



# *Tolle Lege*

November 2013

---

## Catholic Theological College MCD University of Divinity

Phone: 9412 3333 Fax: 9412 3393  
Email: [ctc@ctc.edu.au](mailto:ctc@ctc.edu.au) Web: [www.ctc.edu.au](http://www.ctc.edu.au)

---

### End of Year

---

The end of year is a fitting time to gather all things together into some unity and harmony. As a Catholic community CTC does this when we gather together 'the fruit of the earth and the work of human hands' and offer them to the Heavenly Father 'through ... with ... and in Christ' as we pray at the end of the Eucharistic Prayer.

The College community did just that in the Knox Room on Friday 8 November. A very pleasing number of faculty and students was present for the occasion. At the end of his term as Academic Dean, Fr Brian Boyle preached the homily and his very encouraging and appropriate words are included in this edition of *Tolle*

*Lege*. Mass was followed by a light meal hosted by the SRC. Warm thanks are due to all who contributed to making this a very pleasant occasion.

For some, this will be the end of their time at CTC. We all hope it has been profitable and enjoyable and that it contributes greatly to your life in the years to come. As the Master, Fr Shane Mackinlay commented at the conclusion of Mass, one hopes that many of you will consider further studies at some stage in the future.

For others, this time of vacation is but a pause in the process, which we trust is proving to be an empowering challenge as you move towards your goal.

### Open Day ~ Wednesday 6 November

---

Each year the College has an 'Open Day' on which prospective students might come and learn something of the life and work of the College. A very encouraging number of enquirers attended the two sessions in the late afternoon and early evening. A light meal was served between the two sessions, and students and faculty who were present introduced our guests to the building, its facilities and some practical details about courses available and how to enrol. It is hoped that most of those who attended found this both a welcoming place and one that had much to offer.

Of course promotion of the College cannot be limited to 'Open Days' however well

organised, or to advertisements, however skilfully pitched to a prospective market. The best form of promotion still remains that done by 'satisfied customers'. If you feel that the College has much to offer, then tell your friends and acquaintances all about it! So many people come to the College just through such personal contacts. Feel free to spread the good news about this College!

Warm thanks to *Tolle Lege's* 2013 editor: Prof. Austin Cooper omi AM. His efforts to gather news so regularly are greatly appreciated.

## People and Roles at CTC

**Dr Brian Boyle:** Fr Brian is concluding his second 4-year term as Academic Dean, and believes this is an appropriate time to step out of that role. The College Senate passed a vote of thanks to Fr. Brian for his years of sterling service in the role of Dean. All at CTC would be happy to be associated with such a warm expression of thanks. It is gratifying to note that in addition to his pastoral work as a priest of the diocese of Sandhurst in 2014, the College will still have the benefit of his presence as Lecturer in Old Testament.



### **Dr Rosemary Canavan**

At its meeting on Thursday 7 November, the CTC Senate appointed Dr Rosemary Canavan as Academic Dean. Rosemary is known to all of us for her work as Associate Dean, responsible for postgraduate studies and research work, and also as Lecturer in New Testament. Warm congratulations to Rosemary. All at CTC look forward to working with her in this new role.



### **Rev. Dr Kevin Lenehan**

Father Kevin is a priest of the Diocese of Ballarat and Lecturer in Systematic Theology. Kevin has a doctorate from the Catholic University of Leuven in Belgium and this year he organised the very successful series of lectures for the 'Year of Faith' here at CTC. The Senate has appointed Fr Kevin as Associate Dean (Postgraduate and Research). We wish Kevin well in this new role.



### **Mr Martin Green**

One of the important changes over recent months is that CTC now administers this building. Martin is a key person in this herculean task and his appointment is welcome by all at CTC. He is not only wonderfully diligent in the care of the property, but courteously helpful to all. Welcome, Martin.

### **Mrs Karen Crook**

Over recent weeks, Karen has become familiar to all of us at CTC. Karen has taken over the 'Reception' desk here at CTC and tackles numerous queries, requests and problems with great panache and endless patience! A very warm welcome, Karen.



## Essay Prizes

As essays tumble in through Theology Online, please don't think that that is the end of the process. Your essay might deserve not only a splendid mark, but also a tangible prize. If your essay obtains a high mark it might be eligible for one of the \$500 prizes for an outstanding essay in each of the areas listed below. Essays must be at least 1,500 words in length, and should have been submitted in a CTC unit beyond first level. You may nominate essays for consideration by contacting the **Academic Records Office** before the end of December.

<b><i>The Archbishop's Prize</i></b> ~	for an outstanding essay in Systematic Theology
<b><i>The Archbishop Coleridge Prize</i></b> ~	for an outstanding essay in Biblical Studies
<b><i>The Baronius Prize</i></b> ~	for an outstanding essay in Church History (in honour of the Venerable Cesare Baronio, 1538–1607)
<b><i>The Guilford Young Prize</i></b> ~	for an outstanding essay in Liturgy (in honour of Most Rev Sir Guilford C. Young DD KBE, 8th Archbishop of Hobart)
<b><i>The Thomas Shortall Prize</i></b> ~	for an outstanding essay in Moral Theology (in honour of Rev. Thomas Shortall omi, head of CTC Moral Theology department, 1975–88)
<b><i>The John Maher Prize</i></b> ~	for an outstanding essay in Philosophy (provided by the Student Representative Council for 2013–14, in honour of Rev. Dr John Maher omi, head of CTC Philosophy Department 2007–10)

## The 2013 CTC Study Tour

At the end of examination week, eighteen people headed off on the *Experience of Catholic Culture Tour*, visiting Ireland, England, Spain and Italy over the coming twenty eight days. In Ireland the group will make ‘soundings in Irish History’: visiting Glendalough which ‘touches’ Irish Monasticism and its links with the Fathers of Egyptian Desert; St. Patrick’s Cathedral (Dublin) sparks memories of ‘The Pale’, the English Reformation and beyond; the Rock of Cashel reminds participants the Irish Medieval Church; Kilkenny Castle the role of Irish noble families; Johnstown recalls the contribution of Irish clergy to Australia, and the International Mercy Centre our debt to Irish religious sisters; Mass on the first Sunday of the tour will be at Newman’s Church on Stephen’s Green (Dublin), the centre of the ill-fated Catholic University.

Likewise, when the group visits United Kingdom, Spain and Italy an enriching number of facets of the Catholic Experience become real to the traveller. More than that, some sites enable the visitor to encounter some of the great figures of the tradition: Julian in Norwich, Teresa in Avila, John of the Cross in Segovia and Newman in Oxford, to name but a few. At almost every turn there is something of great beauty in the art, architecture and literature associated with a place. There are perhaps few to rival the Byzantine mosaics in Ravenna, the tour’s most significant contact with Eastern Christendom. But the catalogue of riches is almost inexhaustible. You might think of joining a future tour!

## Ordinations to the Diaconate

Paselio  
Lemalu



Francisco  
Javier  
Ramirez



Poukesi  
Vakauta



Peter  
Watthana  
(John)  
Seesawan  
sdb



Francis  
Xavier  
Ronachai  
Mathavabhandhu  
sdb



Michael  
Romeo

Warmest congratulations to these CTC students who are about to be ordained as deacons. All at the College wish them every joy in taking this significant step in their dedication of their lives to the service of the Gospel.

**Paselio Lemalu, Francisco Javier Ramirez and Poukesi Vakauta** will be ordained as permanent deacons for the Archdiocese of Melbourne at St Patrick’s Cathedral on Saturday 23 November at 10am.

**Peter Watthana (John) Seesawan sdb and Francis Xavier Ronachai Mathavabhandhu sdb** will be ordained at St John the Baptist Church, 61 Queens Parade, Clifton Hill, on Saturday 23 November at 6pm. (Former CTC lecturer, Archbishop Tim Costelloe sdb is returning to Melbourne to celebrate this ceremony.)

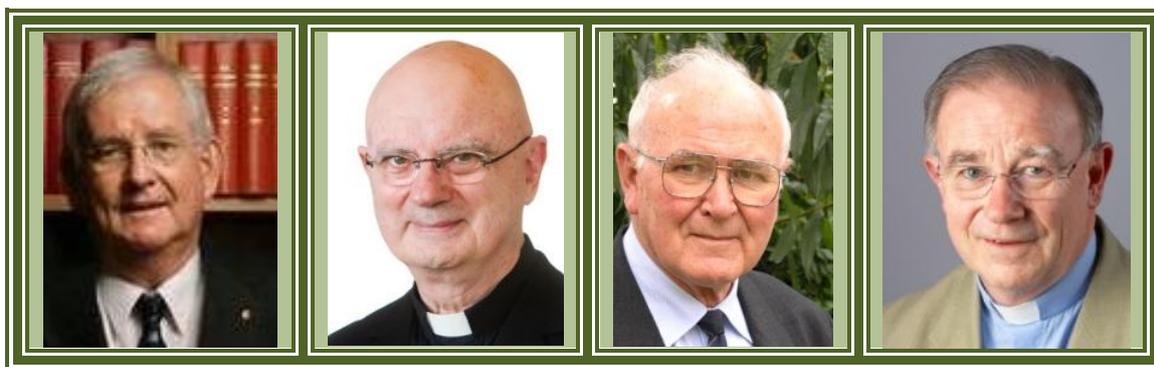
**Michael Romeo** will be ordained for the Archdiocese of Adelaide on Sunday 24 November at St Francis Xavier’s Cathedral, Adelaide.

## An Evening with CTC's Inaugural Professors

---

Thursday 8 October highlighted a special 'first' for Catholic Theological College: an evening with the Professors. The emergence of the recently established specialist MCD University of Divinity, led to the appointment of the first formally constituted Professors of the University.

Each College within the University had been invited by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Peter Sherlock, to hold an event that singled out its Professors. Catholic Theological College, one of the institutions within the University that represents the Roman Catholic tradition, asked its Professors to address the challenges and opportunities of their lives as scholars, priests and proclaimers of the Word of God.



The three Professors at Catholic Theological College are Fathers Austin Cooper OMI, Norman Ford SDB and Ian Waters. Before a cross-section of students and other Melbourne personalities interested in the theological life of the Christian Churches, and the teaching and scholarly activity of Catholic Theological College, each Professor initially spoke to his personal response to demands of a life as a scholar, a priest, and a proclaimer of the Word.

Professor Cooper spoke of his long association with the teaching of Church History, and more recently of Christian Spirituality. The founding Master of Catholic Theological College at Clayton, he spoke movingly of his conviction that has grown over the years and with experience, that his teaching the history of the Christian Church has been a privileged way of teaching the Christian Faith.

Professor Ford, also a foundational figure of Catholic Theological College, shared his interest in philosophical ethics that has led him to become a world authority in the complex world of Bioethics. He insisted on the need for believers to be aware of some of the bioethical questions that are so crucial for a well-informed Christian life in our contemporary world.

The youngest of the Professors, Ian Waters, perhaps the senior Canon Lawyer in the Australian Catholic Church, spoke energetically of the need for all who look to the Law of the Church, to do so with a profoundly pastoral sense. The Laws are for the people, and not vice-versa. To paraphrase the words of St Paul and apply them to Professor Waters' address: the letter of the Law can be life-killing, while the spirit of the law can give life.

The second part of the evening was a rich encounter with the audience. They asked questions to the three Professors – either singly, or to the three of them as a group. The years of experience as priests, scholars, pastors and communicators of the Word of God were expressed through their vivacious response to the gathering, and also in the interaction between the Professors themselves.

It was a delight to have the three Professors from Catholic Theological College singled out for this evening. Scholarship, long years of commitment to the mission of the Catholic Church within the Christian Tradition, and a depth of experience was in evidence. It was a privilege for me to be able to co-ordinate and facilitate the evening, and share in the experience of these fine Priests and scholars.

~ Rev. Prof. Francis J. Moloney SDB, AM, FAHA

## Homily for CTC end of year Mass, 8 November ~ Fr Brian Boyle

To the best of my knowledge the first university in the western world – in the modern sense of a university – was a school of law established in the Italian city of Bologna in 1088, some twenty years after William the Conqueror landed in England. This law school was established by, funded by and staffed by the Catholic Church. The Catholic Church then has been in the business of tertiary education for nearly 1,000 years.

From its early beginnings – as described in the *Acts of the Apostles* – the early



Christian community understood and promoted the value of education, seen as empowerment of the individual. This education took various forms: *kerygma* or the proclamation of the Gospel to a pagan audience or *didache* the further instruction of the early Christian community in the faith. Both forms are examples of what we today might call adult education. The greatest exponent of these forms was of course, Paul, the teacher of the Gentiles.

The early Christian community understood that education was not just about knowledge but about conversion, what is described as *metanoia*, and that what knowledge about the Lord Jesus and about Christian faith aimed to do was to change the heart of the receiver. This education through preaching and writing was aimed especially at the poor and marginalised in Greco-Roman society since Christianity, at least initially, was a religion of the lower social classes.

We ask ourselves then what is distinctive about a Catholic higher education institution today, and especially our own at Catholic Theological College. I would like to suggest that such a Catholic institution could be characterised by three essential features.

Firstly, it must be clear about what it believes and what it teaches. At the centre of the Catholic education enterprise is the person of Jesus Christ. He is central to its task and its life. The values of Catholicism lie at its core. We do not seek to proselytise or convert each other or those who enter the CTC door but rather to bear witness. Again, we have one of the those wonderful New Testament words: *marturein* or to bear witness, not necessarily by giving our lives for what we believe but by witnessing to what we believe in our actions and our words, in the ways we treat each other.

Secondly, a Catholic education institution like CTC must be committed to the reign of God on earth. Learning is not an end in itself but a means of promoting the kingdom. Faith knows what it believes. Faith does justice. We would want our graduates to be people who are empowered, who are industry ready, and who are committed to life-long learning.

Thirdly, our College must reflect the graduate attributes of the wider educational body – MCD University of Divinity – to which we belong. The MCD graduate attributes, carefully crafted over the last twelve months, speak eloquently of the personal, formative, educational outcomes we desire for all our students. These attributes are:

---

**Learn:** graduates are equipped for critical study, especially of Christian texts and traditions

**Articulate:** graduates articulate theological insight and reflection

**Communicate:** graduates communicate informed views through structured argument

**Engage:** graduates engage with diverse views, contexts and traditions

**Serve:** graduates are prepared for service of others

---

We can expect to see, read and hear more about these MCD graduate attributes in the years ahead as our University seeks to embed these more into the declared unit outcomes and course outcomes. My point here is that each of these attributes speaks powerfully of the Catholic character of CTC.

One of the greatest exponents of learning and knowledge within our Catholic tradition was the great English cardinal, John Henry Newman, who lived and died in the nineteenth century. Newman was an Oxford graduate and one of the finest theologians of the Anglo-Catholic tradition. He was invited by the Bishops of Ireland, at one stage in his academic career, to establish a Catholic university in Ireland. The project did not eventually materialise but in the course of seeking to establish such an institution, Newman wrote a wonderful book entitled *The Idea of a University*. His basic question or line of enquiry was: what does a University seek to achieve in the minds and lives of its students? I would like to quote two passages from the book.

Newman writes: “A habit of mind is formed which lasts through life, of which the attributes are freedom, equitableness, calmness, moderation, and wisdom; or what in a former discourse I have ventured to call a philosophical habit ... This is the main purpose of a University in its treatment of its students.” Again, Newman writes: “When I speak of knowledge, I mean something intellectual, something which grasps what it perceives through the senses, something which takes a view of things; which sees more than the senses convey; which reasons upon what it sees and it while it sees; which invests it with an idea.”

Notice some of the key phrases and words Newman uses to describe the task of the University: “a habit of mind” and “a view of things.” Stated simply it seems to me what Newman is describing is what we might call *intellectual excellence*, that capacity of enquiry and of life-long learning which has so many of the qualities he identifies in the quotes from his book. However, it needs to be said clearly that intellectual excellence is not only for the intellectually gifted among us - as if knowledge was the preserve of the gifted alone – but the cultivation, in humility and over a lifetime, of the habit of enquiry, the thirst to know more. Such intellectual excellence, such enquiry is within everyone’s grasp.

And so we come to the end of another academic year. For some of you this will be your last year here as you graduate; for others it will be the first of several years of study at CTC. Taking our cue from Cardinal Newman we might say that our learning and studying here at CTC is about the cultivation of the habit of an enquiring mind. Let me illustrate this idea with an example.

One of the great churches of Christianity, part of the patrimony of humanity, is the great cathedral of Chartres, outside Paris. Entering Chartres is like stepping back into the middle ages. The cathedral is world-renowned for its beautiful stained-glass windows. You could literally spend hours wandering around inside the church. One of the windows which has grasped my imagination (I have a copy of the window in my home) is one depicting the four great prophets of the Old Testament, Jeremiah, Isaiah, Ezekiel and Daniel, as adult figures with four other figures sitting astride their shoulders. The four seated figures on the shoulders of the four prophets are the four evangelists of the New Testament. In graphic form the picture in the stained glass is saying: the evangelists of the New Testament are able to appreciate and describe so beautifully the great mystery of Incarnation, God become man, because they sit astride the shoulders of the giants who have gone before them. The window brings together beautifully the mystery and the meaning of the two testaments of our Bible. One might say the master craftsman who designed and made the window was inspired!

I began these reflections this evening by speaking of early Christianity and its commitment to knowledge and education as empowerment. The Church’s great treasure is the Gospel. If we see and understand the mystery of Christ and the mystery of divine love clearly in our day, then it is because we too sit astride the shoulders of the giants who have gone before us, men like John Henry Newman. As students and staff of CTC we stand proudly in that long Catholic tradition of education and learning.