

# Tolle Lege



CATHOLIC  
THEOLOGICAL  
COLLEGE

*November 2014*



## At the End of the Year

The poet, T. S. Eliot (in *The Four Quartets*) once famously remarked:

*What we call the beginning is often the end.  
And what we call an end is to make a beginning.  
The end is where we start from.*

This juxtaposing of the words 'end' and 'beginning' allows for several layers of meaning. Life can be like that. Several 'layers' of meaning can inhabit the same situation or event. For some of our readers this semester might mark the 'end' of their time at CTC. That 'end', of course, sprang from a 'beginning', a conscious decision to embark on a study of theology. For those who are at this 'end', one hopes that your time at CTC has proved both enjoyable and profitable. In so far as this 'end' is a 'beginning', one hopes that you still find the reading of theology attractive and enriching. One of the forms of dismissal at Mass is 'Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord'. May your reading of theology equip and encourage you to do just that as you 'gossip the gospel' in a myriad of social situations. It has been good to have had you amongst us as a member of a community of faith and scholarship: may the future be brimming over with blessings! For those who will be back next semester, we hope you come to the new academic year refreshed and reinvigorated. And to all, a very Blessed Christmas and New Year!

## Appointment of Deputy Master at CTC

At its meeting on Thursday 6 November, the CTC Senate elected Dr Frances Baker rsm as Deputy Master of the College for a third term of four years.

Sr Frances has had wide experience in educational administration and after her Doctorate in Theology at the Gregorian Pontifical University in Rome lectured at Australian Catholic University and Jesuit Theological College and in recent years at CTC. The Deputy Master continues to exercise an important pastoral, academic and administrative role in the CTC community. We wish Dr Baker every blessing for this new term of office.



## New Bishops for Melbourne – the CTC Connection

All readers will be delighted to learn that the Holy Father has appointed as Auxiliary Bishops in Melbourne Dr Terry Curtin and Dr Mark Edwards omi. With pride we note that both the new Bishops appointed to the Archdiocese have strong links with CTC.

Most Rev. Terry Curtin was Master of the College from 2003–2010. He has been Head of the Systematic Theology department since then. Prior to his time at CTC, he was an eminent academic at the Australian Catholic University for many years. In addition to his role at the College, he is also presently parish priest of St Bridget's, Greythorn, and has been Episcopal Vicar of the Eastern Region of the Archdiocese for the past three years.



Most Rev. Mark Edwards omi was a student at CTC from 1980–1986, and was involved again with the College from 1998 through his role at the Oblates' St Mary's Seminary and his doctoral studies at Monash University. He lectured in the CTC Philosophy department from 2005–2010. Since 2010 he has been rector of Iona College in Brisbane.

All at CTC will wish both bishops every blessing as they enter this new stage of their ministry. All are welcome to attend their episcopal ordination will be at St Patrick's Cathedral, East Melbourne, on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm.

## Strategic Plan 2015-2018

This might sound a rather theoretical issue, but a good deal of energy has been devoted to a new Strategic Plan for the College. It sets out the College's commitment to developing and revising units and courses in response to the needs of students and the wider church. It also gives a framework for the College to work with its sponsors in providing for new lecturers, and giving greater opportunities for professional development of faculty. Listening to the hopes and concerns of all members of the College community is an important aspect of developing the Strategic Plan. The College's Academic Board recommended the plan to the Senate, which earlier this month warmly welcomed it and endorsed it.

## Essay Prizes

The time for anxious worry over completing essays on time is happily over. But did you know that your essay might be worth a prize? The College offers a \$500 prize for an outstanding essay in six areas: Systematic Theology, Biblical Studies, Church History, Liturgy, Moral Theology, and Pastoral Studies. The essay in Pastoral Studies is a new prize sponsored by the SRC, which for the last two years sponsored a prize in Philosophy. To be eligible, essays must be at least 1,500 words in length, and should have been submitted in a 2014 CTC unit beyond first level. Students can nominate an essay for these prizes by providing the Academic Records Office with a clean copy of the essay before the end of December.

## CTC Student Consultation



As part of the development of the College's new strategic plan (see above), in September this year students were offered an opportunity to express their views on a wide range of issues about the College's operation and future development. Almost 20% of students responded to the email invitation, with the response rate being highest among those doing higher degrees by research. The respondents offered many suggestions as to how the College might better serve students. Thus, while there was widespread satisfaction that Library resources are 'comprehensive and accessible', some suggested that some borrowing of reserve items might be possible. Likewise there was warm appreciation of the units and courses offered suiting students' needs and interests, and help for ESL students was also commended. Facilities of the College (such as the Student Common Room) were appreciated though some would like a 'makeover' of the Student Common Room. Pleasing everyone regarding heating/cooling in the library and in lecture and class rooms evidently proves somewhat beyond the capabilities of technology.

It is important that all members of the college community realise that their views are important, and every effort is made to make adjustments and changes as appropriate and possible. Some challenges remain: for instance, making us all sensitive to, and appreciative of, the wider community of Colleges comprising the University of Divinity is something for all to ponder.





## Ordinations and Professions

Over these weeks we are treated to a joyful round of Ordinations and Professions as some of our students take significant steps in their vocation:

**Izak Belyanan mgl**  
**Ordained as a Priest**



**Sayyane Xayavong omi**  
**Perpetual Profession**



**Lenin Thenamirthan mgl**  
**Ordained as a Deacon**



**Danilo Jumonong**  
**Permanent Diaconate**



**Isuru Weliwarre mgl**  
**Ordained as a Deacon**



**Arun Michael Charles sdb**  
**Ordained as a Deacon**



**Nicholas Tanau, op**  
**Ordained as a Deacon**



**Cristopher Creo**  
**Permanent Diaconate**



**Carnilo Daculan**  
**Permanent Diaconate**



To each and all of these we wish every good wish for these occasions  
and great joy in their service of the Gospel.

## Honorary Research Fellow



From time to time, the University of Divinity appoints Honorary Researchers who contribute to the University's research activities in collaboration with one of the University's Colleges. Dr Race Mathews has recently been appointed as an Honorary Research Fellow. Race has just completed his second Doctorate (Doctor of Theology) for a thesis on Catholic Social teaching which was highly commended by the examiners. Race has served in numerous roles in a long career in public life. From 1967 to 1971 he was Principal Private Secretary to the Leader of the Opposition in Federal Parliament (E. G. Whitlam), from 1972-1975 he was MP for Casey in the Federal Parliament, and from 1979 to 1992 was MP for Oakleigh in the Legislative Assembly of Victoria. In this latter capacity he held several ministerial

portfolios including that for the Arts. He will undertake ongoing research work in association with CTC, and will make a valuable contribution to the College's scholarly community as one who will keep alive an awareness of an important strand of Catholic Social teaching.

## Farewell to Rev. Dr Joseph Vnuk OP

In 2015, Fr Joseph Vnuk OP will be taking up the post of President of the Catholic Theological Institute at Bomana in PNG. We take this opportunity to thank Fr Joseph for his time at CTC and wish him every blessing in his new post.



### **Fr Joseph writes:**

*"When do women sing?" I asked Stanley, who was struggling to write an essay on the Magnificat. The answer of this Sepik tribesman helped me put the Cantic of Mary into its biblical context better than anything I had read: "Women sing when the men come back from a fight." When I return to Catholic Theological Institute, Port Moresby, I shall be responsible for the theological education of 130 seminarians like Stanley. There is extraordinary potential for the Gospel to shed its light on Melanesian cultures, which will enrich the Church not only locally but also universally. It is no small task: although CTI has roughly the same number of full-time equivalent students as CTC, it has less than half the staff, fewer classrooms, a smaller library, a fraction of the budget, and the primary and secondary schools that have prepared the students are even less well-equipped. This is not to mention the power*

*failures, the malarial mosquitoes, and the occasional poisonous snake. I thank God for calling me to this work, and ask that with his grace I may do my little bit for the spread of the Gospel. Not that I leave CTC behind completely: the Master has promised that the College will offer support in the little ways that it can. We shall have some interesting and I hope fruitful years ahead.*



## Welcome to Catherine Place

*Tolle Lege* is pleased to note the return to the College of a former member of our community Mrs Catherine Place as a Research and Publications Assistant. Catherine, who worked for many years as a secondary teacher, did an honours degree at CTC between the years 1986–1992. Towards the end of that time she became a tutor at Corpus Christi Seminary while also working for the Melbourne Office for Worship. After spending ten years at the Catholic Education Office researching and writing for *RESource*, a website designed to support teaching and learning in Religious Education, she retired, but is happy to be here at CTC, a day or two a week. She will be working with postgraduate and research students preparing papers, and assisting with the review of articles for publication.

## Another notable departure ...

On Saturday 8 November, 2014 the CTC Study Tour of Biblical Lands departed from Tullamarine. The Tour is led by Dr Rosemary Canavan, Academic Dean of CTC and Senior Lecturer in Biblical Studies, and Fr Tony Dean CM, the Head of the Biblical Studies department. The seventeen members of the group will be visiting Israel, Jordan, Turkey and Greece. They were farewelled at the airport by the Deputy Master of CTC, Dr Frances Baker rsm, and our Travel Agent, Miss Maureen O'Dwyer (of Pan Australian Travel). We wish all the participants a pleasant, enriching and safe pilgrimage.

