

ARETÉ CENTRE FOR MISSIONARY LEADERSHIP ANNOUNCES APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR 2024 ADMISSION

The Areté Centre for Missionary Leadership is thrilled to announce that applications for the Foundations of Missionary Leadership program are now open for 2024. As a pioneering institution committed to nurturing the next generation of Catholic leaders, the Areté Centre invites aspiring individuals to embark on a transformative journey of faith, learning, and growth.

The Foundations of Missionary Leadership program equips individuals with the knowledge, skills, and values to become effective missionaries and leaders in their parishes and communities. Through an enriching curriculum and immersive experiences, students will gain a deeper understanding of their faith, the centrality of evangelisation, and leadership principles of ministry.

The integrated program comprises four units: the Spirituality of Missionary Leadership, the Theological Foundations of Mission in the Australian Context, the Theory and Practice of Missionary Leadership, and a Practicum. The flexible nature of the course delivery allows students from anywhere in Australia to apply, and the course structure offers a blend of weekly, interactive online lectures, in-person intensives, and monthly Zoom mentoring sessions. This year, students have enrolled from diocese all over Australia and even New Zealand.

“People sometimes wonder if this program is for them”, said Fr Chris Ryan MGL, Director of the Areté Centre. “They think that unless they have a recognised role within the Church, they are not in a position to exercise leadership. The truth is that we can all make an important contribution to the Church’s mission. I warmly invite anyone who is passionate about growing in their own faith and who wants to share it with others to undertake the 2024 Foundations program with us”.

Graduate Certificate option through partnership with the University of Notre Dame:

This year the Areté Centre is proud to offer a Graduate Certificate option through a new partnership with the University of Notre Dame. This option allows students to pursue further academic enrichment and receive a Graduate Certificate from one of Australia’s leading Catholic universities.

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"We are excited to offer the Graduate Certificate option through Notre Dame, as it provides our students with an exceptional opportunity to enhance their educational experience and further qualify them for leadership roles within the Church," said Fr Chris Ryan MGL.

For more information about Areté Centre for Missionary Leadership and the Graduate Certificate option, please visit www.aretecentre.org

Open Night Invitation: Join Fr Chris Ryan MGL and an exciting panel of guests including Fr Rob Galea, Fr Simon Lobo, Co-author of *Preaching on Purpose* and Parish Priest at St Benedict, Halifax, and others, for a wide ranging conversation about the powerful role lay people can play in the Church's Mission. Guests can also find out more about the Foundations of Missionary Leadership Program and how they can enrol for 2024. The Open night takes place on Thursday 17 August, 2023 at 7.30 pm. Register at www.aretecentre.org for this free event.

About The Areté Centre for Missionary Leadership: The Areté Centre was founded in 2019 by Fr Chris Ryan MGL and is a work of the Missionaries of God's Love (MGL). The Areté Centre strives to contribute to the renewal of the church by developing leaders who are well-equipped for evangelisation, filled with faith, and inspired to make an impact.

About Fr Chris Ryan MGL: Fr Chris Ryan MGL serves as Director of The Areté Centre for Missionary Leadership. He is currently the parish priest of Peshurst and Peakhurst parishes in the Archdiocese of Sydney. He has been involved in leadership and youth ministry in new communities, parishes and schools since 1993. Fr Chris' PhD focused upon the RCIA as a resource for the theology and practice of youth ministry. He is the co-editor of *Australian Catholic Youth Ministry: Theological and Pastoral Foundations for Faithful Ministry*, and a co-author of *Preaching on Purpose: A Divine Renovation Handbook for Communicating the Gospel Today*.

Applications close October 31, 2023. People can visit www.aretecentre.org to apply online and download the e-prospectus. Places are limited and expected to fill quickly.

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