



Media Release

22 February 2021

***Australian Catholics* magazine launches national internship program**

Australian Catholics has today launched its media internship program for 2021, giving year 10 and 11 students across the country an exciting introduction to a career in the media.

The week-long program, from 10 to 15 May, offers secondary school students a valuable opportunity to engage with industry leaders, deepen their understanding of the media, build skills, and produce an edition of the largest circulation Catholic print publication in the country.

Successful applicants form the guest editorial team for the Spring edition of *Australian Catholics* and work with staff to plan, workshop and write articles for that edition.

The internship program will again be delivered predominantly online this year.

Industry leaders who have in recent times participated in the internship program to share their insights and expertise with students include Gold Walkley award-winning journalist, Adele Ferguson, and Associate Editor at *The Australian*, John Ferguson.

The internship program also connects participants with young journalists and editors who share insights about navigating the early stages of a career in the media and offers perspectives from visual media professionals who demonstrate to interns how to tell compelling stories using a range of technologies.

“The internship program give students a valuable opportunity to learn, in a hand-on way, how a magazine is put together - from inception, the creative thinking and planning that begins the process - all the way through to printing and distribution” says editor of *Australian Catholics*, Michael McVeigh.

“It helps them understand all the elements that bring together a publication, as well as giving them specific focus as they produce their own articles for publication in print and online. Students are given the chance to collaborate, both via a daily ‘newsroom’ briefing on their individual stories, and by working directly with others on the development of content” Mr McVeigh said.

The *Australian Catholics* internship program, now in its tenth year, has given dozens of students the chance to spend a week learning from professionals in media and publishing while gaining hands-on experience writing and editing articles for the magazine.

Testimonials (attached) from prior participants, their teachers and parents attest to the value of the program to students - from both a career and personal development perspective.

Applications for this year's program close at 5pm on Monday, 15 March 2021.

Students in years 10 and 11, with interests in journalism, communications, media and publishing are encouraged to apply

[APPLY FOR THE PROGRAM HERE.](#)

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About Jesuit Communications Australia

Established in 2005 Jesuit Communications is the Media and Communications Ministry of the Australian Jesuits. Catering not only to Australia's 5.2 million strong Catholic community, but to anyone with an interest in matters of faith and social and environmental justice and a passion to create a better tomorrow, Jesuit Communications Australia publishes *Australian Catholics*, *Madonna* and *Eureka Street* magazines.

About *Australian Catholics*

With a print circulation of more than 100,000 copies and a growing and evolving digital platform, *Australian Catholics* is the largest circulation Catholic print magazine in Australia. It inspires Catholic school and parish communities around the country with thought-provoking and inspirational articles and resources advancing matters of faith social and environmental justice. At least 25% of each edition is peer-generated content written by students.

Testimonials

'I definitely believe the internship pushed me into a new environment that reignited the initial interest I had in this industry. I loved the creative freedom this provided me, being able to write what I want.' Teagan, Vic (2020 participant)

'I felt like we all had a responsibility for the planning of the magazine. I originally thought you guys would tell us what to write about, but it was really nice to be given some 'freedom' with writing our own articles!' Ava, NSW (2020 participant)

'Thank you so much for investing your time and effort with us! It was really great to experience this opportunity even though I come from a rural area.' Ava, NSW (2020 participant)

'I found the input sessions (from journalists and media professionals) very helpful because it gave me more of an understanding about the jobs from their point of view, rather than from a Google search or someone who's not in that career path.' Will, NSW (2020 participant)

'The techniques and tricks you gave us has really helped propel my writing forward. I really enjoyed the community atmosphere that I felt I could belong and relate to, and our Zoom meetings felt warm and welcoming. Thank you so much for this wonderful experience you gave me and the other participants. It's a week I will not forget.' Will, NSW (2020 participant) – same as above

'I am so grateful I was able to participate in this Internship, it really opened my eyes about the Industry and the work that goes into these disciplines. Most of all I was so excited to collaborate with all the editors, the other students and get helpful advice with my pieces that encouraged me as a writer.' Olivia, NSW (2020 participant)

'I really enjoyed the whole learning experience, especially the presentations and interviews we were lucky enough to be a part of.' Isabella, NSW (2020 participant)

'Thank you for this amazing opportunity and the feedback for improving my writing. I will definitely take everything I learnt into my future.' Alissa, Vic (2020 participant)

'It was really lovely, as a teacher, to see how much the girls had grown in confidence from sitting in on their first zoom when they met the team, to seeing them speak so positively of their experiences in the program. Thank you again to you and all the team.' Suzanne, NSW (teacher of 2020 participants)