

2023 ACU School Leaders Program

In collaboration with Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools

The ACU School Leaders Program provides leadership formation for Year 11 Catholic school leaders through an immersion in the Catholic tradition and Western civilisation.

THE PROGRAM:

- focuses on some of the major themes arising from the history of the Church and the development of the West
- uses a range of teaching modes and learning activities
- deepens participants' reflections on their own faith and sharpens their intellectual curiosity about the traditions to which they belong
- serves as a foundation for their own leadership and service at school and beyond.

The 2023 program will run from 18 November to 9 December (departing Australia 17 November and returning on 10 December), with two weeks in Rome at Domus Australia and one week in London at the Langham Court Hotel.

The program is structured around three modules, each comprising four lessons, assigned readings and visits to significant sites related to the theme of each teaching session. It also includes a series of tutorials to support students in their engagement with the program's themes and readings, as well as regular reflections on what they are learning.

The program is designed for Year 11 Catholic school students who are committed to their faith and have a record of leadership and service to their school, parish, or the wider community. Participants do not need to be strongly academic, but they do need to be willing to read the course materials, engage positively with the discussions and site visits, and be willing to cultivate an interest in the ideas and influences that have helped to shape religion, arts, politics and society in the West.



Teaching

The program consists of three teaching modules, each comprising four lessons, readings and site visits.

TEACHING MODULES

- The Church and the West: An overview of key periods in the development of the Church and its influence in shaping the Western world, from the beginnings of Christianity to the Renaissance.
- Ideas which shaped the Church and shaped the West: An exploration of some of the major ideas and challenges shaping the Church and the West, and how they influenced our understandings of politics, religion, knowledge and society.

• The democratic world and papal teaching: An introduction to how recent popes have thought about democracy and the challenges of the modern world, and the Catholic response to them.

READINGS

Assigned reading for each teaching session comprises short, selected excerpts from:

- Tom Holland, *Dominion: The Making of the Western Mind* (Little, Brown: 2019)
- a specially compiled reader of primary and secondary sources.

TEACHING DAY STRUCTURE		
TIME	ACTIVITY	COMMENTS
7am 12.30pm	Mass	Rome: Domus Australia chapel London: St Charles Borromeo parish
7.30am	Breakfast	Rome: Domus Australia London: Langham Court Hotel
9.30am - 12.30pm	Teaching	Assigned time for reading followed by teaching session and discussion Rome: Domus Australia London: Langham Court Hotel
1 – 2pm	Lunch	Packed lunch or buy your own lunch on the way to site visits
2 – 5pm	Site visit	Visit to places linked to the morning's reading and teaching session
6pm	Vespers and reflection	Vespers (evening prayer) and reflection on the day's experiences Rome: Domus Australia chapel London: St Charles Borromeo parish
8pm	Dinner	Rome: Domus Australia London: Langham Court Hotel

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Teaching staff

The program is taught by a team of two ACU staff and two external teachers:

- · Dr Michael Casey
- · Associate Professor Patrick Quirk
- · Mrs Anne McIlroy
- · Mrs Daniela Bortolin.

Teachers from Sydney Catholic Schools and Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools will also attend the program to assist with the supervision and pastoral care of students.



Dr Michael Casey BA Hons, LLB (Monash), PhD (La Trobe)
Dr Casey is Director of the PM Glynn Institute, ACU's public policy
think tank. Before joining ACU in 2015, he worked for Cardinal
George Pell AC during his time as Archbishop of Melbourne and then
Sydney. He was a Visiting Fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center,
Washington DC, in 2006 – 07, and completed the Oxford Advanced
Leadership and Management Program at Säid Business School at the
University of Oxford in 2014.



Dr Patrick Quirk BA, LLB (UQ), LLM (Tübingen) PhD (Adelaide) Dr Quirk is Associate Professor in ACU's Thomas More Law School, and a former tenured Associate Professor and Academic Dean at Ave Maria School of Law in Naples, Florida, USA. He holds degrees in law and arts from the University of Queensland, as well as a Master of Civil Laws (Magister Legum) from the University of Tübingen, Germany. He is also a scholar-in-residence at St Mary's College at the University of Melbourne.



Mrs Anne McIlroy BA, LLB (Melb), Dip Ed (Melb State College), GCert Curriculum Leadership (Melb)

Mrs McIlroy is an English, literature and history teacher. She has taught in public and private schools in Victoria and, as a teacher of Renaissance history, has been part of and organised tours of Italy for secondary students.



Ms Daniela Bortolin BA (Monash), GradDipEd (Institute of Catholic Education, Melb)

Ms Bortolin has spent 18 years as a teacher in Catholic secondary colleges in Melbourne and Perth where she also held leadership roles as English Faculty Coordinator, Year Level Coordinator and Learning Enrichment Coordinator. For 16 years, she has been living in Italy where she runs an English language services business. She has often accompanied Australian school groups on Italian cultural tours.

Program overview

DATE	ACTIVITY	
Fri 17 November	Depart for Rome NB: Dates may vary owing to availability when flight bookings are made.	
Sat 18 November	Arrive in Rome – Welcome and orientation Domus Australia, Via Cernaia 14B, 00185 Rome	
Sun 19 November	Course introduction and Mass to commence the program	
Mon 20 November	Module 1: The Church and the West (20 – 25 November)	
Sat 25 November	Module 2: Ideas which shaped the Church and shaped the West $(25-30 \text{ November})$	
Fri 1 December	Module 3: The democratic world and papal teaching (1 – 7 December)	
Sat 2 December	Depart for London Langham Court Hotel, 31-35 Langham Street, London WIW 6BU	
Sat 9 December	Depart London for home	
Sun 10 December	Arrive in Sydney / Arrive in Melbourne NB: Dates may vary owing to availability when flight bookings are made.	

Detailed program schedule

Saturday 18 November

Morning: Arrival

Lunch: Domus Australia

Afternoon: Welcome and orientation: practicalities, house rules, safety, housekeeping etc.

Evening: Domus Australia: dinner

Sunday 19 November

Mass: Domus Australia

Morning: Introduction to the program:

- goals of the program and learning formats
- Dominion: the scandal of a crucified god: the strangeness of Christianity when it emerged in the ancient world

Lunch: Buy your own lunch

Afternoon: Guided walking tour

Evening: Domus Australia: Vespers (evening prayer) and reflection

Module 1: The Church and the West

An overview of key periods in the development of the Church and its influence in shaping the Western world, from the beginnings of Christianity to the mediaeval world.

1. FOUNDATIONS OF THE CHURCH

Monday 20 November

Theme: St Peter and St Paul, the foundations of the papacy

Reading: Dominion: St Paul and the GalatiansReader: The Gospels and the early persecutions

Visit: Abbey of the Three Fountains

Basilica of St Paul Outside the Walls; Basilica of St John Lateran

Evening: Domus Australia: Vespers and reflection

2. THE EARLY CHURCH AND CONSTANTINE

Tuesday 21 November

Theme: How Christianity changed Rome; the Emperor Constantine (280 - 337AD)

Reading: *Dominion:* made in the image of God

Dominion: Constantine and the Council of Nicaea

Reader: How Christianity changed the Roman world through care of women, the sick

and the poor

Visit: Catacombs of St Callisto with Mass
Evening: Domus Australia: Vespers and reflection



3. THE MEDIAEVAL CHURCH AND MONASTICISM

Wednesday 22 - Thursday 23 November

Theme: Monasticism: St Benedict, St Scholastica, St Francis and St Clare

Reading: Dominion: St Columbanus and the Irish monasteries

Reader: From the Rule of St Benedict, the Rule of St Francis, and *The Imitation of Christ* **Visit:** Assisi: departing afternoon of 22 November, returning evening of 23 November

Evening: Overnight in Assisi

Thursday 23 November

Mass: At the Tomb of St Francis of Assisi (Feast of St Columbanus)

Morning: Tour of the Basilica of St Francis and the Basilica of St Clare

Afternoon: Return to Rome

Evening: Domus Australia: Vespers and reflection

4. THE CHURCH IN THE EAST

Friday 24 November

Theme: Christianity, Judaism, Islam and the Crusades
Visit: Great Synagogue and Jewish Museum of Rome

Lunch: Kosher restaurant

Reading: Dominion: Jews, Muslims, Christians 630 - 751AD
 Reader: The founding of Constantinople; the Crusades
 Evening: Domus Australia: Briefing for visit to the Vatican

Vespers and reflection

Module 2: Ideas which shaped the Church and shaped the West

An exploration of some of the major ideas and challenges shaping the Church and the West, and how they influenced our understandings of politics, religion, knowledge and society.

5. THE RENAISSANCE

Saturday 25 November

Theme: Christianity and the classical world in art and philosophy

Visit: Vatican museums and the Sistine Chapel

Reader: Art and philosophy; faith and classical learning; Michelangelo's *Sonnets*

Evening: Domus Australia: Vespers and reflection

Sunday 26 November

Morning: Domus Australia: Mass (Feast of Christ the King)

Reader: Emperor Nero's persecution of Christians and the Great Fire of Rome 64AD

Afternoon: Visit to the Colosseum and the Basilica San Clemente

Evening: Domus Australia: Vespers and reflection

6. THE REFORMATION AND COUNTER-REFORMATION

Monday 27 November

Theme: Calvin, Knox, Luther and the Reformation in England; the Council of Trent

Reading: *Dominion:* Reformation

Reader: The Reformation in England; the Council of Trent and the Counter-Reformation **Visit:** Basilica Santa Maria Maggiore: *How to read a church and the celebration of*

the Mass

Evening: Domus Australia: Vespers and reflection



7. POLITICS AND RELIGION

Tuesday 28 November

Theme: The political influence of the papacy; separation of church and state

Visit: Palazzo Madama (Senate of Italy)

Reading: *Dominion:* pope vs emperor; separating church and state

Reader: Religious freedom and conscience in politics

Evening: Opera selections at the Opera Lirica, Palazzo Santa Chiara

Wednesday 29 November

Morning: St Peter's Basilica and General Audience with Pope Francis

Lunch: Buy your own on the walk back to Domus Australia

Afternoon: First of two writing tasks reflecting on learnings from the program

Evening: Domus Australia: Vespers and reflection

8. FAITH AND SCIENCE

Thursday 30 November

Theme: Religion, reason and knowledge

Visit: Castel Gandolfo and Vatican Observatory
Reading: Dominion: science, religion and Galileo
Reader: The Enlightenment; faith and reason
Evening: Domus Australia: Vespers and reflection

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Module 3: The democratic world and papal teaching

An introduction to the teaching of recent popes on democracy, the challenges of the modern world, and the Catholic response to them.

9. THE MODERN WORLD AND CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

Friday 1 December

Theme: The challenges of the modern era and the Church's response **Reading:** *Dominion:* democracy and the French and American revolutions

Reader: Excerpts from *Rerum Novarum* and *Centesimus Annus*

Afternoon: Free time ahead of departure to London on Saturday morning

Evening: Final dinner in Rome at Domus Australia

Saturday 2 December

Morning: Depart Domus Australia for airport

Afternoon: Depart for London; arrive at Langham Court Hotel in the evening

Sunday 3 December

Morning: Mass: Brompton Oratory

Reading: Excerpts from Winston Churchill's great 1940 speeches

Afternoon: Visit the Cabinet War Rooms; walking tour to the Australian War Memorial

and Buckingham Palace

Evening: Langham Court Hotel

10. TRUTH. KNOWLEDGE, JUSTICE

Monday 4 December

Theme: Truth and moral relativism; freedom and responsibility

Reading: Dominion: loss of faith and political extremism after World War I

Reader: Excerpts from *Veritatis Splendor* and *Laudato 'si*

Visit: Tower of London; memorials to St Thomas More and St John Fisher

Evening: Langham Court Hotel: Vespers and reflection

Tuesday 5 December

Morning: Day trip to Oxford University; seminar on St John Henry Newman

Mass: Oxford Catholic Chaplaincy

Afternoon: Lunch and walking tour of Oxford

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Evening: Return to London: Vespers and reflection



11. DEMOCRACY AND THE CHURCH

Wednesday 6 December

Theme: Democracy's origins in England; religion and reason in democratic life
 Reading: Dominion: capitalism, Marxism and Leninism in 19th and 20th centuries
 Reader: Edmund Burke; George Orwell; Benedict XVI on democracy and religion

Visit: Palace of Westminster (Parliament of Great Britain)

Evening: Langham Court Hotel: Vespers and reflection

12. A LIFE IN COMMON IN A FRAGMENTED WORLD

Thursday 7 December

Theme: Politics as friendship; our common home; how to build a good society **Reading:** *Dominion:* Christianity's power; how the weak shame the strong

Reader: Elements of political order; Aristotle on friendship; excerpts from *Fratelli Tutti*

Visit: British Museum

Evening: Langham Court Hotel: Vespers and reflection

Friday 8 December

Morning: Closing session: Monsignor Michael Nazir Ali

 $Disciple ship\ in\ a\ Secular\ World$

Second writing task reflecting on learnings from the program

Afternoon: Free time ahead of departure for home on Saturday

Evening: Mass: St Patrick's Church Soho (Feast of the Immaculate Conception)

Farewell dinner at Langham Court Hotel

Saturday 9 December

Morning: Return flight to Australia

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