



FOUNDATIONS OF MISSIONARY LEADERSHIP

PROGRAM PROSPECTUS

2024

WWW.ARETECENTRE.ORG



WELCOME

The Foundations of Missionary Leadership Program forms and equips people with practical skills, spiritual formation and theological knowledge to become leaders in the Church's Mission today.

This program is suitable for anyone working in various expressions of adult evangelisation, youth ministry, Catholic education, formation, and parish renewal. The theology and skills you will learn in this course are applicable to paid or volunteer roles, whether your ecclesial setting is a parish, school, new community or ecclesial movement. This program provides a systematic and thorough foundation in the theology and practice of mission in an Australian context. You will learn the theory and skills needed to lead others in real-life ministry situations and experiences. The program will allow you to refine your own ministry through reflecting upon current practice in the light of all that is learnt in the course. You will also be formed spiritually and grow as a person through the experience of learning in a short-term, intentional community setting. The live-in intensive experiences offer opportunities for spiritual development and personal growth as you enter into an experience of temporary community with your fellow students. I look forward to welcoming you to the Areté Centre for Missionary Leadership in 2024.

Rev Dr Chris Ryan MGL, Director Areté Centre for Missionary Leadership

WHAT IS THE ARETÉ CENTRE?

THE ARETÉ CENTRE FOR MISSIONARY LEADERSHIP SPECIALISES IN FORMING MISSIONARY LEADERS FOR THE CHANGE OF ERA WE ARE LIVING IN.

WHAT IS ARETÉ ALL ABOUT?

The Areté Centre offers programs for people serving or seeking to serve as missionary leaders in the Church today. The distinct Areté Centre philosophy and methodology offers students an unique program that seeks to provide them with the highest quality formation, the opportunity to encounter God in a new and deeper way, as well as the chance to put what they learn into practice.

WHO ARE WE?

Areté is a work of the Missionaries of God's Love (MGL) priests and brothers, a new religious congregation. The MGLs share in the work of evangelisation in a collaborative way with lay people. They seek to empower people in their call to holiness and mission.

OUR MOTTO - VELIS ET REMIS

The motto of the Areté Centre is 'Velis et Remis' which is Latin for 'Sails and Oars'. It refers to the need for missionary disciples to use 'oars' - to use the gifts that the Lord has given us to build up the Church for the sake of the world. Like a ship, we also must rely on the 'wind' - the power of the Holy Spirit to fill our sails and propel us towards our destination of a renewed Church capable of transforming the world.

MEET OUR TEAM

OUR TEAM COMPRISES OF A GIFTED GROUP OF RELIGIOUS AND LAY LEADERS WHO ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT THE CHURCH'S MISSION.

FACULTY



Fr Chris Ryan MGL



Fr Ken Barker MGL



Judy Bowe MGL



Katherine Stone MGL



Fr Tony Alex MGL



Fr Brian Steele MGL



Daniel Ang



Selina Hashem



Frances Simon



Kelvin Simon

STAFF



Melanie Dooner
Course Manager



Laura Neeson
Communications Manager

OUR PHILOSOPHY

THE ARETÉ CENTRE'S PHILOSOPHY IS COMPRISED OF THREE KEY ELEMENTS: ENCOUNTER, FORMATION AND MISSION, WHICH INTERWEAVE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR TO OFFER STUDENTS A UNIQUE AND HIGH-QUALITY PROGRAM.



ENCOUNTER

Personally encountering God's love is key to being an effective witness in ministry. The Areté Centre provides opportunities to encounter God in a new way, deepening your faith, and your closeness to Christ.



FORMATION

The Areté Centre offers only the highest quality theological formation, ensuring you receive excellent instruction from qualified teachers, as well as the opportunity to learn practical skills for ministry.



MISSION

The Foundations program is geared towards practical application. If you are engaged in ministry and want to grow as leaders then this program is for you.

PROGRAM DELIVERY

OUR THREE DISTINCT MODES OF DELIVERY ENSURES THAT STUDENTS LEARN AND DEVELOP THEIR SKILLS IN THE BEST POSSIBLE WAY.

INTENSIVES

Live-in intensives occur four times throughout the program, providing a unique opportunity for both encounter and an experience of intentional community. The first intensive takes place over four days in January, providing students with an opportunity to encounter God. The second intensive is a weekend retreat, and intensives 3 and 4 are focused upon practical evangelisation and leadership skills.

CLASSES

The weekly classes take place online on Wednesday evenings. These workshop style sessions include a range of teaching styles, including lectures and interactive sessions.

MENTORING

Monthly mentoring sessions are held throughout the year. These sessions provide opportunities for the students to reflect upon their ministry in the light of the coursework.

PROGRAM OUTLINE

THE FOUNDATIONS OF MISSIONARY LEADERSHIP PROGRAM IS DESIGNED TO EMPOWER AND EQUIP STUDENTS TO DEVELOP THE SKILLS NECESSARY TO BE MISSIONARY LEADERS IN THE CHURCH TODAY.



THE ONE YEAR PROGRAM IS COMPRISED OF FOUR COURSES:

- **Course 1:** The Spirituality of Missionary Leadership
- **Course 2:** Theological Foundations for Mission in the Australian Context
- **Course 3:** Ministerial Leadership Theory and Praxis
- **Course 4:** Practicum

COURSE 1: THE SPIRITUALITY OF MISSIONARY LEADERSHIP

Outline

This course explores the spiritual foundations of missionary leadership. It establishes a spiritual grounding in the initial proclamation (kerygma) of the love of God revealed in Christ, and encountered through the Holy Spirit. The course will also focus upon the topic of the disciple's new identity in Christ, which flows out of the response of faith and love (in baptism) to the kerygma. The course then explores how students can deepen in the practices of prayer, providing students with the opportunity for a deeper appropriation of the grace of the kerygma through the practice of prayer in their own lives.

Delivery

Mode: In-person intensives

Intensive 1 - **18-21 January, Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville**

Intensive 2 - **5-7 April, Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville**

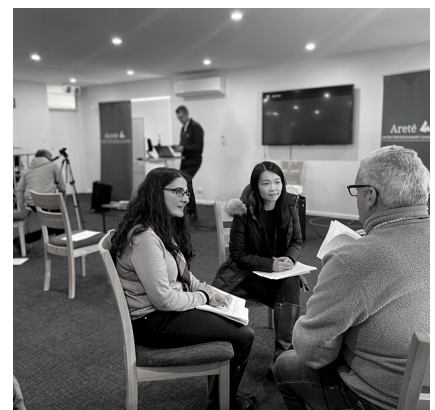
Lecturers

Rev Dr Ken Barker MGL

Judy Bowe MGL

Katherine Stone MGL

Rev Dr Chris Ryan MGL



COURSE 1: THE SPIRITUALITY OF MISSIONARY LEADERSHIP

Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, it is expected that students will be able to:

1. Explain the content of the kerygma
2. Apply the content of the kerygma to their own experience of faith
3. Discuss the concept of missionary discipleship and reflect upon the practices of discipleship
4. Describe the methodology of the Examen and its dynamic for identifying consolation and desolation in their own lives
5. Demonstrate a theoretical understanding of a prayer practice, such as Lectio Divina or Ignatian meditation, and reflect upon their engagement with this practice

Assessment

One five minute oral presentation

One 3000 word journal



COURSE 2: THEOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS FOR MISSION IN THE AUSTRALIAN CONTEXT

Outline

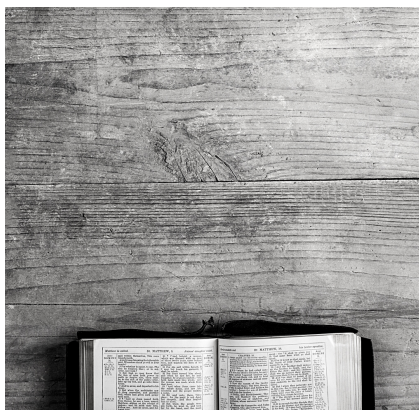
This course provides an overview of foundational theological principles for mission, beginning with the theology of mission arising from the teaching of the Second Vatican Council, and in the subsequent papal statements on mission. A model for mission for the present Australian context and grounded in these magisterial statements will be developed and evaluated. Elements of the process of evangelisation and models of faith and conversion will also be examined. The course will then lay a deeper theological foundation for mission by examining the scriptural basis for mission, the Trinitarian underpinnings of mission, and the missionary nature of the Church as it is expressed in the Church's sacramental life.

Delivery

Mode: Online (**Wednesdays 7:00pm-9:00pm, beginning 7 February**)

Lecturers

Rev Dr Chris Ryan MGL



COURSE 2: THEOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS FOR MISSION IN THE AUSTRALIAN CONTEXT

Outcomes

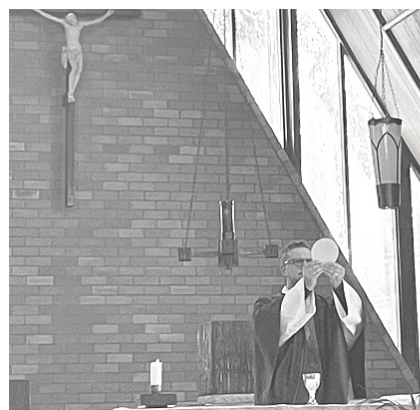
Upon successful completion of this course, it is expected that students will be able to:

1. Explain the process of evangelisation as it is articulated in the magisterial statements and the RCIA
2. Give examples from contemporary culture and their ministerial experience that demonstrate their understanding of principal features of the Australian sociocultural context in which mission takes place
3. Demonstrate a broad understanding of the theology of mission and the relevance of key doctrines for evangelisation

Assessment

One 1000 word essay

Three short answer exams



COURSE 3: MINISTERIAL LEADERSHIP THEORY + PRAXIS

Outline

In this course students will learn what leadership grounded in Christian faith is and begin to develop the leadership skills necessary for contemporary ministry. The course will explore what it means to first lead oneself through the practices of self-knowledge and self-management. This includes skills such as time-management, prioritisation, and the place of resilience and vulnerability in leadership. It will also examine how to lead others through the development of teams, vision and strategy, and how to lead a group through the process of change. The course will also address how to identify and form other leaders.

Delivery

Mode: Online (**begins Wednesday 12 June**)

Lecturers

Rev Dr Chris Ryan MGL



COURSE 3: MINISTERIAL LEADERSHIP THEORY + PRAXIS

Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, it is expected that students will be able to:

1. Understand and apply principles of self-leadership to one's ministerial life
2. Articulate key principles for leading others
3. Develop a ministry vision, strategy and plan
4. Apply these leadership principles to their ministerial context

Assessment

- One 1000 word reflection paper
- One 3000 ministerial project plan



COURSE 4: PRACTICUM

Outline

This course is divided into three elements. The ministry intensive explores the topics of understanding one's gifts for ministry, prayer ministry, and evangelising conversations. The leadership intensive practicum helps students understand key leadership topics, including event management, budgeting, promotions, communications and risk management strategies. The final element is monthly mentoring sessions that provide an opportunity for students to reflect upon their practice of ministry in the light of what they are learning from the coursework.

Delivery

Mode:

Intensive 3 - **14-16 June**

Intensive 4 - **13-15 September**

Eight group mentoring sessions (held monthly throughout the year and beginning in February)

Lecturers

Rev Dr Chris Ryan MGL

Frances and Kelvin Simon

Daniel Ang, Director, Sydney Centre for Evangelisation



COURSE 4: PRACTICUM

Outcomes

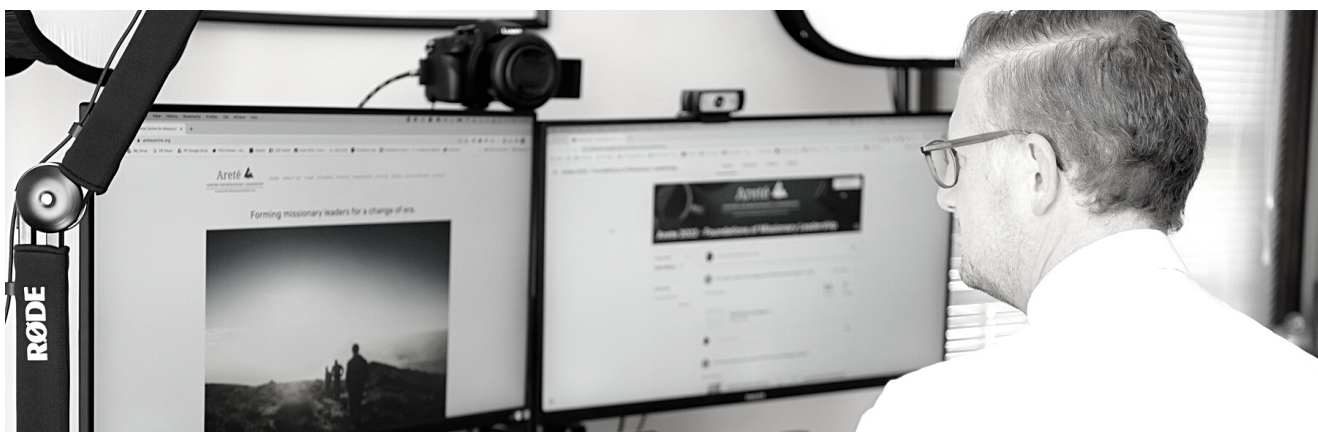
Upon successful completion of this course, it is expected that students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate the capacity to lead in their chosen ministry
2. Plan, develop and deliver ministry events/programs for their specific ministerial context
3. Demonstrate relevant pastoral and practical skills in an actual ministerial situation
4. Reflect upon their praxis in the light of theological and missiological principles

Assessment

One 1500 word verbatim report

One 3000 word capstone paper





FEES + INCLUSIONS

THE ARETÉ CENTRE FIRMLY BELIEVES THAT MISSIONARY LEADERSHIP IS FOR EVERYONE. THAT'S WHY OUR PROGRAM IS AFFORDABLE AND REPRESENTS THE BEST VALUE FOR MONEY. WE STRIVE TO ENSURE THAT THE ARETÉ CENTRE IS ACCESSIBLE FOR MISSIONARY LEADERS OF ALL AGES AND CIRCUMSTANCES.

Key Dates

18-21 January 4 day live-in Intensive 1
(Course 1)

7 February Semester 1 starts (Course 2)

5-7 April Retreat (Course 1)

14-16 June Intensive 3 (Course 4)

12 June Semester 2 starts (Course 3)

13-15 September Intensive 4 (Course 4)

Costs + Inclusions

The cost of the Foundations Program is \$2,600 (\$2,500 if paid up-front) per person.

This includes:

- 4 day live-in intensive
- 26 weeks of classes
- 1 retreat weekend
- 2 intensive weekends
- 8 monthly mentor sessions
- Program materials

Fee includes accommodation, linen, resources, and all meals at each intensive.

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN MISSIONARY LEADERSHIP



The Foundations of Missionary Leadership Program may be undertaken as a Graduate Certificate through the University of Notre Dame.

The Graduate Certificate is designed for people currently in or pursuing a permanent role in ministry.

Students undertaking the Graduate Certificate attend all the lectures, mentor sessions, and intensives in the Foundations Program. They also attend 9 extra tutorials with Fr Chris Ryan MGL.

Assessment

There is additional assessment for the Graduate Certificate.

The following table compares the assessment between the Areté Certificate and the Notre Dame Graduate Certificate:

Course	Areté Certificate	Graduate Certificate
Spirituality of Missionary Leadership	5-minute Oral Presentation 3000-word Journal	5-minute Oral Presentation 3000-word Journal 2500-word essay
Theological Foundations of Mission	3 in-class quizzes 1000-word essay	3 in-class quizzes 1000-word essay 2500-word essay
Ministerial Leadership: Theory and Practice	1000-word reflection paper 3000-word project plan	2500-word reflection paper Draft project plan 3000-word project plan
Practicum	1500-word verbatim and analysis of conversation 3000-word capstone paper	3000-word verbatim and analysis of conversation 3000-word capstone paper

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN MISSIONARY LEADERSHIP



Cost

The Graduate Certificate costs c. \$10,900*, payable through the University of Notre Dame. This cost is all-inclusive (you do not need to pay the Areté Centre if you undertake the Graduate Certificate). Fee-Help is available through the University.

** \$10,900 was the total fee payable in 2023. The University of Notre Dame may adjust its fees for 2024.*

Pre-requisites

Students wishing to study the Graduate Certificate must have:

- An undergraduate degree

or

- 5 years professional experience working in the Catholic Church/Catholic education

Prospective Graduate Certificate students should first apply through the Areté Centre. Upon their successful application to the Areté Centre they will then enrol in the Notre Dame Graduate Certificate program.

For further enquiries concerning the Graduate Certificate, please contact Laura Neeson (office@aretecentre.org).

HOW TO APPLY

HERE'S ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT HOW TO APPLY FOR THE FOUNDATIONS OF MISSIONARY LEADERSHIP PROGRAM.

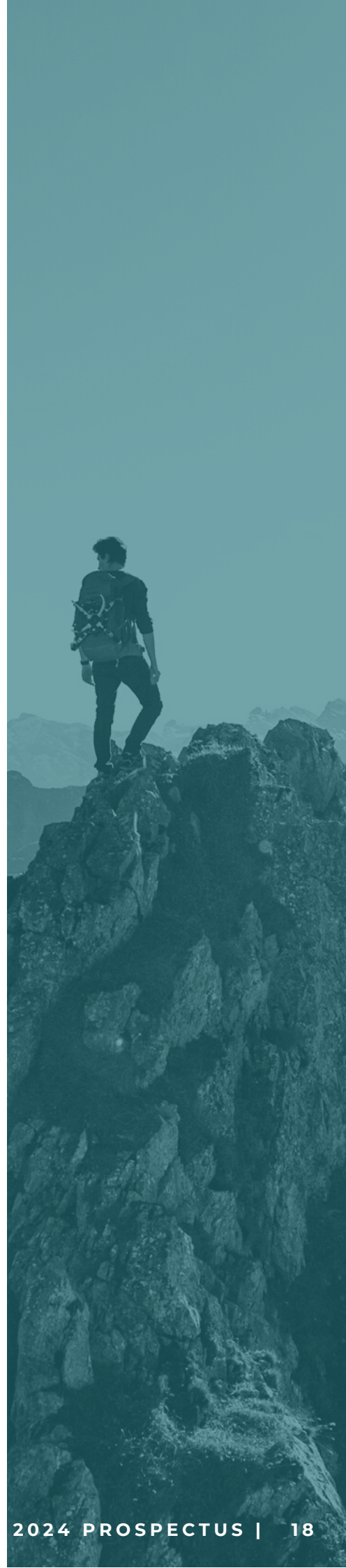
Applications

Applications for 2024 are now open.

Our online application process is easy and accessible. Please note that all applications must provide a referee. For more info, and to apply, go to www.aretecentre.org

Contact us

We'd love to hear from you! If you have any questions, or would like more information, contact our team at office@aretecentre.org or visit www.aretecentre.org



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

FOUNDATIONS OF MISSIONARY LEADERSHIP PROGRAM 2024



WHO IS THE FOUNDATIONS OF MISSIONARY LEADERSHIP PROGRAM FOR?

This program is open to anyone passionate about parish renewal, who already works in ministry or is interested in starting. Whether you are a volunteer or in paid employment, a youth minister, involved in adult evangelisation, or in leadership in your parish, movement or community, the Foundations of Missionary Leadership Program is for you.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS CONTINUED

HOW IS THIS PROGRAM DIFFERENT FROM OTHER COURSES?

We pride ourselves on offering a program that addresses the current landscape of the Church's mission in Australia.

Our content is derived from proven models and methods translated by Fr Chris Ryan MGL to the Australian context, and is complemented with data, real scenarios, and case studies from Australian sources. Our three-phased approach of encounter, formation and mission ensures that students are formed in every dimension of missionary leadership.

Our live-in experiences allow for a personal experience with God, which helps students more deeply discover the call to know, love, and serve God. The students are also formed in theological foundations through interactive online, real-time sessions that introduce Sacred Scripture, missiology (including the new evangelisation), and the best in leadership theory and practice. Attention is also given to the philosophical and sociological underpinnings of the Australian context.

This program addresses the practical dimensions of leadership for mission. Areté builds 'vision-carriers', who will form other leaders in turn.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS CONTINUED

I AM ALREADY A MINISTRY LEADER, WHAT CAN THIS PROGRAM TEACH ME?

As leaders, we want to continually grow and expand our knowledge and experiences and deepen in faith so we can better lead our teams and groups. This program explores new models of leadership, and new practical tools and strategies that work in the Australian context today. It provides a time and space for personal spiritual encounter and renewal, and it develops a missionary mindset and a language for articulating the Church's mission. The program allows students to meet and engage with likeminded leaders who have the same passion for proclaiming the Gospel. A number of our students are already established leaders in their areas of ministry and work. These students have found that the program enhances their work and personal lives.

HOW MUCH TIME IS REQUIRED FOR CLASSES, STUDY AND ASSESSMENTS?

Like all important activities in our lives, the Foundations of Missionary Leadership Program will require some investment of your time. 2 hrs per week over 13 weeks is required for the lectures each semester. There is also time required for reading and the writing of short papers for assessment, and a 1 hr mentor session each month. The first intensive goes for four days. The retreat and the remaining two intensives begin on Friday evening and finish Sunday afternoon. We understand that most students have family and work commitments, so we make sure that the program and its requirements are designed to work with and complement these realities.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS CONTINUED

WHAT KIND OF RECOGNITION OR ACCREDITATION CAN I RECEIVE FROM THIS PROGRAM?

Upon completion of this program, an official Areté Certificate of Completion will be issued with your corresponding grades for the four courses.

The Foundations Program may also be studied at a Graduate Certificate level through the University of Notre Dame. See page 17-18 for more details about this option.

Many Church organisations, including dioceses and parishes, recognise the value of someone who has completed the Foundations of Missionary Leadership Program. Some of our previous students have been employed in various leadership roles in the Church, as the program has equipped them with the tools and strategies needed in these roles.

HOW ARE THE WEEKLY CLASSES DELIVERED?

We value the importance of providing a learning environment that fosters connection through organic conversations, collaboration, and immediate responses to questions and clarifications. Therefore, our weekly online lectures are not pre-recorded, rather, they are provided as real-time, live sessions with Fr Chris Ryan MGL and your fellow students via Zoom.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS CONTINUED

WHAT IF I MISS A CLASS?

To receive the full benefits of the program, it is important to strive to attend all the lectures throughout the year. Students are given access to the recorded session after the real-time lecture every week, so if absence cannot be helped, there is an opportunity to catch up or re-watch and review the previous lectures. If you know you are going to miss a class, it is best to inform us as soon as possible.

WHAT ARE THE GROUP MENTORING SESSIONS FOR?

The mentoring sessions are a wonderful opportunity to review and unpack the lecture materials, and more importantly, discuss how you can apply your learnings in your current ministry, or in your everyday lives. It is also a time to hear and learn from your fellow students and their experiences. These are online monthly sessions with a small group of students and a mentor who will journey with you throughout the year.

IS THE COURSE OPEN TO ALL CHRISTIAN DENOMINATIONS?

Yes! We are happy to welcome students from all Christian denominations. Our course is presented and practiced in the Catholic context; however, we believe that the missionary leadership knowledge, skills, strategies, models, and tools that we teach can be adapted to any Christian Church setting. We are happy to discuss this with you further.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS CONTINUED

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM FEE?

Included in your program fees are:

- Course materials and selected reading resources
- A Four-day live-in intensive with sessions, materials, meals, and accommodation included
- 26 real-time (live) online lectures
- 1 weekend retreat with materials, meals, and accommodation included
- 1 Spiritual Direction Session experience
- 2 weekend intensives with sessions, materials, meals, and accommodation included
- 8 monthly group mentoring sessions

Our priority is making this program accessible to everyone. You can pay upfront and save \$100, or pay in four instalments if that suits better. Sydney and Broken Bay Dioceses may also offer support via to Areté students. Contact your Diocese for more information.

IS THE PROGRAM AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS AUSTRALIA WIDE?

Yes, part of the beauty of this program is that it allows people from all around Australia to access it. The live lectures are delivered via Zoom so all you need is to be able to login from a computer at home. Our intensives and retreat are conducted in Sydney, and we provide the dates in advance to assist you with planning and booking these trips.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS CONTINUED

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE INTENSIVES AND RETREAT?

Our intensives and retreat are live-in weekends, usually from Friday evening to Sunday afternoon at a venue in Sydney. All input sessions and guest speakers, activities, materials, meals, and accommodation are included in your course fee. All you need to take care of is your travel to and from the venue.

WHAT IF I AM UNABLE TO ATTEND AN INTENSIVE?

The intensives are integral to the program. This is where students experience a spiritual encounter and receive formation from guest speakers who are experts in their fields. Most of our students find the intensives a highlight of the program however, we understand that sometimes other commitments take priority so we ensure that all sessions can be attended remotely on Zoom and are recorded for viewing later. We strongly encourage you to attend the intensives and retreat in person.

For any further questions, please contact us at office@aretecentre.org.

Areté 

CENTRE FOR MISSIONARY LEADERSHIP
