

CTC Net work

A fortnightly newsletter of Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College

IMPORTANT DATES

- 06 July - Academic Advisory Board Meeting
- 09 July - Level 7 Orientation
- 16 July - Board of Studies Meeting
- 23 July - Auckland Staff Meeting
- 30 July - Faculty Academic Seminar

ANNOUNCEMENT / PANUI

Safeguarding in the Catholic Church in Aotearoa New Zealand (SCCANZ)

CTC is offering an online course for those in Church leadership roles and anyone looking to gain a deeper understanding of safeguarding.

- Course takes up to 3 months
- Study at your own place and pace
- Cost is \$150 per person
- Includes two modules: Explore the background to safeguarding and examine the 5 safeguarding standards.

Next intakes start 01 July and 01 August. For more information, visit www.tekupenga.ac.nz/safeguarding or email [Susan Wilson](mailto:Susan.Wilson@teakupenga.ac.nz)

Dr Areti Metuamata on Maori Catholic History Project

Dr Areti Metuamata talks with Melania Luka-Lui about one of Te Kupenga's current research projects on Maori Catholics. See the interview [here](#).

Goodbye and Hello

Message from the Dean

The origin of the word "goodbye" comes from the old English phrase "God be with you". The expression was widely used as a brief parting prayer commencing in the 1500s and have evolved to its current usage.

In the next few days, we will be bidding Dr Areti Metuamata, Te Kupenga CEO and Fr Michael O'Connor SM "God be with you" as they pursue other activities outside of CTC.



Dr Areti and Fr Mick at the CTC Graduation on 11 June 2021.

We will be forever grateful to Areti for leading us these past two years as the inaugural CEO of Te Kupenga. He has laid solid foundations for the future of our organisation. Likewise, we are appreciative of the years of dedicated service of Fr Mick in the apostolate and especially the selfless service to the College.

CTC also warmly welcomes all our new students who are starting their journey with us. We hope that your stay with us will be an enriching opportunity to grow in your love for the Person and Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Nga mihi

John



FR MICK IS OFF ON A BREAK

Lachie Bartlett



Fr Michael O'Connor SM ("Fr Mick") is heading to Australia to enjoy a retreat at St Mary's Towers Retreat Centre just south of Sydney. Following the retreat, he's going to catch up with extended family while keeping a watchful eye on the Bledisloe Cup.

Here's a little background on Fr Mick.

After finishing up at the Marist Seminary (Greenmeadows) Fr Mick taught at St. Bede's, his old college for a year, in preparation for his missionary appointment in Fiji. Fr Mick moved to Fiji in 1971 and returned to New Zealand in 2018.

Fr Mick took up numerous roles in Fiji, initially being a teacher of Chemistry and Maths at St. John's College in Cawaci (Ovalau). He went on to be the Superior at Marist College (the Pacific Regional Seminary).

Upon completing a Doctorate through the University of Toronto, Fr Mick returned to Fiji in 1990. He was appointed Vicar Provincial of Marist Province of Oceania (1994-1999) and then Provincial (2000-2005). And from 2007-2008, he was on the staff at Marist College, and part time teacher, at Catholic Institute, Bomana, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.

His last appointment in Oceania was to be Rector at Pacific Regional Seminary in Suva, Fiji (2009-2017). He is a model for all of us in his spirit of service and his missionary zeal. Those who visited the communities he was at throughout Oceania frequently recall his endless hospitality, generosity and servanthood.

Joining the College Staff at the beginning of 2019, Fr Mick has not limited himself to just his role as "Advisor to the Dean" – reflecting all his roles in Oceania, Fr Mick if anything – is an "Advisor to Everyone." Always down for a laugh, providing advice and

pastorally supporting staff and students, Fr Mick embodies the Kaupapa of Te Kupenga.

Fr Mick is renowned for his ability to step into any role, his record email response time, his loving nature, the sweeping of the leaves in the carpark and ultimately his love for the Crusaders (the Winners of the REAL Super Rugby Competition.)

Fr Mick wishes the students of Te Kupenga the best for their continued studies and encourages us to enjoy our studies by making sure we enter deeply the opportunities that are presented to us. The onus is on all of us, staff and especially students to help each other make the most of these opportunities.

Fr Mick is also excited to follow the continuing development of pastoral care for distance students. For Te Kupenga as a whole – Fr Mick is looking forward to the move to St Columbus – a move that will be both a challenge and an important development for the College's future.

We pray for his journey and wish him all the best for his break. Fr Mick – your smile, your laugh your commitment to service will be missed. Ngā mihi nui ki a koe! Mā te wā! Enjoy your break.

FIRST CTC GRADUATION PHOTOS

