

THE AUSTRALIS CERTIFICATE OF MINISTRY

The Australis Certificate of Ministry is designed to equip people to reflect on their faith, ministry and discipleship in the context of their everyday lives and within a community of learners.

There are six study units in the course. Units are conducted in small groups facilitated by a qualified facilitator. The Bendigo Anglican Diocese awards the Certificate of Ministry to students who complete the six units of study.

The course was originally developed by the Diocese of Lichfield Board of Ministry. It was brought to Australia by Bishop Andrew Curnow of Bendigo, where it was edited and contextualised by Dr Charles Sherlock and administrated by Trinity Theological School (Melbourne). For sixteen years, it was known as the Trinity Certificate. The Anglican Diocese of Bendigo is proud to oversee the next phase in its development. The Rev Dr Margaret Wesley is now responsible for administering and updating the newly renamed *Australis Certificate of Ministry*.

To date, more than 1,000 people in the dioceses of North Queensland, Brisbane, Sydney, Bathurst, Wangaratta, Bendigo, Ballarat, Melbourne and New Zealand have completed one or more of these units towards the certificate.

CERTIFICATE OF MINISTRY UNITS

Experiencing Christian Faith: Examines eight Christian faith experiences, including singing, praying, using the Bible and discipleship

User's Guide to the Old Testament: Explores the ways in which stories from the past can help us to understand more about living in the contemporary world

User's Guide to the New Testament: Overviews New Testament writings, including their background in history and geography

The Anglican Church – Our Story: Explores the story of the Anglican Church from its beginnings in the British Isles, to the Church of England and to present-day Australia

Confessing our Faith: Assists students to articulate their own faith

Serving Christ Today: Addresses the fundamental question of how we are called to live today as disciples of Jesus Christ, in our lifestyle, mission, stewardship and calling.

Each unit in the Certificate course involves 16 to 20 class workshop hours, and requires a similar period of preparation time. Students or groups may also take individual units of particular interest.

To complete each unit, students must attend and participate in 80 per cent of classes, and complete projects (essays, journals, or creative work such as art or poetry) equivalent to an essay of 1,200–1,500 words.

WHO SHOULD TAKE THIS COURSE?

The Certificate course is ideal for anybody who wishes to learn about and deepen their faith. Current students include:

- ✓ Christians wishing to explore issues of faith and church
- ✓ people involved in worship and music ministries
- ✓ retirees who wish to study in new leisure time
- ✓ people testing their vocation
- ✓ members of parish pastoral teams
- ✓ people engaged in Church agencies and welfare organisations.

CERTIFICATE COURSE COSTS

Each participant pays \$60 per unit. This covers the price of the workbook for each unit and supports the administration and updating of the course. GST will be added to invoices for individuals or organisations outside the Anglican Church.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please email the Australis Certificate in Ministry academic director on australism@bendigoanglican.org.au for more information.