

Media Release

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Religious Education Symposium: Rethinking RE: Context Diversity and Pedagogy

Coming from as far afield as Tasmania and Darwin, over 250 Religious Education practitioners are gathering at Dubbo this week to explore Rethinking RE: Context Diversity and Pedagogy. The symposium is led by Professor Richard Rymarz, and features keynote speakers Bishop Eugene Hurley, Fr Rob Galea and Sharon Cooke. The Friday sessions are directed particularly at the folding of indigenous faith perspectives into the RE curriculum and classroom.

Across the two days the many workshops cover topics presented by a range of experts and research practitioners. As with any good symposium there is more. The group gets to share the wisdom of Br Aengus Kavanagh, a man with rich experience in religious education practice and theory. Fr Rob Galea and troupe are leading a praise and worship service on one of the evenings. The Bishop of Bathurst, Most Rev Michael Mckenna will preside at the celebration of the Eucharist.

In all the symposium is an integration of knowledge, experience, practice, reflection and worship. Another key aspect is the opportunity for practitioners to network with each other. This is how convenor Prof Rymarz sees it: “The strongest responses we have received from participants in previous symposia is that they most value the human interaction, a chance to be with others who share a common passion for religious education.”

The symposium is a collaboration between Catholic Education Diocese of Bathurst and BBI The Australian Institute of Theological Education. Prof Gerard Moore, the Principal of BBI-TAITE, reflects that the symposium is part of the BBI mission to equip teachers and school leaders, including and beyond the major cities. For Prof Moore: “the Symposium builds skills, knowledge and confidence, and is a great complement to graduate studies in Religious Education.”

For more information regarding the Symposium click [HERE](#)



Professor Richard Rymarz