



Tuesday July 21, 2026

Sponsors unveiled for ACPA Christchurch conference

Sponsors have been confirmed for the Australasian Catholic Press Association (ACPA) Conference and Awards Dinner in Christchurch, New Zealand, from August 26-27.

The major sponsor is the Catholic Development Fund (CDF) while Caritas Aotearoa NZ, Catholic Enquiry Centre (NZ), Catholic Mission and Catholic Diocese of Christchurch are Gold sponsors. Caritas Australia, Harvest Journeys and CathNews NZ have come onboard as Silver sponsors.

Thanks also to New Zealand's Seifried Estate Winery which is donating wine for the conference.

The conference theme is *Preserving Human Faces and Voices* and is focussed on Pope Leo XIV's message for the 60th World Day of Social Communications. The event will be held at Crowne Plaza on August 26 and 27.

Cardinal John Dew, who was at the conclave to elect Pope Leo XIV and James Bergin, Catholic Technologist-Digital Ministry Specialist, will be among the session speakers. The dinner speaker will be the Rev Frank Ritchie, a NZ radio broadcaster and media chaplain. He replaces Sinead Boucher, executive chair and publisher of Stuff Group who has had to withdraw because of overseas commitments.

The Bishop of Dunedin Michael Dooley will be the main celebrant at the Mass.

ACPA President David Ahern thanked the sponsors for their generosity. "We sincerely appreciate the involvement of all the sponsors. Catholic Development Fund is sponsoring the ACPA event for the second consecutive year as a major sponsor which is an incredible effort," said Mr Ahern.

"An event like ours could not be held without sponsorship support. It is terrific these organisations see value in what we are doing in our respective Catholic organisations and communities."

For those who have yet to register there is still time. Registrations are open at trybooking:

<https://www.trybooking.com/DMVVZ>

Further conference details at ACPA: <https://acpa.asn.au/>