

# GALILEE 1.0

*A spiritual and faith formation program for  
Catholic professional leaders*

## 2022 Information Booklet



## *Stepping Stones*



**Catholic Institute of Western Australia**

*Building confidence in Catholic educators and leaders for tomorrow*

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Text: Margaret Scharf OP, D Min, Chris Hackett Ph D and Jessica Fic 07/09/2021. Not to be copied without prior permission from the Catholic Institute of Western Australia.

Front cover image: Stepping stones across the stream at The Fishponds, Berowra Creek, NSW. Photographer, Emaly Black.

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An outline of the Galilee program can be found on Youtube at <https://youtu.be/3s7qexZpsJk>



## CATHOLIC INSTITUTE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA



The Catholic Institute of Western Australia is a unique Catholic tertiary educational body, created by and accountable to the Conference of Catholic Bishops of Western Australia. The purpose of the Institute is to provide professional and theological education; and, spiritual and faith formation for current and future educators and leaders in Catholic schools and other groups who, from time to time, may seek such assistance. The *Galilee 1.0* spiritual and faith formation program is one such initiative to support educators and leaders in their vocation of teaching and leading.

### WHO ARE THE FACILITATORS FOR THE *GALILEE 1.0 STEPPING STONES* PROGRAM?

In 2022, the *Galilee 1.0 Stepping Stones* program will be facilitated by Dr Margaret Scharf OP, as Principal Facilitator, along with the Director, Dr Chris Hackett and staff from the Catholic Institute of Western Australia. Ms Jessica Fic, Coordinator of Professional Learning and Formation at the Catholic Institute will also assist and lead the organisation of the program.



Dr Margaret Scharf OP is a Dominican Sister whose major ministry involves the spiritual and faith formation of adults: as a presenter with the Centre for Faith Enrichment in the Archdiocese of Perth, and as the lead spiritual and faith formation facilitator for CIWA. Margaret also offers professional development and retreat days for staffs of Catholic schools in WA and facilitates the Galilee 'grassroots' programs. She holds a doctorate in Ministry in Spiritual Direction, and is a spiritual director, doctoral supervisor, and highly experienced and engaging adult faith facilitator.



Dr Chris Hackett is the Director of the Catholic Institute of Western Australia. He has a background in academic research and teaching in Catholic Religious Education. Chris holds a Doctor of Philosophy and a Masters in Religious Education from The University of Notre Dame Australia. His research interests are in the development of spiritual and religious capabilities in the Catholic school curriculum and the faith formation of early career RE teachers.



Jessica Fic is the Coordinator of Professional Learning and Formation at the Catholic Institute. She holds a Masters of Education degree in Religious Education from The University of Notre Dame Australia and received the prestigious Knights of the Southern Cross Postgraduate Award for Religious Education in 2017. Jess has a strong interest in the use of storytelling in Religious Education and is an accredited Godly Play storyteller. Since 2019, Jessica has offered a spiritual and faith formation program for early childhood educators called the T.I.T.U.S. (Testament In Teachers Using Scripture) Program and continues to conduct research in this area.

Sr Margaret along with other Catholic Institute staff have worked closely together to research, trial, implement and evaluate the Galilee program. This is the seventh year the program has been offered and *Galilee 1.0 Stepping Stones* represents the first in a series of three Galilee encounters: *Galilee 2.0 Opening Doors* and *Galilee 3.0 Leading the Way*. They hope participants will find the Galilee program to be a personally valuable and professionally rewarding experience!

## WHAT IS GALILEE 1.0 STEPPING STONES?

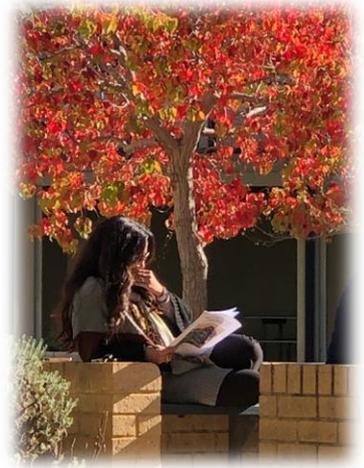
The goal of the *Galilee* spiritual and faith formation program is to assist in the on-going spiritual and faith formation of aspiring and current leaders in Catholic schools and other organisations. The hope is that they will then develop the confidence to nurture and deepen the spiritual and faith capabilities of their community. *Galilee 1.0 Stepping Stones* is the first in a series of programs to be offered. The program uses the metaphor of 'stepping stones' to assist participants in exploring their own spiritual and faith journeys as well as reflect on the influence of the Church's journey in developing Christian spiritual and faith traditions.

## SPIRITUAL AND FAITH FORMATION

The Galilee program of spiritual and faith formation is unique to each person. When people explore their spiritual and faith life journeys, no "one size fits all". The program offers participants the opportunity to deepen their relationship with God, self, others and creation.

A program of formation such as Galilee can lead people to a greater consciousness of the Mystery of God present in their lives, as their search for knowledge and insight increases during the program.

The spiritual and faith formation program includes a balanced exploration of participants' spiritual and faith journeys. At the core of their spiritual experiences are those moments of profound personal change or 'metanoia', which have an impact upon the choices they make. At the core of participants' faith experience is the challenge to freely and boldly proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ and how they will live out the faith they profess.



## PERSONAL AND REFLECTIVE

The Galilee program has an intentional process, designed for people who desire, and are willing, to take the challenging inner journey. 'Stepping Stones' demands a willingness for participants to go deeper, to search for the truth about who they are and realise that the triune God is ever-present in their lives. The program provides time to learn the art of personal reflection, the practice of meditation and make use of tools for prayer or journaling.

It is only when people stop, take the time to let go and sink into the inner depths of their being, that they can gain personal knowledge and insight of the foundations of God, life and the self. Going into the depths is akin to the invitation of Jesus, "Put out into the deep water and let your nets down for a catch" (Luke 5:4).

"I have gotten so much out of this program for my own personal faith formation, as well as gaining ideas about how to cultivate faith formation in others."

*Galilee participant*

## PROFESSIONALLY USEFUL

The Galilee program is designed with a Christ-centred focus within a Trinitarian context to provide new understandings and skills to enhance participants' spiritual and faith capabilities. The program covers topics drawn from the scriptural and theological foundations of the Catholic spiritual and faith traditions. Participants are invited to critically explore the content and to practise prayerful exercises. This deep learning will support the promotion and teaching of a Catholic perspective within organisations and schools both within Religious Education and across the Catholic school curriculum.

***The Stepping Stones program can satisfy hours for faith formation as part of Ongoing Renewal of Accreditation with Catholic Education Western Australia.***

## WHAT IS THE PERSONAL AND ORGANISATION COMMITMENT?

The Galilee program relies on participants committing to a year-long program of four meetings or 'Gatherings', that is, one Gathering each term. Ideally participants should complete the program with a colleague. Participants are expected to commit to all four Gatherings. Such a commitment is crucial to the success of the program as participants form 'mentoring groups' to discuss topics at deeper personal and professional levels. One of the Gatherings is a live-in retreat extended over a weekend and participants are encouraged to stay afterhours to build and enjoy the sense of community created.

When participants apply to enrol into Galilee 1.0, their immediate employer or line manager is asked to support the participants' application, to be aware of the personal time commitment, and to ensure if funds are available for participants to complete the program in a timely manner. Participants in regional areas would need to discuss with their employer or line manager the additional funding for transport and accommodation to be able to attend the program.

## GALILEE 1.0 STEPPING STONES 2022

The *Galilee 1.0 Stepping Stones* program has four Gatherings conducted over the year, starting in February 2022. Participants are advised to wear comfortable clothing that allows for activities in the meeting room and for outdoors. Three of the Gatherings are scheduled over a Friday early evening and all-day Saturday. Materials, light meals and refreshments will be provided. A fourth Gathering is a live-in retreat and begins Friday early evening and ends just after Sunday lunchtime. Facilitation of the Gatherings is led by Dr Margaret Scharf OP along with Dr Chris Hackett and the Catholic Institute staff. The first, second and fourth Gatherings are held at the Newman Siena Centre, 33 Williamstown Road, Doubleview and the third at St John of God Retreat Centre, Shoalwater Bay. At the end of Galilee 1.0, participants are invited to commit to the *Galilee 2.0 Opening Doors* program, which commences in 2023 and comprises of another four Gatherings. Alternatively, participants can join Galilee 2.0 at a later date.

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"THE CONVERSATIONS AS A WHOLE GROUP/ MENTORING GROUP  
AND THE TOPIC PRESENTATIONS WERE INVALUABLE."

*Galilee participant*

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## PREPARATION AND WORKLOAD

For each Gathering, there is some pre-reading to do that focuses on the Gathering theme. The readings are not lengthy but form the nucleus of discussion for the mentoring groups. During the sessions, time will be set aside for personal reflection and journaling and participants will be encouraged to discuss their reflections in the large and small groups.

There will also be time set aside for praying and invitations to share prayer intentions. Between the Gatherings, participants will need to attend to communication via the *Canvas* LMS, a dedicated Microsoft *Teams* channel and through emails about the *Galilee 1.0* program. Through the *Teams* channel, participants will be able to interact with each other and the facilitators to build a deepening formation community.

## COSTS

The program is limited to 24 participants subject to the review of applications submitted. The three Friday/Saturday Gatherings will cost \$350+gst each and the live-in retreat Gathering will cost \$550+gst. The total cost of \$1,600+gst is set for the full year period. If a participant is unable to attend a Gathering due to unforeseen circumstances, a cost of only 50% will be charged for that Gathering.

An early bird discount of 10% will be applied (ie total cost of \$1440+gst) when registration and full payment is received by **Friday, 10 December 2021**. Otherwise, the last date for applications is *Friday, 4 February, 2022*.

## WHAT IS THE SCHEDULE?

The Galilee 1.0 *Stepping Stones* program begins in February 2022 and ends in November 2022. Participants are expected to arrive on time, allowing for the traffic congestion that occurs in the Perth Metropolitan Area and to remain for the whole time. For the Friday/Saturday Gatherings, there is a supper for half an hour on the Friday night and on Saturday a morning tea for half an hour and lunch is 45 minutes. Notification of meal times and personal quiet times during the Retreat will be provided at a later date.

At the end of each Gathering, pre-readings and other information about the next Gathering will become available on-line.

## GALILEE 1.0 PROGRAM

### GATHERING 1: INTRODUCTION TO SPIRITUALITY AND THE DESIRE FOR THE DIVINE

Term 1: Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February (4pm –7pm) and Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> February (8.45am-4.00pm)

We are spiritual beings as well as human beings, and within each person is a desire to connect with an Other, someone beyond ourselves, and yet at the same time at the core of the self. We will explore the following:

- Defining terms: spirituality, spiritual life, faith formation.
- The spark of the Divine within and our desire for God.
- The Church as the “sacrament of the inner union of [people] with God and the sacrament of the unity of the human race”.



### GATHERING 2: COMMON THREADS: THE TAPESTRY OF CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY

Term 2: Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May (4pm –7pm) and Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May (8.45am-4.00pm)

Foundational background as to the complexity of the Catholic faith community today. What is the history of Christianity, and how has that story been shaped by Catholic spirituality, and the many spiritualities of those who live the various ways of the Gospel? We will explore:

With each experience of Galilee, it helps me to move on with my faith journey — that even though we are individuals, we all have a common thread — our faith.

*Galilee participant*

- Our Christian story through the lens of spirituality, focusing on the contributions of mystics and founders of religious orders to the shape of Christian spirituality over the centuries.
- The Contemporary world and the search for spirituality and faith.
- What is our particular Catholic spirituality?
- The spirituality of the organisation’s patron/ness, or the organisation’s name, and any connections to Religious Orders.

### GATHERING 3: THE RETREAT EXPERIENCE (PRAYER)

Term 3: Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September (from 5pm) to Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September (to 2pm)

Participants will take part in a weekend live-in retreat, starting on the Friday evening and ending at lunchtime on Sunday. There will be some input to set participants on the direction of the weekend; however, much of the time will be spent in personal reflection and prayer, as well as opportunities for small group sharing and praying together. Reflections may include the use of art, music, meditative walking, silent meditation and Lectio Divina. Celebration of the Eucharist is also included. Spiritual direction will also be available for those who choose to avail themselves of the opportunity.

## GATHERING 4: JUBILEE! THE SPIRITUALITY OF JUSTICE

Term 4: Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November (4pm –7pm) and Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November (8.45am-4.00pm)

In the Jewish tradition, a Jubilee year of justice would be proclaimed with trumpet blast. Hebrew slaves and prisoners would be freed, debts would be forgiven, and the mercies of God would be plenty and obvious. In 2000, Pope Saint John Paul II announced a Year of Jubilee with similar intentions for the global family. This gathering incorporates:

- A Spirituality of Justice according to the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures
- Catholic Social Justice teachings
- Pope Francis’ “preferential option for the poor” in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
- Social Justice teachings and the Catholic professional community
- Becoming “missionary disciples”

## HOW DO I APPLY?



An application form is provided at the end of the booklet. You may either:

Mail the application form only to:

Kerry Martin  
Senior Administration Officer  
Catholic Institute of Western Australia  
Newman Siena Centre  
33 Williamstown Road  
WA Doubleview 6018

OR

Email the form only to the Senior Administration Officer:

[kerry.martin@ci.wa.edu.au](mailto:kerry.martin@ci.wa.edu.au)

Subject Field: Application for Galilee 1.0 Stepping Stones program  
2022

## SUPPORT OF YOUR EMPLOYER

The application form includes a statement that is required from your immediate employer or line manager in support of the participant. Participants are advised to make a time with their employer or line manager to discuss the program and the capacity of the participant to complete the four Gatherings in the program and provide new understandings and skills to their professional community. Applications will be considered on the likely benefits to the participant personally and to their professional community.

## CONTACT FOR FURTHER INQUIRIES

For further inquiries about the Galilee program or about the process of application, please contact Jessica Fic, Coordinator, Professional Learning & Formation by email, [jessica.fic@ci.wa.edu.au](mailto:jessica.fic@ci.wa.edu.au) or by phone, (08) 9278 0226.

For further information about the *Galilee* program or other CIWA spiritual and faith formation programs available to Catholic schools and other Catholic organisations, please contact Dr Chris Hackett, Director, CIWA by email, [chris.hackett@ci.wa.edu.au](mailto:chris.hackett@ci.wa.edu.au) or by phone, (08) 9278 0223.

## TESTIMONIALS

Participants' feedback about the Galilee program:

*"The best thing about Galilee is the time and tools that the course offered to be still and reflective which enabled me to deepen and renew my relationship with God, the safe space for personal sharing and the relationships that were formed with like-minded companions. Also the tools to equip me to promote Catholic Identity and deepen the spirituality and faith of members of my school community."*

*"Taking time for contemplation and reflection amidst the busyness of school life was much appreciated, and refreshing - thank you!"*

*"All leaders in Catholic Education should take advantage of this opportunity for personal spiritual and faith renewal."*

*"I am truly blessed to be a part of this faith filled group."*

*"A great opportunity to stop and reflect upon your own personal formation. The collaboration with others in a safe environment has allowed rich and deep discussion to grow. The willingness to know more and engage in further reading prior to our retreat has grown."*

*It was an excellent weekend with a good blend of presentations and opportunities for personal prayer.*

*"There are times in our life where we come to God and God comes to us. These two days felt like this. The Galilee group gathered at the right time so that we could be mentors for and support each other."*

*"I was genuinely looking forward to coming to Galilee this weekend. The feeling of "belonging" that I get from the whole group, and more specifically my mentor group is most definitely a "well spring" that is refreshing, re-vitalising and re-invigorating. I feel blessed to grow my relationship with God through this opportunity."*

*"A wonderful experience with a great group of colleagues and an awesome group of leaders facilitating the retreat!"*



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**"THIS COURSE SHOULD BE COMPULSORY FOR ALL EDUCATORS IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS.  
A BRILLIANT EXPERIENCE AND EXTREMELY WORTHWHILE."**

*Galilee participant*

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## APPLICATION FORM

Send the application form to the Senior Administration Officer, [kerry.martin@ci.wa.edu.au](mailto:kerry.martin@ci.wa.edu.au) by **Friday, 10 December 2021** for Early Bird Registration. Otherwise, the last date for applications is *Friday, 4 February, 2022*.

### APPLICANT INFORMATION

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Last* *First*

Organisation \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation Address: \_\_\_\_\_

*Street Address*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*City/Town/Suburb*

*State*

*Post code*

Your Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Work Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### PROFESSIONAL AND RELIGIOUS BACKGROUND

Current position of responsibility: \_\_\_\_\_

Years of professional experience: \_\_\_\_\_ Years of leadership experience: \_\_\_\_\_

Religious affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

### EMERGENCY AND MEDICAL INFORMATION

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Name* *Phone Number*

Medical Information (If necessary): \_\_\_\_\_  
*Doctor* *Phone Number*

Dietary Requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

## PERSONAL AND EMPLOYER STATEMENT

*Please provide a 300-word personal statement about why you would like to participate in the Galilee Stepping Stones spiritual and faith formation program.*

*Employer or line manager, please provide a 100-word statement about why you would like the above person to participate in the Galilee Stepping Stones spiritual and faith formation program.*

Employer's or Line Manager's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## COMMITMENT AND SIGNATURE

*I agree to the terms and conditions of the program and commit myself to attending the four Gatherings in 2022.*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_