

Catalyst for Renewal Inc.

Our Patrons:

Sr Maryanne Confoy rsc Fr Andrew Hamilton sj Br Julian McDonald cfc OAM Rev. Prof. Francis Moloney sdb AM Sr Mary Shanahan rscj AO **Executive Director:** Fr Michael Whelan sm

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Most Reverend Anthony Fisher OP Archbishop of Sydney Polding Centre 133 Liverpool St Sydney NSW 2000

Your Grace.

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I am writing to update you on the planned activities of Catalyst for Renewal in 2023.

Catalyst for Renewal will conduct the following programs this year:

Catalyst Reflection Mornings

Held at Hunters Hill in Sydney (first Saturday) and Lawson in the Blue Moutains (third Saturday) in the months of March to October, these provide opportunity for quiet reflection and conversation on a topic introduced by an expert speaker. Program details are attached.

• *Spirituality in the Pub*

SIP is now entering its 28th year. Several venues are returning this year following suspension during the pandemic years.

• Spirituality on the Sofa

SOS is the online manisfestation of SIP and emerged during the pandemic years. It has proven to be popular and has become a permanent part of our program. SOS gathers online at 7.30pm on the first Wednesday, March to October.

• *Catalyst Luncheons*

This new initiative replaces our Catalyst Dinners which were popular before the pandemic. An initial event will be held on 25 March with speaker Good Samaritan sister Patty Fawkner.

• The Call to Be

Short adult education courses previously provided by Aquinas Academy (Marist Fathers) are now being offered by Catalyst for Renewal. A diverse program is being offered in this our second year. Details are attached.

Catalyst Forums

Our forums present eminent speakers on topics of spirituality, theology and ecclesiology. We draw upon bishops, priests, theologians, journalists and other experts in their field. Our first forum this year will take place on 2 April when Fr Frank Brennan sj will speak on the Indigenous Voice to Parliament. Others will be arranged throughout the year.

Details of all our events will be found on our website at https://catalystforrenewal.org.au.

Catalyst's mission is to promote conversation - a process whereby we encounter others in a mutual search for what is true – leading to renewal in church and society.

If you would like additional information on any of these programs, please let us know.

Yours respectfully in Christ,

Bob Birchall President