

## Areté Centre for Missionary Leadership introduces a Graduate Certificate option in partnership with the University of Notre Dame

The Arété Centre for Missionary Leadership is excited to announce that the Foundations of Missionary Leadership program can now be undertaken as a Graduate Certificate option through a partnership with the University of Notre Dame, Sydney.

The Foundations of Missionary Leadership Program is a comprehensive program designed to provide students with a solid foundation in missionary leadership principles and practices.

The Foundations of Missionary Leadership Program includes four courses: The Spirituality of Missionary Leadership, Theological Foundations of Mission, Ministerial Leadership: Theory and Practice, and Practicum.

The program combines online and in-person learning, with weekly live online lectures, monthly mentoring sessions and in-person weekend intensives throughout the year.

The new Graduate Certificate option provides students with the opportunity to earn academic credit as they deepen their knowledge and practice as missionary leaders. The Graduate Certificate option is designed for people currently in or pursuing a permanent role in ministry.

"We are thrilled to enter into this partnership with the University of Notre Dame and the opportunity it presents to offer the Foundations of Missionary Leadership Program at a Graduate Certificate level," said **Fr Chris Ryan, MGL**, Director of the Arété Centre for Missionary Leadership. "This program is designed to provide students with the spiritual formation, knowledge and practical skills they need to be effective leaders in the Church's evangelising mission. We believe this partnership with the University of Notre Dame will enhance our capacity to serve and equip our students for ministry in the broader Church."

**Professor Renee Kohler-Ryan**, National Head of the School of Philosophy and Theology, University of Notre Dame, shares Fr Chris's Excitement about this partnership and said,

"The University of Notre Dame Australia is delighted and honoured to be working in partnership with the Arété Centre. Students in the Graduate Certificate program will graduate with a clear vision of the challenges and opportunities for our Church today at a theoretical and a lived, practical level. To know that such graduates will be making a difference in the world, working for Christ, is inspiring."

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The program prospectus can be downloaded online at [www.aretecentre.org](http://www.aretecentre.org), and applications for the Foundations of Missionary Leadership Program for 2024 close on October 31, 2023.

**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 of Missionary Leadership and is currently the parish priest of Penshurst and Peakhurst parishes in the Archdiocese of Sydney. He has been involved in leadership in youth ministry in new communities, parishes and schools since 1993, and was the coordinator of the pilgrimage of the World Youth Day Cross and Icon in preparation for World Youth Day 2008. Fr Chris' PhD focused upon the RCIA as a resource for the theology and practice of youth ministry. He is the author of several books, including 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.

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For more information, visit [www.aretecentre.org](http://www.aretecentre.org) or contact: Laura Neeson, Communications Manager, The Areté Centre for Missionary Leadership, m:0459395888 | e: [marketing@aretecentre.org](mailto:marketing@aretecentre.org)