

Envisioning the Church of the future: Themes of the Plenary Council

Bishop Ken Howell from the Archdiocese of Brisbane will join a leading line-up of academics and experts to present a series of lectures on the key themes of the Plenary Council 2020 at the Australian Catholic University (ACU) Leadership Centre in Brisbane during March.

As part of its short courses in theology series, ACU will host ‘Envisioning the Church of the future: Themes of the Plenary Council’.

ACU short courses provide an opportunity to explore Christian faith and theology without committing to a full degree. Individuals teaching religious education or working in a Catholic school can gain hours towards their professional development accreditation.

National coordinator of short courses in theology at ACU, Dr Joel Hodge, said the topic of this short course has been chosen because ACU wishes to assist the Church and its members to reflect on the theological meaning of the themes of the Plenary Council and engage in dialogue about their significance for the life and practices of the Church today.

“The themes highlight key areas of what it means for us to the Church in Australia. The themes came out of the discernment and discussions of thousands of church members across Australia and will set the vision and agenda of the Church for the foreseeable future,” Dr Hodge said.

“It is very important that we understand what these themes mean for us within the context of our rich tradition and what God is calling us to in Australia. This means breaking open the themes so we can engage with them in a deeply meaningful and sustained way.”

Leading scholars and experts who will present lectures during the short course include Associate Professor Robyn Horner (ACU), Reverend Associate Professor Orm Rush (ACU), and Dr. Maeve Louise Heaney VDMF (ACU).

Topics to be explored include *Open to conversation, renewal and reform, Humble, healing and merciful, Inclusive, participatory and synodal, and Missionary and evangelising.*

This course is approved for six hours under ‘Accreditation to Teach in a Catholic School’ (Brisbane Catholic Education Office). If you are attending this course for accreditation purposes, a Certificate of Participation is required.

Course details

Event: ‘Envisioning the Church of the future: Themes of the Plenary Council’

Venue: ACU Leadership Centre, Level 3, Cathedral House, 229 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane

Date: Wednesdays 4, 11, 18, 25 March 6-8pm

Cost: Cost including a Certificate of Participation is \$100; attendance only is \$60

Registrations: close on Friday 28 February

For more information and registration details visit: www.acu.edu.au/short-courses-brisbane

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