



ACU CENTRE
FOR LITURGY

The Christian's Final Journey



Endorsed by the Australian
Catholic Bishops Conference

Formation for all involved in preparing and celebrating Catholic funerals



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This formation and professional learning program is designed for Roman Catholic clergy, funeral directors, parish pastoral care and frontline staff (including pastoral associates, parish secretaries, youth ministers and family faith educators), teachers, APREs and school staff, and anyone interested in learning more about how Catholics prepare and celebrate funerals. It investigates Catholic practices around burial and cremation, how to support those who grieve, and includes an opportunity to prepare a Catholic funeral for yourself or another person.

It will facilitate a conversation between clergy and funeral directors, incorporating problem-solving, sharing experiences, and identifying best practice for Catholic funerals informed by expert advice.

Session 1: Dying, death and rites for the journey to new life

Session 2: Planning your funeral and care of the grieving

Session 3a: Celebrating the Order of Christian Funerals

Session 3b: Clergy and funeral directors working cooperatively (professional learning)

Session 4: Do's and don'ts of Catholic funerals: identifying best practice

Open to the public, this pastoral formation day is offered in partnership with the MacKillop parish Charlestown and the parishes of Morisset, Toronto, Booragul and Boolaroo. ACU's Professor Clare Johnson will lead the day.

Date: 2 September 2025

Time: 9am – 5pm
(registration from 8.30am)

Venue:
St Mary MacKillop Parish Hall
7 Milson Street Charlestown

Registration Fee: \$60 per person (includes tea/coffee, lunch and a workbook) \$120 per person for funeral directors (includes tea/coffee, lunch, a workbook and five years' certification upon application)

Registration is essential by:
28 August 2025

Enquiries: 02 9701 4751 or
CentreforLiturgy@acu.edu.au

Registration:
acu.edu.au/pastoral-formation-funerals

