

CTC Net # work

A fortnightly newsletter of Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College

IMPORTANT DATES

- 07 February - Waitangi Day
- 18 February - Level 7 Orientation
- 21 February - Start of Semester 1
- 25 February - 2022 Academic Year Inaugural Mass

ANNOUNCEMENT / PANUI

We are looking for (1) Administrative Officer and (1) Auckland Site Coordinator, both on a part-time fixed contract based in Auckland. Click on the links to apply:

[Administrative Officer Job in Auckland - SEEK](#)

[Auckland Site Coordinator Job in Auckland - SEEK](#)



FREE ONLINE EVENT

CTC Lecturer in Moral Theology, Fr Bernard Teo CSsR will facilitate this event.

To register, click [HERE](#)

"And Jesus has this message for us: mercy. I think - and I say it with humility - that this is the Lord's most powerful message: mercy."
Pope Francis

MERCY: One key to understanding Pope Francis' papacy

Thursday, 24 February 2022
6:30-8:00pm
Via Zoom

Presenter:
Fr Bernard Teo CSsR
CTC Lecturer in Moral Theology

Register for free via Zoom
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/zoom/register/ZYpdeCtqTwIGNeYwHxMvGnR1RFD98uR773>

Message from the Dean

Dr John Evangelista

Nga mihi o te Tau Hou ki a koutou katoa. Happy 2022 to all.

A warm "welcome back" to all our faculty, staff, and students. I hope you all had a blessed Christmas and a much-deserved rest during the holiday break.

The 2022 academic year formally starts on the 21st of February which happens to be the feast day of St Peter Damian (doctor of the Church) whose "preaching was most eloquent and his writing voluminous". Our faculty will find in him a role model for their academic, research and pastoral endeavours.

NZQA have officially approved the change of the title of Bachelor of Theology to **Bachelor of Divinity** commencing this new academic year. This follows our new affiliation with the University of Notre Dame – Australia (UNDA) through the Catholic Institute of Sydney (CIS).

We are offering 33 new courses this semester towards the NZ Certificate in Christian Studies (Level 5) and NZ Diploma in Christian Studies (Level 6) in the different NZ dioceses (see CTC website for details).

We are also excited about the partnership we have forged with the Australian Catholic University (ACU) to offer the Graduate Certificate in Leadership and Catholic Culture (GCLCC) this year.

As we continue our "journey" in 2022, I echo the prayers of St John Paul II when he entrusted the new year in 2003 to Mary, the Mother of God: **May Mary help us discover the face of Jesus, Prince of Peace. May she support and accompany us in this new year; may she obtain for us and for the whole world the desired gift of peace! So be it!**

What's new at Colin Library

Mark Hangartner



Here is an excerpt from a recent article: Covid, Faith and the Fallibility of Science by Guy Consolmagno, SJ

Follow the science?

In the fight against the Covid pandemic, the scientific evidence in favor of vaccination is overwhelming. With this in mind, those who see universal vaccination as the only way to bring the pandemic to an end will often invoke the mantra: "follow the science." As a slogan it would seem to have a certain appeal; it builds on the confidence in science as a path to truth that our society has come to accept since the Enlightenment. But the evidence at hand suggests that this slogan is actually not a particularly effective motivator. ...

I write as the Director of the Vatican Observatory. I am both a scientist and a member of the Catholic Church. I am well familiar with both scientific and clerical authority, and those who are skeptical of either.

How you can read it: It is linked from our catalogue but probably the best way is to save this URL as a weekly appointment in your calendar at a time you want to spend reading: [La Civiltà Cattolica - Catholic periodical from Rome \(oclc.org\)](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/zoom/register/ZYpdeCtqTwIGNeYwHxMvGnR1RFD98uR773). If you are used to reading on a mobile phone or Ipad it works quite well. For desktop computer users it displays very clearly too on a bigger screen.



CTC Staff Feature

Rev Dr Mervyn Duffy SM

Know more about your lecturers and staff. In this issue, we talked to Fr Merv and here is what he has to say:

Tell us something about yourself.

I am a Marist priest, born in Greymouth, brought up in Nelson and Christchurch. I taught in secondary schools and have now been lecturing at tertiary level for about 20 years.

What professional activity/research are you busy with these days?

Administration tends to get in the way of research. I have an interest in NZ Church History and have been running a wiki featuring English translations of the letters of the French Marists who were the first Catholic missionaries in Western Oceania.

If you could write a book about your life, what would the title be?

"Why are You Reading This?"

Who is/are the persons that have made the most impression on you?

My parents.

What is your favourite Gospel passage/scene?

John the Baptist advising two of his disciples "Behold the Lamb of God!" (John 1:35ff)

Name 3 books that you have really enjoyed reading.

The Lord of the Rings by JRR Tolkien, *Anathem* by Neal Stephenson, *Babel-17* by Samuel Delany – yes, I am a fan of Science Fiction.

What would we most likely find you doing on the weekend?

Reading

What's the top destination on your must-visit list?

Christchurch – that's where the rest of my family live.



What's one of your favourite memories from the past year?

Christmas in Christchurch

If you could make one rule for everyone in the world to follow, what would it be?

I think I have been beaten to this idea but "Treat others as you would have them treat you."

Fr Merv is the Assistant Dean and Programme Head of the Bachelor and Graduate Diploma programmes.

Michelangelo: A Different View

Dr Christopher Longhurst

The exhibition '[Michelangelo: A Different View](#)' at Auckland's Aotea Centre this Summer has attracted unprecedented interest. The exhibition was originally born out of an idea from The Stetson Group to give New Zealanders an opportunity to see up close and from 'a different view' the Florentine sculptor's sumptuous frescoes in the Vatican's Sistine Chapel. However, this 'different view' has given another view, perhaps raising more questions than providing answers. As participants flock to see what lies behind the literal meaning of Michelangelo's highly allegorical frescoes, they discover a synthesis of diverse branches of knowledge informing complex theological ideas such as the meaning of Genesis 1:26: "Let us make humans ('ā-dām/anthrōpon) in our image, according to our likeness."

More than a tremendous success as far as art exhibits go, 'Michelangelo: A Different View' has provided the public with philosophical and theological knowledge prior to any



learned perception of what belief in God or creation could possibly mean. It was exciting to see some viewers interpret the *Creation of Adam* from Māori perspectives: Sky Father Ranginui and Earth Mother Papatūānuku separating as a moral rational creature is born, *te tangata*. More intimate were connections between land (*whenua*) symbolised by a woman (Papatūānuku) and [placenta](#) [God] (*whenua*) symbolised by a

massive womb and giant brain from which *tānagta* come into existence. To the sixteenth-century Florentine sculptor energised by cutting up human cadavers and reading prohibited literature, it meant the highest possible synthesis of knowledge.

The Stetson Group has offered New Zealanders not only another angle to physically view Michelangelo's ceiling, but also the chance to discover again how one of the most complex ideas in the history of civilisation – the human as an image of the divine, is accessible through studies in human biology, physiology, cognitive psychology, obstetrics, neuro-physics, quantum chemistry, heliocentricity, philosophy, and cosmology all synthesised through theology in an early sixteenth century painting. In the effect, Michelangelo made these diverse fields of knowledge *universus*, 'turned towards' (*versare*) the 'one' (*uni*), from which we get the word 'university.' He essentially transformed the popes' chapel at the Vatican into a beautiful micro-university.

New Learning Platforms

Our L5 and 6 faculty and students will revert back to using Canvas as its Learning Management System while L7 will be using Blackboard as its Virtual Learning Environment and Learning Management System. Materials currently found in Moodle will continue to be accessible for faculty and students.

TIMETABLES OUT NOW

Click [HERE](#)

SUMMER PHOTOS

Share with us your best summer photos for a chance to win a special voucher prize! Email your photo to newsletter@ctc.ac.nz on or before 15 February.

