



Welcome to "Frank's News" - a community newsletter for our St Francis College friends and supporters.

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Dear Readers,

This Advent I have enjoyed reading Sally Colin-James' *One Illuminated Thread*. This novel intertwines the stories of three women: in the time of Herod, Elizabeth yearns for child; in Renaissance Florence, the wife of a painter of *The Visitation* struggles to find the perfect white paint and in contemporary Australia, a textile conservator restores a tapestry of the Visitation. These stories of resilience, creativity and hope in the midst of yearning, suffering and oppression reflect the call of Advent – to wait actively with hope, peace, joy and love for the coming of Christ. This Advent Season we particularly pray for the coming of the Prince of Peace into our world as the war in Gaza continues, the number of refugees and displacement people across the world grows and as a world community we struggle to make decisions about living on the planet in a sustainable way.

Enrolments for semester one 2024 are now open and a full listing of University of Divinity

units offered at St Francis College is available below. We have a new offering, with the Rev'd Assoc. Prof. Matthew Anstey (who is currently working on a new translation of the Psalms) teaching a unit on the Psalms with an intensive March 1-2 followed by Tuesday evening webinars. When auditing (attending classes for no credit) with the University of Divinity, participants have access to the online teaching materials and an enrolment process needs to be completed with our Dean of Students, Dr Sheilagh O'Brien to take up this great opportunity to study the Psalms.

The SFC Certificate in Anglican Theology and Practice

<https://www.stfran.qld.edu.au/atpcertificate> is a great new resource that you may like to do or recommend to a friend interested in learning more about our faith.

The Young Adults Retreat will be held in February and I encourage you to invite and perhaps sponsor a young person from your community to attend.

For those interested in further study, the University of Divinity now offers a Doctor of Professional Practice <https://divinity.edu.au/courses/doctor-of-professional-practice> which provides an opportunity to research an area of ministry. The Graduate Certificate in Research Methodology <https://divinity.edu.au/courses/graduate-certificate-research-methodology/> provides a pathway for this as well as for M.Phil. and Ph.D.

The Roscoe Library has great resources for lectionary Year B. If you are looking for Lenten Study materials, I recommend *God's Own Country*, the 2024 ABM Lenten Study in which "First Nations leaders and clergy from the Anglican Church generously offer theological insights and personal reflections that help us to hear the VOICE of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people of faith." <https://www.abmission.org/resources/studies/>. Grassroots 2024 Lent Study is written by Bishop Peter Stuart (Newcastle Diocese) and is called *Safetynet* *Discipleship* <https://www.grassroots.com.au/Studybooks/StudyBk.htm>. There are a number of interesting conferences in 2024, starting with the Clergy Summer School; please check the list at the end of this e-news.

Christmas
Ruth

Blessings,

ORDINATIONS OF PRIESTS & DEACONS



Congratulations to those who were ordained deacons and priests by Bishop Administrator Bishop Cameron Venables in St John's Cathedral, on Saturday.

Please keep our Diocesan community's new deacons (The Rev'd Lynette Kareta, The Rev'd Edward Starr, The Rev'd Lauren Martin and The Rev'd Courtney Smith) and priests (The Rev'd Gerard Bahre, The Rev'd Peter Jongkuch, The Rev'd Quinn Humphreys, The Rev'd Mamuor Kun Peter and The Rev'd Jane Markotsis) in your prayers as they serve in their calls to ordained ministry, as well as their families and loved ones.

A highlight of the ceremony was hearing Bishop Cam ordaining our two new South Sudanese priests in their Dinka language.



SFC CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR HOURS

 **ST FRANCIS**
COLLEGE
ANGLICAN CHURCH
SOUTHERN QUEENSLAND

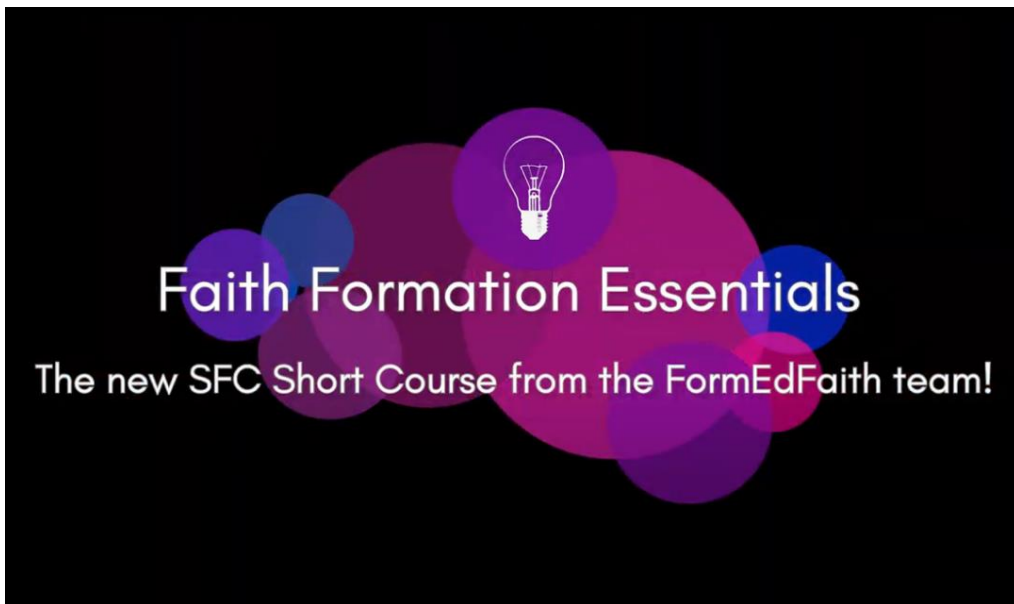
ADMINISTRATION WILL CLOSE
12PM FRIDAY 22ND DECEMBER 2023
AND REOPEN AT
9AM ON MONDAY 8TH JANUARY 2024



THE ROSCOE LIBRARY WILL CLOSE
4:30PM TUESDAY 19TH DECEMBER 2023
AND REOPEN AT
9:30AM ON WEDNESDAY 10TH JANUARY 2024

Please note our Christmas closures.

NEW SFC SHORT COURSE - FAITH FORMATION ESSENTIALS



St Francis College is proud to announce “Faith Formation Essentials”, a new SFC Short Course, is now available!

Faith Formation Essentials is a course to give you the tools to understand faith and how to nurture it in the communities where you are.

- 6 episodes
- Easy to use workbook
- Do it solo or with a group

[Watch the trailer](#) to get a taste!

AYCF YOUNG ADULT RETREAT



Registrations for our Young Adult Retreat are open! Join us for a reflective escape at the Young Adult Retreat, hosted by the Anglican Church Southern Queensland & AYCF.

Open to young adults aged 18-30, as well as those who have recently graduated high school in 2023, this event promises three days of renewal, reflection and connection.

Set against the picturesque backdrop of Glendalough Outdoor Education Centre in Peregian Beach, the retreat which takes place from 16-18 February 2024, is a unique opportunity to reconnect with your faith and community.

Register Here: <https://www.aycf.org.au/>

WANT TO STUDY THEOLOGY?

Do You Enjoy Theological Study? Enrol for Semester 1 2024



ST FRANCIS
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SOUTHERN QUEENSLAND

Subjects Out Now!
Choose from



UNIVERSITY
OF DIVINITY

Mission & Ministry

Forming Communities: Introduction to Church and Ministry

Growing Faith: Forming Christians in Multiple Contexts

From Birth to Death: Life, Loss & Liturgy

God in Contemporary Culture: Theology & the Arts

Systematic Theology

Thinking Theologically 1: Challenges & Tasks

Becoming Flesh: The Incarnation of God

Biblical Studies

Reading the Bible 1: Introduction to Biblical Texts

Becoming the People of God: The Pentateuch in Context

Loving God: The Theological Imagination of John's Writing

Praying the Psalms: Theology, Poetry, and Liturgy

Church History

Telling History: Introduction to Church History

Enrol and more information at <https://www.stfran.qld.edu.au/upcoming-subjects-2> or contact our Registrar on 3514 74043 or sheilagh.obrien@anglicanchurchsq.org.au

An exciting and diverse range of new-look units are on offer for you to study at SFC in Semester 1 2024!

All units are available to be audited or can form part of a degree, diploma or certificate.

Flexible Study Modes are available.

Here are the units we've got on the way!

Enrol Now!

Biblical Studies

- [Reading the Bible 1: Introduction to Biblical Texts](#) (BS1001Z/BS8001Z) - Lecturer: Rev'd Dr Ruth Mathieson

- [Becoming the People of God: The Pentateuch in Context](#) (BA2001Z/BA9001Z) -
Lecturer: Rev'd Dr Greg Jenks
- [Praying the Psalms: Theology, Poetry, and Liturgy](#) (BA2013Z/BA9023Z) - Rev'd
Assoc. Prof. Matthew Anstey
- [Loving God: The Theological Imagination of John's Writing](#) (BN3001Z/BN9031Z) -
Lecturer: Rev'd Dr Ruth Mathieson

Church History

- [Telling History: Introduction to Church History](#) (CH1001Z/CH8001Z) - Lecturer: Dr
Sheilagh O'Brien

Systematic Theology

- [Thinking Theologically 1: Challenges & Tasks](#) (CT1001Z/CT8001Z) - Lecturer:
Rev'd Dr Anita Monro
- [Becoming Flesh: The Incarnation of God](#) (CT2001Z/CT9001Z) - Lecturer: Dr Janice
McRandal

Mission & Ministry

- [Forming Communities: Introduction to Church and Ministry](#) (DA1001Z/DA8001Z) -
Lecturer: Rev'd Dr Wendi Sargeant
- [Growing Faith: Forming Christians in Multiple Contexts](#) (DA2001Z/DA9001Z) -
Lecturer: Jonathan Sargeant
- [God in Contemporary Culture: Theology & the Arts](#) (DA2013Z/DA9023Z) - Lecturer:
Jonathan Sargeant
- [From Birth to Death: Life, Loss, and Liturgy](#) (DL3001Z/DL9031Z) - Lecturer: Rev'd
Dr John Rolley

For more information, please contact our Registrar Dr Sheilagh O'Brien on (07) 3514
7403 or email sheilagh.obrien@anglicanchurchsq.org.au

COMMENCEMENT SERVICE - DATE CLAIMER



The academic year begins with the annual Commencement Service at **St Francis College** on Sunday 18 February at 3.00pm.

The service includes a recognition of those who graduated in 2023 and an act of commitment by students and teachers to their studies and the SFC community.

This is a lovely occasion by which we commend the academic year ahead to God.

Please join us.

SFC ORIENTATION DAY - DATE CLAIMER



St Francis College invites you to join us for our Semester 1 Orientation Day.

Wednesday, February 21

At Orientation, you will meet your lecturers, learn about the online learning environment (ARK), and discover how the College and the Roscoe Library can support your studies.

JOIN THE ROSCOE LIBRARY



Membership of the Roscoe Library is free for all those actively involved in the Anglican Church Southern Queensland, or currently enrolled at the University of Divinity. There are many new resources added to the library each year; this [link](#) will take you to those items added during 2023. You can sort these, for example by title or publication date, using the dropdown menu near the top of your screen. Go to the next 20 items using the forward arrow. Click on a title to read a summary or a table of contents. The *Home* button on the top left will take you back to our main catalogue page. Enjoy!

The *Reading with Spiritual Eyes* book club will be meeting (in person in LR1 and online) on Tuesday 30 January from 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm to discuss Isabella Hammad's ***Enter Ghost***. All are welcome! You'll find more information, including discussion questions and registration, on [this page](#).



BAROONA FARM 2024 CALENDAR



'Growing Food and Community with and for the nutritionally vulnerable'



The Baroona Farm has put out a very special 2024 calendar.

The calendar has colourful photos from in and around Baroona Farm and is available for purchase at \$15 each.

Calendars can be purchased from the St Francis College reception during business hours or contact the [Reverend Samuel Dow](#) to arrange collection.

It would make a great Christmas gift or use it in your office or home next year!

OTHER UPCOMING CONFERENCES & WEBINARS



OTHER UPCOMING CONFERENCES & WEBINARS

Feb 2, 2024: The Anglican Tradition from a Postcolonial Perspective

An ecumenical conversation with Kwok Pui-lan, Dean's Professor of Systematic Theology at Candler School of Theology, Emory University. [Eventbrite tickets here](#).

Mar 2, 2024: Amplify Conference - Australia's largest children, youth and family ministry conference, is returning for its 20th year in 2024. Registration price includes lunch and morning tea.

Visit the Special Offers page for details of FREE and other discounted registration specials. <https://amplifyconference.com.au/>

Check out how to register your church and provide a subsidy for your leaders to attend.

June 9 - 14, 2024: Xavier School of Mission: 'One Word, emerging voices: Is mission the key to a synodal Church?'

What is involved on the journey of becoming a Church that listens, dialogues, walks and grows together. What does that look like? <https://seminary.catholic.net.au/xavier-school-of-mission/>

Sept 23 - 24, 2024: Centre for Ageing and Pastoral Studies National Conference: 'Spirituality and Ageing: Flourishing in Community and Care'.

Be inspired by keynote speakers, practical workshops and stimulating papers as we explore, discuss and enable spiritual care and flourishing in the areas of dementia, palliative care and community and aged care. caps@csu.edu.au

OLD BISHOPSBOURNE AVAILABLE FOR HIRE 2024



Are you planning a corporate or private function such as a family reunion, workshop, wedding or community event in 2024? Have you considered using the gracious Old Bishopsbourne? This heritage-listed building is equipped with WiFi and lecture facilities, has a fully functional kitchen and is surrounded by beautiful spacious grounds. It has flexible seating for 60; and features a number breakout configurations.

For more information please contact [Rod](#).



NEED A BREAK? - TRY BEAUTIFUL POINTRO



Need a break from the daily grind of city life? Try out our Diocese's Pointro Campsite at Boonah.

Pointro Campsite offers affordable accommodation, spectacular views, lots of water activity options, hot showers, a friendly onsite manager and a tranquil place to relax.

- There is a roomy bunkhouse, which has been fitted with a new gas stove and has free satellite TV, a huge kitchen, plenty of hot water, a games room and more
- There are also eight well-spaced-out campsites with stunning outlooks.
- You can enjoy the open-air chapel where you can see the water from different directions from the pews. It is a peaceful spot to sit and contemplate, to pray or to worship with others.
- Experience the beautiful waterhole, complete with waterfall, which is large enough for swimming.



Because of the peacefulness, the campsite is the perfect place for parishes and ministries to enjoy fellowship time or go on retreat or pilgrimage.

The campsite and bunkhouse facilities are affordable, with camping from \$15 per night per person and the bunkhouse from \$25 per night per person.

Want to know more? Read the anglican focus article '[How's the serenity?](#)'

For bunkhouse bookings, please email pointro@anglicanchurchsq.org.au. For campsite bookings, please call the campsite manager Bill on 0491 446 271.

(the only traffic jam you'll encounter is cows!)



For all our latest news, subject offerings, and the wide range of degree and postgraduate courses check out our [Website](#) or [Facebook page](#).

CONTACT DETAILS

Please use the email addresses below to contact SFC Staff:

ruth.mathieson@anglicanchurchsq.org.au The Rev'd Dr Ruth Mathieson - Executive Director/

rod.mengel@anglicanchurchsq.org.au Rod Mengel - Property & Finance Manager

registrar@ministryeducation.org.au Sheilagh O'Brien - Dean of Students

wendi.sargeant@anglicanchurchsq.org.au Wendi Sargeant - Academic Dean

sarah.plowman@anglicanchurchsq.org.au Sarah Plowman - Director of Discernment & Format

ejames@ministryeducation.org.au Eve James - Library Manager

lburridge@ministryeducation.org.au Linda Burridge - Marketing/Administration/Reception

jonathans@ministryeducation.org.au Jonathan Sargeant - Formed Faith

dkeenan@ministryeducation.org.au Dale Keenan - Spiritual Direction

elissa.cotroneo@anglicanchurchsq.org.au Elissa Cotroneo - AYCF (Anglican Youth, Children & Families).



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