

FAQ

Foundations of Missionary Leadership Course

Areté 
CENTRE FOR MISSIONARY LEADERSHIP
A work of the Missionaries of God's Love

1. What is the Foundations of Missionary Leadership Course?

This course is open to anyone passionate about parish renewal, who already works in ministry or is interested in starting. Whether you are a volunteer or in paid employment, a youth minister, involved in adult evangelisation, or in leadership in your parish, movement or community, the Foundations of Missionary Leadership course is for you. Some courses focus upon spiritual formation or upon intellectual formation. The Foundations of Missionary Leadership Course is unique because it provides opportunities for human development, spiritual and intellectual formation, as well as the practical skills needed for both evangelisation and pastoral leadership in the Church.

2. Who runs the course?

The course is run by Fr Chris Ryan MGL. Fr Chris is known to many in the Church as the Coordinator of the Journey of the World Youth Day Cross and Icon in the lead-up to World Youth Day 08. He has been involved in leadership in youth ministry at national and diocesan levels, as well as in parishes, new communities, and schools. Fr Chris has also applied his experience as rector of the MGL seminary from 2008 to 2015 to the design and content of the Foundations of Missionary Leadership Course. Chris' academic research also contributes to the course content: his PhD examined the RCIA as a resource for the evangelisation of young people.

Other members of the Arete Centre's faculty also teach parts of the course. These teachers include Judy Bowe MGL and Katherine Stone MGL, who are trained spiritual directors, Daniel Ang, the director of the Archdiocese of Sydney's Centre for Evangelisation and Fr Ken Barker, the Founder and Moderator of the MGLs.



3. Why should I send someone from my parish to do the course?

Pope Francis has called for a Church-wide 'missionary conversion', so that our parishes can become 'evangelising communities'. Parish priests cannot make the changes that are required for this alone. We need lay people who understand that they are co-responsible with priests for the Church's mission, who are passionate about the Gospel, and who are able to lead others in evangelization.

4. Who should I send?

Your Alpha coordinator, youth minister, RCIA coordinator, leadership team members, parish council members, or parishioners who are passionate about sharing their faith with others. Some of these roles are very new but they are very important if our parishes are to truly become evangelising communities. People in often lack the formation required to be truly effective in these roles. The Foundations of Missionary Leadership Course has been created to address this need.

5. How much does it cost?

The year-long course costs \$2400. This cost includes <add inclusions> . It is excellent value for money. Some dioceses have introduced a three-part payment structure, where the student, the parish, and the diocese all pay a third of the course fees. Check with your diocese to see if they have adopted this structure.

6. What difference will it make to my parish?

Graduates of the Foundations of Missionary Leadership Course understand the Church's teaching on mission and can apply it to the parish context. They have also been equipped with the skills required to evangelise others. They have also been formed as leaders, who will use their gifts in the service of Christ and the Church. They understand the necessity of servant leadership and will be willing and engaged members of the parish, in whatever role you call them to. They will know how to help others grow in their gifts and also serve in the parish and the wider community. The foundation of their ministry in the parish will be a deepening self-knowledge and a knowledge and love of Jesus Christ. Arete graduates can play a vital role in the renewal of your parish.

Who are we?

The Areté Centre for Missionary Leadership is a work of the Missionaries of God's Love (MGL) Priests and Brothers, a new religious congregation dedicated to the mission of bringing the Good News of God's Love to the world. Founded in Canberra in 1986, the MGL works in collaboration with lay people and communities, empowering them in their baptismal call and mission.

Contact us

For more information on the Foundations of Missionary Leadership course, please contact us via email at office@aretecentre.org.



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