



Where do the Children Go? Connecting Parishes and Schools

Colin MacLeod

You are invited to create community online as we gather to share and grow faith.

How to Prepare and Run a Session:

Read *Saturday Sessions 'How To' Guide* for information how to host a Saturday Session. This is available at https://thewell.org.au/video/saturday-sessions-how-to-guide/

Presentation:

Where do the Children Go? Connecting Parishes and Schools Colin MacLeod

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=slml9uxYrtE

Approx. 30 minutes

About the Presenter:

Colin is Director of the National Centre for Religious Studies, which is part of Te Kupenga – Catholic Leadership Institute in New Zealand. He lives in Dunedin, and taught at Kavanagh College there serving in various capacities as Director of Religious Studies and Assistant Principal.

Colin has been actively involved in Religious Education and with Pastoral Ministry for most of his life. He is a member of the New Zealand Catholic bishops' Committee for Interfaith Relations, the Dunedin Abrahamic Interfaith Group, the Dunedin Interfaith Council, the Religious Studies Teachers Association of Aotearoa NZ and various ministry groups and parish councils. He's also heavily involved in the Ministry of Education review of Achievement Standards.

Colin holds Bachelors degrees in Theology and Education, a Masters in Educational Leadership and is studying towards a PhD in Education. He is married to Jan, and they have one son, Callum, who is teaching in a catholic primary school.

To continue hearing more from Colin and others on this topic of connecting Parishes and Schools, you can view the webinar "Parishes and Schools: One Community in Christ" at https://thewell.org.au/video/parishes-schools-one-community-in-christ/

Questions to Ponder:

These questions are only a sample of the many questions that could be generated from the presentation. Use these questions or create your own questions for your small group.

1. What were you thinking and feeling after listening to Colin?

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- 2. What does an outward looking Church look like?
- 3. "Nurture the seed and it will blossom". How do you see this playing out in the formation of young people and families in faith?
- 4. What are the ways that you know of, or that you believe schools and parishes can connect as one community?
- 5. How have you 'put it out there' to invite people to Mass? And if our Masses aren't full of vibrancy, how do we encourage people to know Christ?
- 6. How does 'joy' show itself in your communities and Masses? How do you show joy about your faith? And where do we experience moments with Christ in our lives?
- 7. Why do you think there is a lack of 'sense of belonging' within our communities? Why would someone choose to be part of your community? What welcomes them and what would turn them away? Does your community shout 'You are Welcome'?
- 8. How would you describe your parish community? And how does that connect with the local parish schools? Are the missions of the parish and school aligned to have a common sense of mission?

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Further Support:

If you would like further support to bring to life a Saturday Session, please contact Lisa at the Pastoral Planning Office at lisa.bright@parracatholic.org

For information about Zoom please contact the Pastoral Planning Office or you can watch a Zoom tutorial at https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362033-Getting-Started-on-Windows-and-Mac

The Pastoral Planning Office thanks you for your enduring faith, hope, love and commitment as we venture into the deep. We pray that you experience the peace and grace that our God offers and can be an ambassador of Christ's hope and peace to those you encounter and accompany.

Please contact the Pastoral Planning Office for support in all areas of pastoral ministry.

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