by the life and journeys of Australia’s Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop and her mentor Fr Julian Tenison Woods.

DETAILS  31 March – 9 April 2020 (group 1)
23 September – 2 October 2020 (group 2)
VISIT  www.aussiecamino.org/wordpress

“Never see a need without doing something about it.”
St Mary of the Cross MacKillop
A Lenten Journey into the Holy Land

A Lenten Journey into the Holy Land is a 16-day pilgrimage for BCE Principals and Senior Staff who have access to professional renewal leave. Pilgrims are accompanied on their journey by Spiritual Chaplain Monsignor Peter Meneely.

ACU Study Tours and Pilgrimages

ACU offers a range of study tours and pilgrimages that can be completed either as an academic student, giving credit for Masters level study, or as an audit student allowing participation with no assignments or for no academic credit. Study tours include:

• Archaeology and Early Christianity
• Recontextualisation: The Challenge of Authentic Transformation
• Spirituality in the Catholic Tradition
• Engaging the Gospel in the Land of Jesus: A Pilgrimage
• Bible Lands Study Tour: Worlds and their Worlds
• Jesus and the First Christians
• Philippines Study Tour

VISIT www.acu.edu.au (search ‘study tours’)

Sydney Jewish Museum

The Brisbane RE Curriculum develops an understanding of Judaism in the ‘World Religions Strand’ from Prep to Year 12. This intensive has been developed to support teachers’ knowledge about Judaism, as it appears in the Religion Curriculum P-12.

DETAILS The intensive will be provided at Sydney Jewish Museum by the Museum staff in cooperation with BCE Religious Education Services. Registration

CONTACT Elizabeth Fort, efort@bne.catholic.edu.au

LA Congress

The LA Congress, sponsored by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles Office of Religious Education, is the nation’s largest annual gathering of Roman Catholics! The last Congress, held in March 2019, brought together nearly 40,000 for the four-day event. Topics range from personal growth to music to spiritual topics – in English, Spanish and Vietnamese. In 2020 the BCE priority participant group will be APsA and APsRE.

DETAILS 20 February 2020 (Youth Day)
21-23 February 2020 (Adult Days)

VISIT www.recongress.org
Archdiocesan Partners

Brisbane Catholic Education is supported by a number of Archdiocesan Partners, primarily Evangelisation Brisbane and Liturgy Brisbane. These organisations provide fantastic prayer and liturgy resources, reflections, planning tools and programs.

Evangelisation Brisbane

Evangelisation Brisbane has been commissioned by the Archbishop to support and resource the pastoral needs of the parishes and deaneries within the Archdiocese of Brisbane, focussing on formation for mission.

- Catholic Collective – Connecting high schoolers and young adults with catholic youth initiatives in the Archdiocese of Brisbane.
- Stewardship – Stewardship is a spirituality for life that challenges the Christian disciple to foster a sense of gratitude, responsibility and generosity through the better use of time, talent and treasure.
- Lenten Program – The Lent program is a six-session resource for groups or individuals that provides a process for reflection and discussion on the Sunday Scriptures during Lent.
- The Vine – The Vine e-newsletter promotes local and national adult faith seminars and conferences as well as a selection of online and print resources.

VISIT www.evangelisationbrisbane.org.au/resources
Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre

Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre is a place of great natural beauty and quiet where individuals and groups can grow in their relationship with God and one another. The modern facility is especially designed for groups and individuals to nurture their Christian faith. The centre’s rich history includes the Carmelites, who owned the land from 1960-1980 and the Cenacle Sisters, who built and ran the Cenacle retreat Centre from 1980-2005. The centre is named to connect with the Quandamooka people who indigenous to North Stradbroke Island and the Aranda people from the Santa Teresa community outside Alice Springs.

DETAILS 267 Wellington Street, Ormiston

VISIT www.santateresa.org.au

Liturgy Brisbane

Liturgia – Online liturgy preparation resources and library for PCs, Macs, Tablets and Phones. Prepare weekday and school Masses, using Liturgia. Features include homily notes, commentary on the readings for newsletters, and a library of hymn lyrics. Export your liturgy to Word or PowerPoint.

Liturgy Lines – Liturgy Lines are short 500-word essays on liturgical topics written by Elizabeth Harrington, Liturgy Brisbane’s previous education officer. We are grateful to Elizabeth who continues to publish this helpful resource.

Educational Services – Liturgy Brisbane offers courses, seminars and workshops.

VISIT www.liturgybrisbane.net.au
Independent Providers

Brisbane Catholic Education supports and recommends the following independent providers. These groups offer a range of resources, programs, retreats and venues that can support the spiritual and theological formation of individual staff, student groups and whole school communities.

GPBS – Paul Skippen

The GPBS website is an online resource hub for educators in Catholic schools searching for resources based on the four key components: gather, proclaim, break and send. GPBS connects faith, liturgy and life.

Resources and experiences include:
- Pilgrimages
- Retreat and reflection days (Staff and Students)
- Music
- Prayer Resources
- Lenten Programs

VISIT www.gpbs.com.au

The Archer Mountain Community

A place of Earth Centred Spirituality, the Archer Mountain Community offers space and time for visitors to reflect upon who they are and to explore where they are on life’s journey. Sabbatical Time, Individual/Earth Retreats, Reflection Days, Spiritual Direction, Daily Meditation and Teacher In-service opportunities are available.

VISIT www.thearcher.org.au/home

Sacred Ground workshop – Peter Hunter and Douglas Jones

You are invited to ‘come away to a quiet place’ for three sessions of art, storytelling and biblical reflection at the beautiful Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre. Peter Hunter, artist in residence, and Douglas Jones, biblical scholar and theology lecturer, guide participants to contemplate iconic art, listen to stories, reflect on Scripture and the Social Doctrine of the Church and pray in service of care of our common home, the earth, inspired by the teachings of Laudato si’.

Peter and Douglas are also available to facilitate twilights and professional development days.

VISIT www.myprayeris.net

Emmaus Productions – Monica Brown

Emmaus Productions is a non-profit organisation dedicated to providing creative resources and programmes for spiritual enrichment.

Workshops include:
- Fostering Vibrant Faith Communities: Ethos and Mission
- Sacred Moments: Meditation and Ritual in the Classroom
- The Word is Made Flesh: Religious Education Workshop

Reflection Days and Retreat Programs – Reflection Day or Full Retreat:
- A Heart’s Journey a Sacred Journey
- Holy Ground
- Holy Mystery: Word Made Flesh

For Liturgical Resources:

VISIT www.liturgyritualprayer.com
Wholehearted Enterprises – Greg Sunter

Greg Sunter, Director of WholeHearted Enterprises, has worked in Catholic Education for more than 30 years, including roles as Campus Minister, Classroom Teacher, APRE, Education Officer and Spiritual Formation Facilitator. He has extensive experience in designing and leading professional learning and spiritual formation programs for leaders and teachers in Catholic schools.

Greg offers retreats (twilights to full-day), workshops and team development.

CONTACT 0413 574 382, greg@wholehearted.com.au

VISIT www.wholehearted.com.au

Alison Keane

Alison has designed and delivered training for TAFE and Education Queensland teachers and career guidance officers. She continues to mentor principals and other school leaders.

In 2015, Alison travelled to Bhutan and explored education policy emphasis on mindfulness and meditation in schools there.

As well as her own mindfulness courses for the education sector she is also a presenter of the 8-week well-being course Reconnected in Brisbane schools. Reconnected is a program developed by UK-based Mind with Heart.

VISIT www.alisonkeane.com.au

Dave Andrews

Dave is particularly interested in radical spirituality, incarnational community and the dynamics of personal and social transformation. He is author of many books and articles.

Dave is the coordinator for training with the Community Initiatives Resource Association, a teacher for Praxis and Christian Heritage College and an elder emeritus for Servants To Asia’s Urban Poor.

CONTACT wecanbe.dave@gmail.com

VISIT www.daveandrews.com.au

Project Hatch – Dave Jorna

Project Hatch provide a range of retreats and reflection days that are fully integrated and create lasting influence. The Project Hatch team helps schools provide highly effective programs which are teacher tested and student approved.

Project Hatch retreats and resources empower your students through a deeper understanding of themselves, others and their faith.

VISIT www.projecthatch.com.au

Margaret Connors

Margaret offers opportunities for faith formation and experiences for spiritual nourishment for school leadership teams, teachers, parents and students. Contact Margaret if you are interested in her facilitating Staff Meetings, Twilight Times, Reflection Days or Spiritual Mentoring for small groups or individuals. Margaret is a qualified Spiritual Director offering accompaniment for those who are seeking to deepen their awareness of God’s grace and presence in their everyday living and being!

VISIT www.momentsofgracewithmargaret.com

CONTACT 0417 779 905, margaretconnors51@hotmail.com
Organisational Partners

Brisbane Catholic Education proudly supports the work of Caritas, St Vincent de Paul and Catholic Mission. These organisations offer a range of educational resources for teachers and students, as well as a number of professional development and formation opportunities for staff.

Caritas

Caritas Australia, as the Catholic Church’s agency for international aid and development, gives expression to the Gospel imperative to pursue justice and to help those suffering from poverty and disadvantage. The work of Caritas Australia is reflective of the life of Jesus Christ and shaped by the tradition of Catholic Social Teaching principles.

Caritas opportunities and resources for schools’ engagement include:

- Project Compassion – Caritas Australia’s annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal.
- Just Visiting – Using Catholic Social Teaching to Inform Reflective Practice in School Immersions
- Catholic Social Teaching Educational Toolkit
- Just Leadership Days
- Education Resources – Primary
- Education Resources – Secondary

VISIT www.caritas.org.au

St Vincent de Paul

The St Vincent de Paul Society is a lay Catholic organisation that aspires to live the gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope and joy, and by working to shape a more just and compassionate society.

Frederic Ozanam gathered a few friends around him and on 23 April 1833, they met to decide what they could do to assist the poor, determined to satisfy his own conscience that he was doing what he could to bear witness to his Christian upbringing by assisting those less fortunate in the community. The Society was named after Saint Vincent de Paul and follows his teachings and compassion for people in need. Saint Vincent de Paul is the international patron of the Society.

St Vincent de Paul opportunities and resources for engagement include:

- Involve your school in Queensland – Mini Vinnies, High School Conference
  VISIT www.vinniesqld.wixsite.com/vinniesqldschools
- Vinnies Youth – Teacher Resources, Upcoming Events, School Initiatives, Vinnies Facts
  VISIT vinniesyouthqld.org.au/schools/curriculum-resources
  VISIT www.vinnies.org.au

Go to the poor: you will find God.”

St Vincent de Paul
Catholic Mission

Catholic Mission is the international mission agency of the Catholic Church in Australia. Compelled by the message, life and love of Jesus Christ, Catholic Mission forms Australians for mission and raises funds for mission—in Australia and around the world.

Mission in action happens right now and for generations, to help people immediately, longer term and eternally. We engage in mission when we proclaim our faith through our words, actions and lives.

For resources for students and educators:

visit www.catholicmission.org.au/for-students-educators

“The mission of the Christian in the world is a mission for all, a mission of service, which excludes no-one; it requires great generosity and in particular the gaze and heart turned heavenward to invoke the Lord’s help. There is so much need for Christians who bear witness to the Gospel with joy in everyday life. The disciples, sent by Jesus, ‘returned with joy’. When we do this, our heart fills with joy.”

Pope Francis, Angelus, July 3, 2016
Further Resources

Explore Catholic networks and resources in Brisbane and beyond, excellent prayer apps and websites, ideal locations for retreats and conferences and learn more about the founding charisms of our schools.
Connect with your Catholic Community

Brisbane Catholic Education exists within the wider Archdiocese of Brisbane. Many organisations within this large Catholic Community play important and significant roles in the formation for mission of individuals and groups.

Archdiocese of Brisbane Parish Resources and Support

In addition to providing support to parishes in sacramental education, adult ministry and pastoral councils, Evangelisation Brisbane supports the wider community through the Church bodies of:

- The Catholic Justice & Peace Commission (CJPC)
- The Council for Ecumenism and Inter-Religious Relations (CEIR)
- Multicultural Pastoral Care (CMPC)

It also provides a number of adult faith education resources like the Introductory Theology–Short Course: ‘At Home with God’s People’ (www.bne.catholic.net.au/faithlife) This program is available as a Participant’s Book, providing an excellent resource for individual or small group study (with no assessment). The book presents a concise overview of the teachings of the Catholic Church. It may be used in a variety of ways to help deepen understanding of faith, deepen a relationship with God and provide helpful information for ministry and discipleship.

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

Provides information about the Australian Church, its dioceses, links to a number of organisations which have the support of the Australian Catholic Bishops, information, news and resources.

Access the current and previous Australian Bishops’ Social Justice Statements online: www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/publications/social-justice-statements

VISIT www.catholic.org.au

Australian Network for Spiritual Direction (ANSD)

The Network exists to encourage spiritual directors in their work, to nurture enquirers interested in spiritual direction and those who may be drawn to its practice, to provide regular gatherings and newsletters for their care and nurture and to support national, regional and local training programs.

VISIT www.ansd.org.au

Faith and Light

Faith and Light is an international community of people with an intellectual disability, their families and friends, particularly young friends, who meet together on a regular basis in a Christian spirit, to share friendship, pray together and celebrate life.

VISIT www.faithandlight.org

Murri Ministry Aboriginal Catholic Ministry for Brisbane

Murri Ministry is committed to supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and work for reconciliation.

VISIT www.brisbanecatholic.org.au (search Murri Ministry)
Catholic Youth Ministry

The website for Catholic Youth Ministry at a national level, under the direction of the Bishops Commission for Pastoral Life. This includes full text of Anointed and Sent: An Australian Vision for Catholic Youth Ministry, National Support for youth ministry.

VISIT www.youthministry.catholic.org.au

Xt3

Xt3 is an award winning Catholic online network providing an interactive social media platform for sharing videos, podcasts, articles and more. Enables youth and young adults to stay informed and in touch with Church news and events.

VISIT www.xt3.com

National Office for the Participation of Women

Includes free subscription to Women Matter E-News Produced by the Australian Bishops National Office for the Participation of Women. Sections: Prayer and Reflection, News, Resources.

VISIT www.opw.catholic.org.au

Catholic Earthcare Australia (CEA)

Catholic Earthcare Australia’s mission is to help promote understanding among people that Creation is sacred and endangered, and must be protected and sustained for present and future generations yet unborn.

Catholic Earthcare Australia is mandated, through the activities of research, education, advocacy and outreach to give leadership in responding to Pope Francis’ call for an “ecological conversion” of the world’s Catholics.

VISIT www.catholicearthcare.org.au

Australian Catholic Social Justice Council (ACSJC)

ACSJC was set up by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC) as the national justice and peace agency of the Catholic Church in Australia.

It promotes research, education, advocacy and action on social justice, peace and human rights, integrating them deeply into the life of the whole Catholic community in Australia, and providing a credible Catholic voice on these matters in Australian society.

VISIT www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au

Australian Catholic Migrants & Refugees Office

An office established by the Australian Bishops to inform policy and action and to act as an official voice on national and international migrant and refugee issues.

VISIT www.acmro.catholic.org.au

L’Arche

Based on a fundamental belief in the dignity of every person, L’Arche aims to create communities which welcome people with an intellectual disability and those who choose to live with them, or support them. L’Arche also seeks to reveal the particular gifts of people with an intellectual disability. L’Arche relies on the generous gifts of involvement by many people. There are lots of options to ‘get involved’.

VISIT www.larche.org.au

Sophia Institute for Teachers

Founded by Catholic teachers who wanted something different – engaging professional development and more effective materials that require less prep time.

VISIT www.sophiainstituteforteachers.org
Engaging Digitally
These apps and websites have been tested and are recommended for prayer, reflection, meditation and inspiration:

Apps and online

**Bread4Today**
Everyday language prayers.


**3 Minute Retreat**
Daily 3 minute ‘retreats’.

VISIT [www.loyolapress.com/3-minute-retreats-daily-online-prayer](http://www.loyolapress.com/3-minute-retreats-daily-online-prayer)

**Pray as you go!**
Daily prayer for listening via smartphone, iPad, at the computer, or via MP3 or WMA.

VISIT [wwwpray-as-you-go.org](http://wwwpray-as-you-go.org)

**Universalis**
Mass prayers, readings; Daily Prayer of the Church; feast days information.

universalis.com

**Sacred Space**
Make a 10 minute ‘Sacred Space’ with Scripture, reflection and prayer on your computer, tablet or smartphone.

Produced by the Irish Jesuits.

VISIT [www.sacredspace.ie](http://www.sacredspace.ie)

**Centering Prayer**
The Centering Prayer mobile app supports one’s daily prayer practice commitment. Beautiful, elegant and peaceful, the app includes an adjustable timer, as well as opening and closing prayer options that may be read before and after Centering Prayer. An assortment of sounds and backgrounds allow one to choose the type of environment for the prayer time. Brief instructions for learning Centering Prayer are also included.

The Centering Prayer app is produced by contemplativeoutreach.org which was founded by Fr Thomas Keating.

VISIT [contemplativeoutreach.org](http://contemplativeoutreach.org)
Websites

Taize
For decades, the ecumenical French Taize Christian community has drawn thousands of people, especially young adults, from all around the world to join in prayer and catechesis. Taize chants for Christian prayer is well known. ‘Taize’ prayer groups are active in many parts of the world. The ‘Prayer and Song’ link on the Taize home page, English language link, provides resources for prayer, including MP3, podcasts and reflections on topics such as; preparing a time of prayer, preparing a welcoming space for meditative prayer, meditative singing, the value of silence, icons in worship.

visit www.taize.fr/en

Australian Christian Meditation Community
The ancient Christian tradition of meditating on a single sacred phrase (mantra), as a way of praying focused on simply ‘being with’ God, was revived by the English Benedictine monk, Dom John Main (1926-82) who established an ecumenical Christian Meditation Centre in London (1975) and then, with Dom Laurence Freeman OSB, founded a meditation community for religious and lay people in a Montreal monastery (1977). The World Community for Christian Meditation is active throughout the world. The site provides information, resources and useful links.

visit christianmeditationaustralia.org

Webinars – Strong Catholic Identity
By engaging in three recorded webinars you can secure two hours that contribute to your Accreditation to teach in a Catholic School. It is as simple as enrolling in the course, watching the recorded webinar, and completing the webinar evaluation form.

We suggest the following iLearn courses:
• Strong Catholic Identity – iLearn Course Code BCE06700 (30mins)
• Recontextualisation – iLearn Course Code BCE07074 (60mins)
• Preparing Prayer – iLearn Course Code BCE06729 (30mins)

REd Videos
These short video resources support the professional learning and formation of staff through the exploration of key themes from the Religious Education Curriculum. Accreditation to Teach RE hours available if a reflection is completed. Ask your APRE or EORE for more information.
• Planning and Assessing
• Teaching about Christology
• Teaching about Judaism
• Catholic Approaches to Scripture
• Teaching about Church History
• Three Worlds of the Text

visit extranetportalauthoring.bne.catholic.edu.au/re/PLREd/Pages/default.aspx
Retreat and Conference Centres

The following venues are recommended when booking your retreat and conferences:

Santa Teresa (Ormiston)  
www.santateresa.org.au

Mercy Place/Bardon Centre (Bardon)  

Holy Spirit Seminary (Xavier Hall) (Banyo)  
www.seminary.catholic.net.au

Faber Centre (Mt Cootha)  
www.faberspirituality.org.au

Mount Carmel (Wynnum)  
BCE Owned, Old Carmelite Convent

Mount Archer Spirituality Centre (Mount Archer)  
www.thearcher.org.au

The Brookfield Centre (Brookfield)  
www.ministryeducation.org.au/your-calling/the-brookfield-centre

Cedar Creek Falls Retreat (Cedar Creek/Samford)  

Redlands Indigiscapes Centre (Redlands)  
indigiscapes.redland.qld.gov.au/IndigiCentre/Conferences/Pages/default.aspx

Thunderbird Park/Cedar Creek Lodges (Mount Tamborine)  

Harrigans (Jacobs Well)  
harrigansdriftinn.com.au

Coolibah Downs – Mt Nathan (Nerang GC)  
www.coolibahdowns.com.au

O’Reilly’s Rainforest Retreat (O’Reilly’s – Gold Coast Hinterland)  
oreillys.com.au/corporate

Bundaleer Rainforest Gardens (Brookfield)  
bundaleer.com

Woodlands of Marburg (Marburg – Ipswich)  
www.woodlandsofmarburg.com/retreats

Queensland Conference and Camping Centres (Brookfield, Mapleton, Mount Tamborine)  
www.qccc.org.au

Robertson Gardens (Nathan)  

Bellbunya (Belli Park)  
www.bellbunya.org.au

Cedar Creek Lodges (Tamborine Mountain)  

Sirromet Winery The Barrel Hall (Mount Cotton)  
www.sirromet.com

Cherbon Waters (Burbank)  
cherbonwaters.com.au

Gold Coast Community Centres  

Arundel Hills Country Club (Arundel)  
www.ahcc.net.au
Founding Story

All our Archdiocesan schools are encouraged to embrace their founding story and the formation opportunities that religious orders now offer to school staffs. The charism of each founding story belongs to the whole Church, and the charism of every founder shines brightly in the special way they reflect the person and the gospel of Jesus. We are all called to this!

Sisters of Mercy

The Brisbane Sisters of Mercy is a group of Catholic women religious. As followers of Jesus, Sisters of Mercy understand their mission as participating in God’s mission of mercy. Their inspiration is drawn from Catherine McAuley, who founded the Sisters of Mercy in Ireland in 1831. Catherine recognised and responded to the needs of those who were marginalised and oppressed by the unjust social attitudes and practices of the day.

For more about Catherine McAuley, Adderton House and Mercy Place:

Visit www.mercy.org.au or www.mercy.edu.au

Sisters of St Joseph

The Sisters of St Joseph were founded in Penola, South Australia in 1866 by an Australian woman Mary MacKillop, and an English priest Reverend Julian E Tenison Woods. From the beginning the Sisters have lived among people, sharing daily life and responding to the needs of the day. Held in God’s hospitable heart they draw strength to respond to places of violence, fear and insecurity in our world. They walk as one with people and with trust in God’s Providence listening again and again for the cry of the poor, responding in a way that reveals the hospitable heart of God.

For more about Mary MacKillop, Julian Tenison Woods, Mary MacKillop Place (North Sydney), Villa Maria Spirituality Centre (Fortitude Valley), and Good Grief (Grief Assistance and Education Program):

Visit www.sosj.org.au

Presentation Sisters

The Presentation Society of Australia is a federation of six autonomous Presentation Congregations. Presentation Sisters are impelled by the Gospel and the spirit of their foundress Nano Nagle to be compassionate and just in all relationships.

For more about Nano Nagle, Prayer Resources and Justice Jottings:

Visit www.presentationsociety.org.au or www.neaa.edu.au

Franciscan Sisters and Brothers

Franciscan spirituality finds its source in the life, experience and vision of Saint Francis of Assisi.

Visit www.ofsaustralia.org.au

Good Samaritan Sisters

Inspired by the parable of the Good Samaritan and the Rule of St Benedict, Good Samaritan Sisters live a communal way of life committed to seeking God and responding as neighbour to those in need. With faith and humility, they endeavour to love their neighbour wherever she or he may be found.

Visit www.goodsams.org.au or www.goodsameducation.org.au
Christian Brothers

The Christian Brothers receive their mandate as a Religious Congregation from the Catholic Church. This was received on January 20th, 1820. Christian Brothers engage with and be present to all people with humility, empathy, and an open heart.

For learn more about:
- Edmund Rice
- Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA) – Formation Programs
- Full of Life – Programs and Events 2018
- Metanoia Matters – Peer to Project Volunteer Platform

Visit www.christianbrothers.com.au or www.erea.edu.au

Marist Brothers

The Marist Brothers is an international Religious Institute of the Catholic Church founded by a French Priest, St Marcellin Champagnat, in 1817. Members of the Institute give themselves to following Christ as Mary did, through the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. This religious commitment is lived in community and expressed in service, especially to the young. The mission given by St Marcellin to his followers was to “make Jesus Christ known and loved”.

Visit www.maristbrothers.org.au or www.msa.edu.au

De La Salle Brothers

The De La Salle brothers were founded in France at the end of the seventeenth century by Jean Baptist De La Salle (1651-1719). The purpose of the De La Salle Brothers is to meet the educational and welfare needs of young people, especially the poor. The Brothers live their Catholic faith through the values of love, compassion, justice and belief in the human dignity of each person.

Visit www.delasalle.org.au

Ignatian Spirituality: Faber Centre

The Faber Centre of Ignatian Spirituality offers people of today who are searching a variety of spiritual exercises, spiritual guidance, formation programs and different kinds of retreats. Their focus is not religious services, but spiritual exercises and spiritual guidance for persons of different religions or of no religion, to develop their freedom and the interiority of their daily human experiences, to discern their beliefs, and for Christian believers to explore their faith in God for a better service of God, through, with, and in Christ. The Faber Centre is in Brisbane, in the northern state of Queensland, Australia, in a beautiful forest setting at the foot of Mt Coot-tha, in Sir Samuel Griffith Drive which circles Mt Coot-tha overlooking Brisbane.

Visit www.faberspirituality.org.au

Campion Centre (Melbourne)

Campion Centre of Ignatian Spirituality began in 1978 with the goal of offering directed retreats and ‘themed’ retreats based on the Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556).

Visit www.campion.asn.au or www.ignatianspirituality.com

Jesuit Social Services

Jesuit Social Services (JSS) is a community of people, founded on Jesus’ model of service in the Gospels and Catholic Social Teaching committed to expressing a faith that promotes justice and standing in solidarity with those in need. JSS offers practical programs of service, social action, advocacy and research, which include the most difficult areas of social disadvantage and need, on behalf of individuals, families and communities.

Visit www.jss.org.au
Dominican Charism

The hallmark of Dominican Charism (spirituality) is preaching, a point that is made obvious to us in the fact that St Dominic founded the Order of Preachers (OP). St Dominic oriented everything he did toward authentically imitating Christ. He knew in his own age that only a well-educated person who lives humbly, charitably, and uprightly could best transmit the life of Christ to the world. Dominican spirituality, therefore, emphasises study and education and genuine community underpinned by deep prayer.

visit opeast.org.au

Sisters of St Brigid (Brigidines)

In 1883, six sisters from Mountrath, Ireland set sail for Australia to found the first Brigidine convent in Coonamble, New South Wales. From there other foundations were made in the Dioceses of Sydney, Bathurst, Canberra Goulburn, Perth and Brisbane. Brigidine spirituality is inspired by the person of Jesus and the vision of Brigid of Kildare and Daniel Delany. It seeks to engage with the issues of our time, stand in solidarity with the oppressed and strives to build a more inclusive community.

visit brigidine.org.au

Carmelite Charism

The Carmelite charism is a way of following Christ with total dedication. Carmelites do this by seeking to form contemplative communities at the service of God’s people in whose midst they live. Fraternity, service and contemplation are therefore essential values for all Carmelites. Prayer and contemplation for the Carmelite are not private matters between the individual and God but are to be shared with others since the charism is given for the whole world. Therefore there is an emphasis in the Order on the ministry of teaching prayer and giving spiritual direction.

visit carmelites.org.au

“To give, and not to count the cost
to fight, and not to heed the wounds,
to toil, and not to seek for rest,
to labor, and not to ask for any reward,
save that of knowing that we do thy will.”

St. Ignatius of Loyola
Formation at BCE

The BCE Formation Framework
Formation in the Catholic Christian tradition is a dynamic process of growth.

From the Latin formare, meaning ‘to shape’, formation is an intentional process that is ongoing and reflective. It focuses on the development of individuals and communities from their lived experiences, in spiritual awareness, theological understanding, vocational motivation and capabilities for mission and service in the Church and the world.

Practitioners in the field of teacher and leader formation advocate for a new language that speaks to the hearts and souls of people today:

A re-inflaming of the romantic imagination.

The Brisbane Catholic Education strategic approach strives to meet this need for a contemporary response that honours both the rich tradition and ecclesial responsibilities as well as the individual’s need in the contemporary context for authentic meaning making.

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3 Rolheiser, 2006, p. 21
Transformative Encounters

In the ministry we embrace, in the work we do, in who we are, formation is about growing the transformative vocation of the Catholic educator and leader.

Our vision is centred around staff formation that fosters

A mature spiritual personality that is expressed in a profound Christian life.\(^4\)

Such formation includes steps that together effect a transformational impact both individually and communally.

These steps constitute the ‘head heart hands’ approach to formation:

- **Head** knowledge
- **Heart** experience
- **Hands** practice and application

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\(^4\) Congregation for Catholic Education, 1982, n. 60
I light a candle
I say a prayer
I light a candle in Your Name

For the tender moments of teaching
For the energy of deep new learning
For the fire of vocation’s calling

I light a candle in Your Name

Against the chill of the world’s dark troubles
In the face of sadness here among us
For my heart’s longing in the night

I light a candle in Your Name

To signal hope for all that might be
To whisper thanks for all that is
To reflect the Love I’ll carry with me

I light a candle in Your Name
I light a candle
I say a prayer
I light a candle in Your Name

Used with permission – Dr Jill Gowdie
Educating is not a profession but an attitude, a way of being; in order to educate it is necessary to step out of ourselves and be among young people, to accompany them in the stages of their growth and to set ourselves beside them. Give them hope and optimism for their journey in the world. Teach them to see the beauty and goodness of creation and of humanity who always retains the Creator’s hallmark. But above all with your life be witnesses of what you communicate.

Pope Francis