

Online Symposium Series 2023

NZCEO in association with Te Kupenga – Catholic Theological College

NZCEO in association with Te Kupenga – Catholic Theological College, are again in 2023 hosting an online symposium series. There will be three sessions each focusing on one theological *Te Rama Aroha: The Light of Love Cross Themes* in the new Religious Education curriculum *Tō Tātou Whakapono: Our Faith*. These sessions will take the same format as the 2021 and 2022 symposium starting with prayer followed by 40 minutes of speaker input with the next 20-minutes in breakout rooms and concluding with a general Q & A session.

The following are tentative descriptions and solid dates which we are inviting you to set in your calendar. More details on the speakers and themes will come closer to the time.



Session One: 31 May // 3:30-5:00pm // Wisdom // Rev. Dr. Merv Duffy

Whakaaronui Wisdom is seeing with the eyes of God. In Scripture and the Tradition of the Church it is often referred to as a gift from God. It is also reflected, particularly in the Religious Education context, as the knowledge, understanding, Tradition and teaching of two thousand years of being Church.



Session Two: 2 August // 3:30-5:00pm // Justice // Rev. Dr. Gerard Aynsley

Tika Justice is the sacred principle that each person receives that which they deserve by right of their God-given human dignity. It is always understood in relationship to God, ourselves and all creation. It encompasses the generous aroha and mercy of God. Tika is essential to our faith and requires us to act.



Session Three: 22 November // 3:30-5:00pm // Prayer // Mr. Murray Adams

Inoi Prayer is part of every aspect of living a Christian life. It is a critical area of personal and communal spirituality and Pope Francis tells us it “is both a challenge and an adventure”. In prayer we listen to God, discern God’s will and give voice to our heart’s desires. We enter into relationship with God.

To register for these sessions please email jerry@nzceo.org.nz

We hope, you, your staff and board are able to join us for this formation opportunity.



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NZCEO in association with Te Kupenga – Catholic Leadership Institute

Presenter for session one: Rev Dr Mervyn Duffy BSc(hons), STD



Fr Merv is a Marist priest with a long involvement in Religious Education. He taught in Secondary for 14 years, was a DRS, was involved in the writing parties for the Understanding Faith RE books and for the Unit Standards. He was the first NZQA national moderator for Religious Education. He then got re-trained in Theology (STD is, of course, the acronym for Doctorate in Sacred Theology). He has been theological adviser for the new curriculum. He lectures in theology at Te Kupenga – Catholic Theological College.

Presenter for session two: Rev Dr Gerard Aynsley



Gerard Aynsley is a priest of the diocese of Dunedin and has been the Parish Priest of Mercy Parish – Whānau Aroha in South Dunedin for the past 12 years. Over recent years Gerard has enjoyed teaching TCI (now Te Kupenga) papers on Catholic Social Teaching, Ecclesiology and Christology.

Presenter for session three: Murray Adams



Murray Adams is married to Candice, and they have 4 adult children and six grandchildren. He has been a pharmacist for 40 years, and a spiritual director and giver of retreats for the last 10 years. Murray has a Master of Spiritual Direction (University of Divinity, Melbourne), and has been working with the Palmerston North Catholic Education Team giving prayer and retreat experiences to school staff, Principals, and Directors of Religious Studies.

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