

Specialised Workshops

Day 2

Thursday
2 September 2021
from 1.45–3.15pm

Leadership Now for Social Services

Presenter: Ursula Stevens, CEO, Catholic Social Services Australia

Catholic Social Services has a vision for a fairer, more inclusive Australian society that reflects and supports the dignity, equality and participation of all people. Join Ursula as she explores this vision of ensuring people are at the centre of care and how best to lead today in this critical voice of mission. Explore key issues and challenges of those in need in our community today and the practical, pragmatic, Gospel driven responses that are possible for individuals, communities, parishes and institutions.

Joining the kindness revolution

Presenter: Hugh Mackay, Social Psychologist and Researcher

“Generous, erudite, optimistic and candid...Hugh Mackay encourages us to find the best in ourselves and in our society in both good and troubled times. Following the ravages of 2020’s bushfires and pandemic on our mental and emotional health and on the economy, Hugh reflects on the challenges we faced during that year of upheaval and the questions many of us have asked. What really matters to me? Am I living the kind of life I want? What sort of society do I want us to become?” Join Hugh as he works with us in *how we can restore hope, rebuild trust and inspire optimism.*

Valuing LGBTIQ+ people. Inclusion of Difference

Presenters: Steff Fenton, Associate Pastor, New City Church and Peter Maher, Catholic Priest of Sydney Archdiocese, Pastoral Supervisor and Supervisor Trainer

Difference and diversity are God’s gifts throughout creation to enhance the world with beauty. Cruel and humiliating words and actions dehumanise those who are different, to justify discrimination and silencing of their stories. We will explore the weaknesses of church teaching and what has changed to better understand LGBTIQ+ realities and their stories. We will enable questions and discussion around how to include LGBTIQ+ Christians as members of the church with gifts to share, rather than broken people needing help. We believe it is time to see LGBTIQ+ for their spiritual gifts and not as members needing to be fixed.

Digital Ministry: Our church in a digital world

Presenter: Anthony Costa, Anthony Costa Media, Digital Ministry Agency

In an ever-growing digital world, community is now primarily built online, and organisations find immense growth by having an online presence. In fact, most organisations only ever find relevance by having a presence online.

Although the Catholic Church does have an incredibly strong foundation and relevance in many homes, within our very own catholic schools and communities there are thousands and potentially millions of homes where the Church has no relevance whatsoever.

Within this space, other Christian churches, religious institutions, and other communities (sometimes harmful) are reaching and influencing so many.

In this workshop you will learn about the need to embrace digital ministry, where to start and perhaps why your attempts in the past may have missed the mark.

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Leading the Way in building bridges between believers from different religions

Presenters: Patrick McInerney SSC, Director, Columban Centre for Christian-Muslim Relations and Ryan Epondulan, Youth and Networking Coordinator, Columban Centre for Christian-Muslim Relations

In March, Pope Francis stood side-by-side in solidarity with religious leaders from the Abrahamic faiths in Iraq. In that same month, young adults from the world's religions stood side-by-side launching their interfaith charter, The Sydney Statement. We present this new rich resource as a guide for building bridges between believers from different religions. Youth PoWR invite you to take up this challenge. We invite you as Catholic Christians to engage in building mutual respect, understanding and cooperation with people from different faiths and worldviews as an integral part of the Church's evangelising mission.

Aged Care and Mission – Contemporary Challenges

Presenters: Caroline Thompson, Director of Formation, Mercy Partners and Fritha Radyk, CEO, Mercy Community

This workshop will examine some of the mission challenges faced by leaders in the aged care sector. Leadership for mission demands nurturing, creative and flexible leadership to ensure that the needs of the vulnerable in aged care are met in supportive communities of compassion, justice and faith. What does a spirituality of leadership in aged care look like? How can our aged care leaders ensure God's mission is alive in this space?

Leading Mission in a Synodal Church

Presenters: Anne Benjamin, Honorary Professor, Australian Catholic University and Charles Burford PhD, Honorary Professor, Australian Catholic University

Leadership is central to developing cultures which reflect the character and nature of an organisation's mission. Pope Francis is calling our church today to a synodal culture. To build strong cultures, leadership theory says leaders must identify and live out the core values of their mission. If we are to build synodality, we should lead in a particular way. Pope Francis sees such leadership as walking together in faith under the guidance of the Spirit to realise the Mission given to us by Jesus. Leadership research points to synodal cultures as being characterised by dialogue, respectful listening, spiritual and moral discernment, consensus, open communication and joint decision-making. The workshop is designed to help leaders build synodal cultures in their ministries through discerning and decision-making for mission.

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Into the next 200 years - building the emerging Kingdom

Presenters: CLEM Team, Diocese of Wollongong

This Specialised Workshop will be structured in three parts:

Part 1

Will be a snapshot of the organisation, roles and work of the Catholic Life, Education and Mission Team.

Part 2

Into the next 200 years. Emerging trends and how we are responding to form and educate young people to use Catholic faith to navigate the complexity of life.

Part 3

(i) Interactive Session – Educating with a mission lens activity

(ii) Q&A with the Diocese of Wollongong CLEM Team

Governance within the Catholic Church

Presenter: Eva Skira, Professional and non-executive director and Lawrie Hallinan, Executive Officer, AMPJP

Governance and leadership of the Catholic Church in recent years has been a lightning rod for many people globally. The search for good governance has become a priority for every current and emerging leader.

For those of us who are wanting to understand how we can lead better, this session will focus on governance of emerging entities in the Catholic Church in Australia.

The session will have breakouts and small group discussions as well as live examples of current governance in the Catholic Church in Australia.

This Specialised Workshop will look at key governance principles embedded in The Light of the Southern Cross and will present a governing framework which has been developed by the peak body for Church entities sponsoring Catholic Ministries in Australia, including hospitals, schools, aged care and community services.

Cross cultural competency for Mission

Presenter: Tim Norton SVD, Director of Courses, Centro 'Ad Gentes'

This Specialised Workshop is offered to meet the ever growing challenge of inter-personal relationships and cultural competency. It will explore the theological implications of interculturality and the practical application of good practice in specific contexts.
