

Pastoral Ministry CONNECT

VOL. 4 | MAY 2022

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands on which we minister and all who have contributed to our story.

Alive in the Spirit

Being The Community Christ Calls Us To Be

CONFERENCE EDITION

It's Conference month and the team is very excited to share all the experiences that are on offer. This special Conference edition on Pastoral Ministry Connect details the many ways you can engage with the Alive in the Spirit Conference to inspire and renew our communities.

Register Today!

Members Access - DISCOUNT RATE

Conference access for life of annual membership
Individual \$49; Group (6) \$199

Standard Package (Non-Members)

One-Month Access to conference & workshops
Individual \$99; Group (6) \$399

Membership Package (Non-Members)

Join PMN! Benefits include access to conference for 12 months, including entire existing library of PMN resources, and free access to quarterly webinars.
Individual \$149; Group (6) \$699

Alive in the Spirit is for Lay and clergy, staff, leadership teams, finance teams, pastoral councils, pastoral ministers and volunteers, those in education, counselling, pastoral care, youth ministry, family ministry, aged care and chaplaincies and anyone who wants to be Alive in the Spirit.



Pastoral Ministry Virtual Conference
26th - 28th May 2022
aliveinthespirit.com.au

Why a Conference?

I can admit that I am a bit of Conference groupie. I enjoy going to Conferences, particularly in the area of Spirituality and Faith.

For the five years before the pandemic, I had made it a yearly pilgrimage to attend the Los Angeles Religious Education Congress. It was my yearly boost of energy, ideas and experiencing life and faith with fellow travellers on the journey from all around the world. I have enjoyed the online Congress experience since not being able to travel to the US, and have created our local Congress with friends who live locally - watching the keynotes and workshops and creating opportunities to discuss them and see how we can implement the things heard in our local communities.

My friends and colleagues would ask me, puzzled, "You go to Congress every year? Surely after 5 years you would have experienced all there is to experience!"

My response is simple. I am always learning and always growing. We all are. And regardless of if I have listened to a speaker before or for the first time, each time something new is offered. And each time I am in a different place to where I was the last time I had attending Congress. My workplace, my life experience, my understanding about things have grown since the time before and each new keynote, prayer experience, workshop, resource - offers me something afresh in my new space. New learnings inspire me to be explore a 'creativity of love' that Pope Francis called us to in March 2020 as we were responding as a church to the pandemic.

This is why I am passionate about the Alive in the Spirit Conference. The experience of Alive in the Spirit has been phenomenal! The breadth of speakers, both keynote and in the workshop space from within our Oceanic church is so rich. And whilst face-to-face is always great, the opportunity to go online has enabled so many more people around the region to experience something truly special at a fraction of the cost.

Networking and meeting new people is one of the highlights for me of any Conference. One might think that being online, it is harder to meet people. However, the Alive in the Spirit experience makes it a point to create as many networking opportunities as possible through online share groups. I can honestly say I have met many wonderful people through last year's Conference from all over Australia and New Zealand whom I would definitely drop by and have coffee or a hot chocolate with if I were in town.

So for me, that is why a Conference. The energy, inspiration, ideas, growth in self and growth in faith, the networking, the new friends and acquaintances and the opportunity to live and share my Catholic faith with others who are journeying. What a blessed opportunity to grow and share faith together!



Lisa Bright
Alive in the Spirit
Conference Convener

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Inspiring Presentations!



A dynamic line-up of people working in pastoral ministry from Australia and New Zealand have prepared a variety of workshops for the Alive in the Spirit Experience 2022.

Participants will be able to engage with the many presentations on offer from 11am on Friday, 27th May. You can experience the workshops on your own, or you can watch them as a group and have a discussion afterwards.



The presentations complement our live keynotes and live networking sessions, are thematically organised, examining best practice in a variety of dimensions of pastoral life.



Community Engagement presentations explore areas such as building the bridge between parish and school, engaging with cultural diversity, celebrating the lived experience of disability, and engaging and sustaining volunteers in ministry.



Mission & Evangelisation presentations include survey findings into what Australians think about Jesus, the Church and spirituality; how we creatively fund the mission in parish settings; best practices for marketing; and addressing the culture and leadership within a synodal church.

Presentations are also grouped around the themes of “Care & Outreach” and “Faith & Spirituality” (see the next page for thematic workshop list).

[Register Today!](#)



The presentations offer a variety of practical experience that can be shared with communities - enabling them to translate that experience to their own context, and offer a variety of ways to become the Community Christ calls us to be.



In June, there will be opportunities to gather to share your responses to presentations. Let's Have a Yarn gatherings will be offered on **Wednesday 8th June** and **Wednesday 29th June** at **7.30pm AEST**.

Mark you diaries now to continue the Alive in the Spirit experience!

Community Engagement	Building the Bridge between Parish and School. Youth minister/teacher shares experience of building a link between a local parish and local secondary school.
	Perspectives of Being Community Explores how outsiders 'looking in' view parishes, and how insiders 'living out' offer community.
	Engaging Volunteers in the Parish Processes that engage, build capacity and retain volunteers in the Parish setting.
	How do we Develop Sustainable Ministry and Cultivate New Leaders? Cultivating people in ministry from being served, through to engagement, to leadership and finally, mentoring.
	Neighbours Without Borders: A framework for harnessing diversity to create a strong community. Shares this framework enabling diversity for cultures and sub-cultures, in and beyond faith communities..
	Called into Community by Those With Disability Offers contemporary theology and pastoral practice of people with a lived experience of disability.
Faith & Spirituality	Called by Name to be Disciples of Christ A prayerful experience that helps us understand our truest selves, created by God, to live our fullest life.
	Singing Our Catholic Identity: Empowering the Voice of the Assembly The principles around choosing liturgical musical repertoire for both engaging Masses and Prayer Services.
	Beyond the Synod: Forming Discerning Communities Explores Ignatian Spiritual Conversation and how it can help us in forming discerning communities.
	Communities of prayer: Bridging the digital divide Using digital space to keep communities connected and invite people into real and deep encounters with God?
	Resourcing for Renewal and Discipleship Showcases quality resources to form parish leaders and parishioners in their call to holiness and to mission.
	Spirituality in a Busy World Provides concrete skills to help with juggling the demands of life without losing your relationship with God.
Care & Outreach	All are welcome: Being communities of hospitality & accompaniment Explores how we can strengthen our ministry of welcome.
	Liturgy on the Margins The vision of the permanent diaconate, and vocational pathways, in the space of "liturgy on the margins".
	Pastoral Accompaniment What is Pastoral Accompaniment? Where can we use it? Setting up a Parish Grief and Bereavement Ministry
	Dinner, Death and Dessert.... building community death. Exploring the end of life care space, presented through a comprehensive case study.
	Flourishing Relationships, Strong Marriages, Thriving Parishes and communities: Joy of Love. Offers an approach via CatholicCare Sydney to growing and developing flourishing relationships
	Justice, Equality and Synodality – an LGBTIQ Perspective How LGBTIQ+ people offers a rich perspective about Catholic Social Justice Teaching and Synodality.
Mission & Evangelisation	Spirituality as more than a Religion MercyCare's experience in engaging with all-comers, and what spirituality means in such encounters.
	Pastoral Supervision: What is it and how could it benefit Pastoral Ministry Shares what Pastoral Supervision is, why it is important to ministers,
	My Vision for Parish Bishop Terry offers his wisdom and insights into what makes for a rich and vibrant parish.
	Latest Research - what do Australians think of Jesus and the Church? Find out what Australians think about Spirituality, Jesus and the Church through this latest research
	Missionary Discipleship & Evangelisation Ways we can form missionary disciples and evangelise
	Synod & Plenary: Living it in our Communities Why should the Australian Plenary and Synod in our Church matter to us, and how we can benefit right now?
	Funding the Mission How through increasing parish giving and income, you grow more disciples and achieve your mission.
	Best Practices in Marketing for Christ's Mission Exploring opportunities to market Christ's Mission in new and exciting ways via social media.
Culture and leadership in a synodal Church	Culture and leadership in a synodal Church The formation and development of leaders around synodal characteristics at all levels of the faith community,

Alive in the Spirit

Being The Community Christ Calls Us To Be

26th to 28th May

Engaging Keynotes

*Dr Christina Kheng,
Dr Maeve Heaney VDMF,
Luke Tobin, Dr Dan R Ebener,*

Explore areas of leadership & ministry, planning
for mission, pastoral care, social justice
and more.

2022 Theme:

*What does God Require of us?
(Micah 6:8)*

**OVER 30
WORKSHOPS**

**ENGAGEMENT
OPPORTUNITIES**

**UP TO 12-MONTH
ACCESS**

Practical Pathways for our Catholic Church in the Oceania Region

Inspiration & Formation for lay & clergy, staff, leadership teams, finance teams, catechists, prayer groups, pastoral ministers & volunteers, and those in education, counselling, pastoral care, youth ministry, family ministry, aged care & chaplaincies.

Standard Package (Member | Non-Member) - One month access:

Prices listed for Pastoral Ministry Network Members & Non-Members

Individual rate \$49 | \$99

Group of 6 people rate \$199 | \$399

Membership Package - 12-month access:

Full conference access + existing library of resources + quarterly webinars

Individual rate \$149

Group of 6 people rate \$699

Contact:

Lisa Bright | 0419 418 547 | info@aliveinthespirit.com.au

To become a Pastoral Ministry Member visit: <https://pastoralministrynetwork.org/>

aliveinthespirit.com.au



What Does God Require of You in 2022? Find Out!

Last year, over 1000 Australian & New Zealand Catholics in ministry participated in the Alive in the Spirit experience, and were inspired by many homegrown ideas, practical pathways and opportunities to renew and revitalise our pastoral settings.

In 2022, Alive in the Spirit returns, with this year's theme: "What does God require of us: To Act Justly, To Love Mercy & To Walk Humbly" (Micah 6:8). This interactive online pastoral experience offers both individuals and groups a variety of ways to flexibly engage including both one-month and 12-month options.

As conference convener, Lisa Bright explains, "The online environment offers a creativity in how we engage. We know people in pastoral settings have crazy schedules. So, while there is a three-day intensive, we are opening Alive in the Spirit to a space that is accessible over a longer period."

This option is attractive to many in parishes.

Carmel Fenton, a conference committee member, says, "People want choice. Pastoral councils can meet maybe four times in June, or a faith group or prayer group or catechist team can gather a few times over four weeks, like a Lenten group, and experience the keynotes that way. I think people really appreciate that they don't have to try and squeeze it all into three days."

With parishes and dioceses hungering for fresh hope, new ideas, and positive stories and models of practice in service of Christ's mission, Alive in the Spirit delivers with over thirty presentations from Australian and NZ based practitioners, balancing on-screen input with time for off-screen prayer, reflection and a call to action. There is time for networking with participants and guides are available to accompany either an individual or group three-day intensive or a one-month engagement.

Keynote presenters include Dr Christina Kheng, a Singaporean pastoral theologian and planning consultant for the Jesuit Conference of Asia Pacific; Dr Maeve Heaney, Director of the Xavier Centre for Theological Formation at ACU; Luke Tobin, Mission Formation Educator, Catholic Mission; and Dr Dan Ebener, United States leading Author and Lecturer in the space of leadership and organisational change. Each presenter explores an element of Micah's theme.

Our Catholic Church offers so much richness, and Alive in the Spirit celebrates the good of who we are, while inviting us to continue to cooperate with the Holy Spirit as we engage with the Signs of the Times in our Oceania Region.

Please visit www.aliveinthespirit.com.au or contact the Alive in the Spirit team at info@aliveinthespirit.com.au

Your Keynote Speakers Address Key Pastoral Priorities



Dr Christina
Kheng

One Thing God Requires of Us

What does it mean to
follow Christ in practice?



Dr Maeve
Heaney VDMF

Act Justly with our God

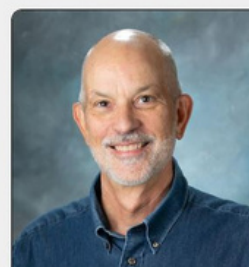
Being Prophetic in
our Mission space



Mr Luke
Tobin

Love Mercy with our God

Celebrating our
Cultural Diversity



Dr Dan R
Ebener

Walk Humbly with our God

Enabling lifegiving
ministry pathways

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Your Flexible Conference Packages are either Standard (includes 3-day intensive, and month-long) or Membership (12-month engagement)



Your Personal Retreat Experience

(Included in Standard package)

- Take time to renew, 26-28 May, create a sacred space
- *Personal Retreat Guide* paces your engagement
- Engage with online conference segments, with designated times for off-screen prayer and reflection
- Call to Action commitments conclude your experience

Your Small Group or Parish Intensive

(Included in Standard package)

- Find a venue to cater for the needs of your group
- *Group Engagement Guide* offers you creative ways to engage your group over 26-28 May (incl. youth stream)
- Start with shared prayer and fellowship
- Engage in conference with downtime periods for your group to reflect and commit to action



Weekly Formation Session

(Included in Standard package)

- Weekly sessions over June – morning or evening (incl. youth stream)
- Prayer, Keynote, Reflection and Call to Action available for each session
- For individuals and groups

Twelve-month Engagement

(Membership Package Only)

- Includes all the benefits of Standard Package
- Commit to monthly engagement with riches of conference
- Prayers, Reflection Questions, and Call to Action Guides ready-made to support engagement

What Does God Require of Us?

To act justly

To love mercy, and

To walk humbly with our God

Micah 6:8

For more information and pricing, contact our friendly Alive in the Spirit Team
Lisa Bright | 0419 418 547 | info@aliveinthespirit.com.au | www.aliveinthespirit.com.au

Proudly hosted by the Pastoral Ministry Network | www.pastoralministrynetwork.org



Being The Community Christ
Calls Us To Be

Reconnect, Renew, Reimagine Catholic
Community and Mission at the Pastoral
Ministry Virtual Conference

Pastoral Ministry Virtual Conference
26th - 28th May 2022

Inspiration & Formation for everyone
engaged in the life of our Church.

aliveinthespirit.com.au

Remember to register for the Alive in the Spirit
Conference - even if you are a Pastoral Ministry
Network member.

Being a member offers a discount to the
Conference.

It won't give you automatic access.
Send an email to info@aliveinthespirit.com.au if
you need assistance.

**Alive in the Spirit is hosted by
the Pastoral Ministry Network.**

To share your experience of Alive in the Spirit or to
share a story of your community, please contact us
via the details below. We're always looking for good
news stories to share from those working in pastoral
ministry.

The collective wisdom of people working in the area
is what makes the Pastoral Ministry Network a great
place to network and support each other.

This newsletter is sent monthly to all PMN members.
Please add info@pastoralministrynetwork.org to
your address book or add us to your safe senders list.
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PMN Executive

Co-chair: Fr Michael Alcock

Co-chair: Richard McMahon

Secretary: Carmel Fenton

Treasurer: Carole Gan

Executive Officer: Lisa Bright

Contact Us

info@pastoralministrynetwork.org

www.pastoralministrynetwork.org

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The experience of Alive in the Spirit is like being on a pilgrimage, a journey as an individual as well as with members of my faith community; it is somewhere to go, to look forward to and connect, be refreshed, informed and inspired.

Julie

Alive in the Spirit
Being The Community Christ Calls Us To Be

"Alive in the Spirit" enlivens my spirit. It takes a community to bring a parish together. The insight, knowledge and inspiration shared in this space has the potential to help many parishes and ministries.

Mary

Alive in the Spirit
Being The Community Christ Calls Us To Be

If you need to feel the Spirit alive in the Catholic church today, then register! The keynotes are inspirational, personal and challenging. Filled with the Spirit of God! You will be renewed, inspired and challenged to continue your journey in faith.

Angela

Visit www.aliveinthespirit.com.au
and be part of the experience!