



Tolle Lege

June 2013

Catholic Theological College MCD University of Divinity

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MCD University of Divinity Graduation Ceremony

The annual Graduation at St Paul's Cathedral on Thursday May 2 offered an occasion to reflect on what our university seeks to achieve. Through Colleges such as CTC, the University strives to "empower our learning community to address the issues of the contemporary world through critical engagement with Christian theological traditions" (MCD Vision, December 2012).

This calls for each of us to seek an "excellence in learning, teaching, and research; stewardship of our resources; and engagement with the churches and community in Australia and internationally" (MCD Mission, December 2012).

Thus an event such as a graduation never simply marks the completion of a process, though it recognizes a genuine achievement for those graduating. It is also a call to face the future: It is hoped that our "Graduates are equipped for further critical study, especially of Christian texts and traditions;" that they are able and willing to "articulate theological insight and reflection ... [and] communicate informed views through structured argument." Graduates should be ready to "engage with diverse views, contexts and traditions ... [and] prepared for the service of others" in Church and society. (MCD Graduate Attributes, December 2012)

The College salutes the 55 CTC students who graduated this year, and wishes them well for the many and varied ways in which they will seek to place their achievements at the service of the Gospel.

Bachelor of Theology

Patrick Bertrand Arahataru
Ashley Stuart Caldwell
Karl Anthony Emerick
Joseph Henry John Leach
George Piech Meat

Elie Azzi
Christopher Creo
Deirdre Margaret Fennessy
Marteen Julie Luby
Michael Steven Romeo

Matthew Peter Baldwin
Melanie Joy Edwards
Dario Juric
Henry Natowosi
Jacqueline Anette Rozario

Bachelor of Theology (Honours)

Nicholas Keng Swee Pang

Bachelor of Theology and Diploma in Philosophy

Deng Chuor

Bachelor of Theology and Advanced Diploma in Philosophy

Sang Ngoc Ho

Diploma in Theology

Damiana Francesca Alvares

Minh The Le

Tut Gatluak Wicthiel

Graduate Certificate in Teaching Religious Education

Gabrielle Ann Bright
Kathren Nanille Melouka

Alanna Jade Butcher
Brendan David Nicholls

Simone Maree Gannon
Briony Christine Parker

Graduate Certificate in Theology

Kate Amber Avallone
Weerasuriya Arachchige Shammi

Mark David Gliddon

Phiranant Numkanisorn
Nilantha Perera

Graduate Diploma in Theology

Mary Majella Cahill
Matthew Francis Johnson
Geraldyn Mary McCarthy
Flavia Maria Vodak

Shannon John Donahoo
Susan Margaret Kempen
Adrian McConnell
Helen Mary Walsh

Michael Thomas Harkin
Judith Maree Lamb
Mishel Stefanac

Advanced Diploma in Theology

Mary-Anne Pisani

Master of Arts (Pastoral Care)

Kevin Rodney O'Sullivan

Master of Arts (Theology), Grad Dip Biblical Studies & Grad Dip Liturgy

Philip King

Master of Arts (Theology) & Graduate Diploma in Theology

Aaron Matthew Lane

Master of Arts (Theology)

Peter Hinawai

Master of Theological Studies

Christopher Joseph Eaton
Rita Mouchacca

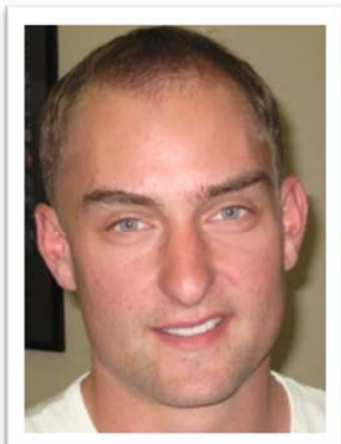
Jangwon Hong
Kevin James Pattison

Andrew Peter McCarter

Others Noted at the Graduation

Master of Arts (Theology), Graduate Diploma in Theology and CTC Nominee for Vice-Chancellor's Scholar

Aaron Lane



Aaron's initial interest in studying theology was fuelled by the enthusiasm of a zealous convert, baptized and confirmed in 2008 and enrolling at CTC in 2009. Initially interested in the rich history and tradition of the Church he became increasingly interested in moral theology, culminating in a 12,000 research essay and being awarded the Thomas Shortall prize in both 2012 and again in 2013. As a lawyer he has found theology particularly useful in reflecting on ethical issues, in engaging in law as a vocation, and in thinking about the role of religious belief in the law and public life. He has found that theological study deepened and matured his faith and is very grateful to CTC for guidance and support along this journey.

Graduating with Higher Degrees by Research

Rev. Jerome Santamaria – Master of Theology

Completing the M.Theol. was the final stage in my academic preparation for ordination. Fr Connell helped me to focus on Walter Kasper's understanding of freedom as central to the mystery of Christ, true God and true man, as described in his book, *The God of Jesus Christ*. Writing the minor dissertation allowed me to spend time coming to grips with this mystery in its many aspects. A pleasing part of the project was that in working through such a dense text I could see just how much CTC had given me through the many courses in scripture, philosophy and theology.



Rev. Shane Hocter – Master of Theology

Fr Shane Hocter is the Parish Priest of Reservoir and East Reservoir. He became interested in the Eucharistic Sermons of Monsignor Ronald Knox after corresponding with the late Fr Philip Caraman SJ (the editor of the published collected sermons of Knox). From 1926 Knox preached annually at Corpus Christi Church, Maiden Lane, London, on the patronal feast. Even before his conversion from Anglicanism, Knox had accepted the doctrine of the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. His sermons exhibit his love of Scripture, the depth and consistency of his thought, and are relevant for contemporary Eucharistic devotion. Shane's thesis was *The Eucharistic*

Sermons of Ronald Knox.

Rev. Dr Phillip Gleeson sdb – Doctor of Theology

After 15 years in school leadership, the life of a research student was inviting, yet challenging. As I became immersed in the writings of Roger Haight it was obvious that his particular understanding of "today" held the hermeneutical key to understanding his theological method. Once that focus was in place, the thesis unfolded with the usual ups and downs, under the watchful eye of my supervisor, Salesian colleague, Rev. Prof. Frank Moloney sdb AM. Guided by his mantra "write, write, write" I overcame writer's block on more than one occasion! I enjoy teaching Academic Writing and Christology at CTC and supervising some Theological Synthesis candidates. Next semester I venture to Geelong as part of the "Graduate Certificate in Teaching Religious Education" program. My ongoing research interests are in Christology, Trinity and Theology in a contemporary context.



Sr. Margaret Mary Brown OP – ACU Honorary Doctorate

Warmest congratulations to Sr Margaret Mary OP who was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by Australian Catholic University for services to education. When 29 Margaret Mary was appointed head of the newly established college which eventually became ACU's Signadou campus in Canberra.

Originally from Coleraine Victoria, Margaret Mary followed her brother into the Dominican Order and has been an inspirational teacher in Canberra, Sydney, Melbourne and Hobart. One of the first recipients of a Churchill Fellowship, Margaret Mary also served as principal of Dominican schools in Hobart and Melbourne, been a consultant for Dominican Schools, served on the Dominican Leadership Team and been Pastoral Associate in East Camberwell and then in Ballarat North. We are fortunate to have Margaret Mary at CTC assisting students develop academic skills and preparing regular digests of articles and books to help staff keep up to date with new acquisitions in the library.



MCD University of Theology First Professors



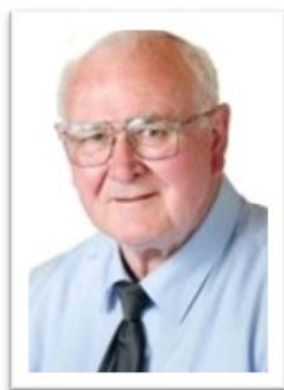
The Ten Professors

Back: Professors Terry Fella (Whitley), Brendan Byrne sj (JTC/UFT), Austin Cooper omi AM (CTC), Andrew McGowan (Trinity/UFT), Christiaan Mostert (UCTC/UFT)

Front: Maryanne Confoy rsc (JTC/UFT), Norman Ford sdb (CTC), Ian Waters (CTC), Mark Brett (Whitley)

Photo reproduced by kind permission Southern Studios

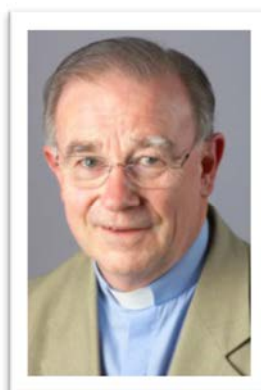
Professor Norman Ford sdb



Professor Norman Ford SDB, was on the planning committee of Catholic Theological College and strongly supported its association with the MCD. He has taught Philosophy and Healthcare Ethics for

many years. He favours teaching as distinct from lecturing: what is understood is remembered. He served on the MCD Board of Studies (BTheol) 1979–95, chairing it 1991–95. He was Master of CTC 1986–95 and supported CTC's affiliation with Monash University. He was Vice-President of the MCD 1989–91, President 1991–93 and Visiting Fellow for six months 1993–94 at Clare Hall, Cambridge. He was appointed a Scholar in Residence for 2008 by Catholic Health Australia.

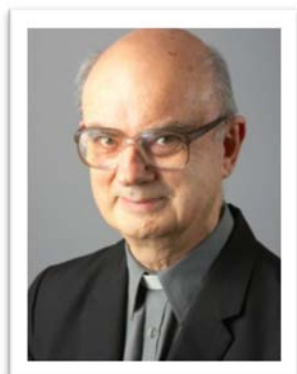
Professor Ian Waters



Professor Ian Waters has had a long career in lecturing in Canon Law at CTC. As a Canonist he is widely respected throughout Australian and internationally, presenting papers at Conferences and advising numerous

Church leaders and organizations and serving on the Melbourne Tribunal. In recent years he has played a major role in assisting religious congregations face the restructuring of their ministries. He has a great interest in Australian Church History and has contributed the article on James Cardinal Knox to the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*. Father Ian is also parish priest of the parishes of Glen Iris and South Camberwell.

Professor Austin Cooper omi AM



Professor Cooper's main historical interests centre on the nineteenth and twentieth centuries and the Oxford Movement in particular which was the subject of his doctorate. This topic forms part of Austin's wider interest in the English speaking tradition of spirituality. He has published widely in these fields over his academic career, having taught Church History at CTC since its inception in 1972 and Christian Spirituality since 1983. He has served as Master of CTC and President of MCD and was awarded the AM in 2004 for services to theological education.

Student Representative Council 2013

Charles Arun Michael sdb - President

I am a Salesian Missionary in Cambodia. The past ten years has been a lovely Salesian journey filled with lovely people and experiences. I find fulfilment in my apostolate with the refugees and am interested in youth counselling. I like to be busy and so prepare a schedule for everything and follow it. I like to go on long walks, exercise, cycling and watching movies. The Eucharist is the centre of my day and gives me strength and I enjoy mass music.



Fiona Bradley – Vice President

With pride in my Scottish roots (except perhaps the part about being a direct descendent of a founder of the Presbyterian Church, John Knox) and years of living in the land of kilts, I am known to roll my Rs, have a fiery red-headed temper, and be quite partial to the occasional dram of Speyside single malt. When I'm not studying I am busy with my part-time work in palliative care, voluntary works of various natures, and enhancing such ladylike qualities as needlework, appreciation of fine arts, and playing at being a hostess with the mostess!



Lenin Thenamirtham MGL – Treasurer

I am in my sixth year with Missionaries of God's Love and come from India. I love spicy food, Bollywood and cricket of course but above all I love the Lord. I would like to change the world, I know it's not easy but I will make differences in ways that I can. And what else can I say? My favourite scripture verse is: "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God." (John 6:68)



Michael Buck – Secretary

I am a seminarian studying for the Archdiocese of Melbourne in my second year of formation at Corpus Christi College. Before entering the seminary I was a student at St. Bede's College, Mentone, a school run by the De La Salle Brothers. I spend my free time with family and friends, often catching up over coffee or a nice meal. I see my vocation as a great gift, and I look forward to serving the Church in Melbourne as a priest in the future. I hope that my time on the SRC may be of some benefit to other students and the College.



Robert Krishna OP

Born in India in 1980, I moved to Australia in 1998. I am a convert from Anglicanism, and came to the Catholic Church in 2003, brought here by the Real Presence of Christ in the Church and the Eucharist, and the witness of the Catholics I encountered. I lived in Sydney for twelve years, and joined the Order of Preachers (Dominicans) in 2010, making simple profession in 2011. I am currently undertaking a Bachelor of Theology at CTC. I am interested in the North African fathers, Scripture, and medieval history. I also enjoy sacred music, Film Noir, and the novels of P. G. Wodehouse and Evelyn Waugh.



Juliet Ngauamo

I was born in New Zealand but have spent most of my life living here in Melbourne. My parents are from Tonga and I have 5 other siblings; all of whom I love. I decided to study theology because there was always something about it that I found captivating. I'm glad I did because my theological studies have so far challenged most of what I thought I already knew. I love being in the company of friends and family. I also enjoy short walks, reading interesting novels and writing.



Antony Samy Thomas OMI



Praised be His Holy Name! I'm an Oblate Scholastic from Chennai-India, 25 years, and the third of four children. This is my 7th year in Oblate formation. Having graduated in Christian Studies from Chennai University, I completed my two years of philosophy at *Dharmaram Vidhya Kshetram* in Bangalore where I also worked with the Aids & Leprosy Rehabilitation Centre. Apart from that, I undertook pastoral ministry in diocesan and Oblate parishes for two years, and served in a home for the elderly for a while. Now I'm looking forward to helping the ministry of the Oblates in the Australian Province.

Student Representatives on Academic Board

Each year, two members of the SRC represent the student body as members of the CTC Academic Board. This year, Michael Buck and Antony Samy Thomas OMI have taken on this responsibility.

A Surprise and an Honour for the Associate Dean, Dr Rosemary Canavan

An email arrived in my inbox a couple of weeks ago which stood out as it bore the name of 'Vernon Robbins'. I have not met him but I have read and reread his books in the process of my thesis and subsequently my book. I adapted his model of the socio-rhetorical approach in the development of 'visual exegesis'. His email began, "I feel like I have been living under a rock! Only this morning have I opened your remarkable book, *Clothing the Body of Christ at Colossae*. Thank you and congratulations on your remarkably accomplished application of socio-rhetorical interpretation to visual exegesis in this volume."

I was stunned! In my insecurity as a doctoral candidate I turned down the suggestion of Professor Robbins as an examiner in case he did not like what I had done with his model. How wrong could I be! Not only was Professor Robbins complimentary about my book, he invited me to come to speak at the Rhetoric in Religious Antiquity Group which meets just prior to the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL) Annual Meeting in Baltimore in Nov this year. In addition he asked if my paper for the Annual Meeting could be included in the upcoming co-edited volume by himself and Roy Jeal tentatively titled *Biblical Interpretation from Christian Art to Cognitive Science: Visual Exegesis and Rhetography*, with essays to be completed and submitted during December 2014. Of course I accepted. An honour indeed!



Knox Lecture: *Dei Verbum* Today

Report by Laura Meli

Article reproduced from *Kairos Catholic Journal*

ONE year ago, the annual Knox Lecture marked the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council. On Wednesday 15 May, Professor Harold W. Attridge, Sterling Professor of Divinity at Yale University, Dean of Yale School of Divinity 2002–12 and current Visiting Research Scholar to MCD University of Divinity, continued to reflect on that ‘watershed event in the life of the Church’ with a lecture on ‘*Dei Verbum* Today: Reading the Bible in the 21st Century’.

To open the 2013 Knox Lecture, hosted by Catholic Theological College (CTC), Professor Attridge began with the opening lines of *Dei Verbum*:

Hearing the word of God with reverence and proclaiming it with faith ... this present council wishes to set forth authentic doctrine on divine revelation and how it is handed on, so that by hearing the message of salvation the whole world may believe, by believing it may hope, and by hoping it may love.

Professor Attridge recalled that this dogmatic constitution essentially outlines the theology of revelation contained in Scripture. It then ‘affirms the importance of sacred tradition alongside Scripture, not as Scripture’s master but as its faithful expression. Building on this notion of revelation through Scripture it professes the doctrine of inspiration, that the Holy Spirit inspires sacred authors in order that they consign to writing “everything and only those things which he, the spirit, wanted”.’

In asserting such a ‘strong and identifiable stance’ on the doctrine of inspiration, however, *Dei Verbum* ‘insists that an ancient text must be recognised as such and interpreted in the light of the conventions of the time and of its composition’. In other words, it recommends and endorses historical, critical study of Scripture, taking into account scriptural passages in the context of the whole.

Professor Attridge paused to reflect on the arduous process of creating this document and highlighted the participation of leading theologians and their collaboration with the Fathers of the council. In particular three prominent theologians stand out: Joseph Ratzinger, Karl Rahner and Jean Danielou.



According to Professor Attridge, *Dei Verbum* achieved three major conceptual breakthroughs. First, it bought about a 'new and compelling way of thinking about revelation', not in a dogmatic way but so as to 'invite humanity into an ongoing and deepening relationship with God'. Second, it endorsed critical biblical scholarship. Last, it signalled that critical biblical scholarship should be ecumenically engaged.



These conceptual breakthroughs had two practical consequences. It encouraged the faithful to read Scripture and renounced the Church's monopoly of scriptural interpretation. This openness also encouraged the laity to become scholars of Scripture. '*Dei Verbum* enshrined a stance of openness to critical inquiry regarding scriptural study.'

In 1993, the Pontifical Biblical Council presented *The Interpretation of the Bible in the Church*, which looks at the proliferation of methods of analysis and suggests that these can help to shed light on biblical text. At the same time, it reminded the faithful that these approaches have a potential downside, of reducing the significance of a text or ignoring its religious claims. It is therefore important to be constantly aware of Sacred Scripture as God's eternal word.

Over the past 50 years critical biblical scholarship has given us a profound appreciation for the person of Jesus Christ. It is this ever-deepening understanding of Christ and his message of salvation to which interpretation of Sacred Scripture should be directed.

Following the lecture, Professor Attridge answered questions from the audience and Dr Rosemary Canavan, Associate Dean (Postgraduate and Research) at CTC, offered a vote of thanks. She expressed appreciation for Professor Attridge and his encouragement that 'in our endeavour of biblical interpretation' that 'we may come to believe, and in believing we may hope, and in hoping we may love'.

