

GALILEE 1.0 CENTRAL

A spiritual and faith formation program for Catholic school leaders

2023 Information Booklet



Stepping Stones



Catholic Institute of Western Australia

Building confidence in Catholic school staff and leaders for tomorrow

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

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





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.

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. The hope is that they will then develop the confidence to nurture and deepen the spiritual and faith capabilities of the whole school 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.

The *Galilee* program of formation can lead people to a greater consciousness of the Mystery or 'grace' of God's presence 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

"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

The *Galilee* program has an intentional process, designed for people who want 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 discernment and meditation as well as 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).

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 teaching of a Catholic perspective 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.

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

In 2023, the *Galilee 1.0 Stepping Stones* program will be facilitated by Dr Margaret Scharf OP, as Principal Facilitator, along with the Managing Director, Dr Chris Hackett and staff from the Catholic Institute of Western Australia. Ms Jo Harris, Coordinator of Formation and Renewal 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, is the designer of the *Galilee* program and the lead spiritual and faith formation facilitator for CIWA. She holds a doctorate in Ministry in Spiritual Direction, and is a spiritual director and highly experienced and engaging adult faith facilitator.



Dr Chris Hackett has a background in academic research and teaching in Catholic Religious Education. He 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 and leaders.



Joanne Harris has a vast experience in Catholic education with stints as an Assistant Principal and short-term Principal at numerous schools. She has worked at the Catholic Education Western Australia as an RE consultant in the Perth, Broome and Geraldton dioceses. Jo has completed her Master of Education (Religious Education) and has special interests in Biblical storytelling (being a trained Godly Play storyteller) and embedding Aboriginal perspectives into Religious Education.

Sr Margaret along with other Catholic Institute staff have worked closely together to research, trial, implement and evaluate the *Galilee* program. This is the eighth 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 THE PERSONAL AND SCHOOL 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. The retreat experience is dependent on the commitment of participants in building closer ties and community with each other. To that end, the Institute's preference is to have participants commit to the full weekend rather than have partial stays.

When participants apply to enrol into *Galilee 1.0*, Principals are asked to support the participants' application, to be aware of the personal time commitment, and to ensure that funds are available for participants to complete the program in a timely manner. Participants in Catholic schools located outside of the Archdiocese of Perth Metropolitan Area are supported by a travel allowance of up to \$1800 per annum in the *Galilee* program. They should also discuss with their Principal if any additional funding for transport and accommodation may be available to be able to attend the program.

GALILEE 1.0 STEPPING STONES 2023

The *Galilee 1.0 Stepping Stones* program has four Gatherings conducted over the year, starting in Term 1, 2023. 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 join the *Galilee 2.0 Opening Doors* program, which commences in 2024 and comprises of another four Gatherings. Alternatively, participants can join *Galilee 2.0* at a later date.

**“THE CONVERSATIONS AS A WHOLE GROUP/ MENTORING GROUP
AND THE TOPIC PRESENTATIONS WERE INVALUABLE.”**

Galilee participant

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 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. In 2023, the Presentation Sisters in Western Australia are sponsoring the program resulting in a substantial reduction in costs for participants. The table below sets out the cost structure for the categories of participants.

Category	Participant Location / Background Descriptor and Cost
A	<p>A Catholic school located in Archdiocese of Perth Metropolitan Area which has more than one stream as a primary school or is a K-12 or secondary Catholic school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Three Friday/Saturday Gatherings cost: \$330.00 inc gst for individual or \$300 exc gst for school paymentRetreat Gathering cost = \$605 inc gst for individual or \$550 exc gst for school payment <p>Total Galilee 1.0 Cost = \$935 inc gst for individual or \$850 exc gst for school payment</p>
B	<p>Single stream Catholic primary school, early childhood learning centre or CARE school within the Archdiocese of Perth Metropolitan Area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Three Friday/Saturday Gatherings cost: \$275 inc gst for individual or \$250 exc gst for school paymentRetreat Gathering cost = \$550 inc gst for individual or \$500 exc gst for school payment <p>Total Galilee 1.0 Cost = \$825 inc gst for individual or \$750 exc gst for school payment</p>

C	<p>Any Catholic school located outside of Archdiocese of Perth Metropolitan Area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three Friday/Saturday Gatherings cost: \$275 inc gst for individual or \$250 exc gst for school payment • Retreat Gathering cost = \$550 inc gst for individual or \$500 exc gst for school payment <p>Total Galilee 1.0 Cost = \$825 inc gst for individual or \$750 exc gst for school payment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Also travel costs met up to \$1800 per annum*
D	<p>Consecrated religious or priest in a Catholic school and the individual/order is paying.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three Friday/Saturday Gatherings cost: \$275 inc gst for individual or \$250 exc gst for school payment • Retreat Gathering cost = \$550 inc gst for individual or \$500 exc gst for school payment <p>Total Galilee 1.0 Cost = \$825 inc gst for individual or \$750 exc gst for school payment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Also travel costs met up to \$1800 per annum* if in a Catholic school outside of Archdiocese of Perth Metropolitan Area

*Travel allowance is subject to changes in costs for travelling and the number of participants involved.

Participants can choose to pay personally for the year or for each Gathering or alternatively approach their Principal or Bursar for the school to pay the cost without incurring GST. If a participant is unable to attend a Gathering due to unforeseen circumstances, a cost of 50% may be charged for that Gathering. If a participant is unable to attend a retreat gathering after making payment, a refund will only be provided if notice of at least 30 days has been given.

WHAT IS THE SCHEDULE?

The Galilee 1.0 *Stepping Stones* program begins in Term 1, 2023 and ends in Term 4, 2023. 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 10th February (4pm –7pm) and Saturday 11th 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:

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

- 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 19th May (4pm –7pm) and Saturday 20th 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:

- 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 School's patron/ness, or the school's name, and any connections to Religious Orders.



GATHERING 3: THE RETREAT EXPERIENCE (PRAYER)

Term 3: Friday 8th September (from 5pm) to Sunday 10th 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 10th November (4pm –7pm) and Saturday 11th 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 21st Century
- Social Justice teachings and the Catholic School 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 to:

Jo Harris
Coordinator, Formation and Renewal
Catholic Institute of Western Australia
Newman Siena Centre
33 Williamstown Road
WA Doubleview 6018

OR

Email the form to:

joanne.harris@ci.wa.edu.au

Subject Field: Application for Galilee 1.0 Stepping Stones program 2023



SUPPORT OF YOUR PRINCIPAL

The application form includes a statement that is required from the Principal in support of the participant. Participants are advised to make a time with their Principal 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 school community. Applications will be considered on the likely benefits to the participant personally and to their school community.

CONTACT FOR FURTHER INQUIRIES

For further inquiries about the Galilee program or about the process of application, please contact Jo Harris, Coordinator, Formation and Renewal by email, joanne.harris@ci.wa.edu.au.

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, Managing Director, CIWA by email, 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!"

"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!"



**"ALL LEADERS IN CATHOLIC EDUCATION SHOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY
FOR PERSONAL SPIRITUAL AND FAITH RENEWAL."**

Galilee participant

APPLICATION FORM

Send the application form to Jo Harris, Coordinator, Formation and Renewal joanne.harris@ci.wa.edu.au before **Friday, 3 February 2023**. Payment will be due after application is approved by the Managing Director.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Full Name: _____
Last *First*

School _____

School Address: _____
Street Address

City/Town/Suburb *State* *Post code*

Your School Phone: _____ Your School Email: _____

PROFESSIONAL AND RELIGIOUS BACKGROUND

Current position of responsibility: _____

Years of teaching 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 PRINCIPAL 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.

School Principal, 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.

Principal's Signature: _____

COMMITMENT AND SIGNATURE

I agree to the terms and conditions of the program and commit myself to attending the four Gatherings in 2023.

Signature: _____

Date: _____