

## Growing Faith Communities Today: Insights from the Genius of St Paul

**ZOOM SCRIPTURE TALKS 2022** In June 2022 the Catholic Diocese of Sandhurst will be hosting a series of Zoom talks on Sacred Scripture which inform and support the faith-life of the people of God in the diocese of Sandhurst particularly in the light of our present context: the diocesan *Go Forth* review, the Plenary Council of the Australian Church, the Synod on Synodality and our socio-cultural reality.

As Pope Francis said at a gathering of the whole Church in Italy in 2015, "we are not living in an era of change we are living in a change of era". The Holy Father's observation seems to neatly capture a significant truth of our time. The Church here in Sandhurst, across Australia and around the world is looking for signs and strategies. Witness the local "Go Forth" Report, the national Plenary Council, and the international Synod on Synodality. We wonder and ask: how do we grow faith and faith communities for mission in this age? St Paul also lived in a change of era and experienced success in growing faith communities for mission. These talks seek to mine the wisdom of Paul's mission for our present context in Sandhurst.

## To Register please go to www.trybooking.com/BYWPM



Talk 1: Thursday 9 June 7pm-8.30pm

TOPIC: "Why these talks at this time in Sandhurst?"

**Dr Chris Cotter** – Director of Mission and Pastoral Life the Diocese of Sandhurst. One of Chris' research interests is the contribution of practical theology to renewed understandings of mission in the Australian Church.



Talk 2: Thursday 16 June 7pm-8.30pm

TOPIC: "Paul: the man, the preacher, the strategist"

**Very Rev Dr Brian Boyle EV** – Adjunct lecturer at Catholic Theological College and is a member of the Department of Biblical Studies, lecturing in Biblical Studies (Old Testament). He is the Episcopal Vicar for Education in the Diocese of Sandhurst and administrator of the Cathedral Parish cluster in Bendigo.



Talk 3: Thursday 23 June 7pm-8.30pm

TOPIC: "1 Thessalonians, Paul's first letter: forming the Ekklesia as the family of God"

Talk 4: Thursday 30 June 7pm-8.30pm

TOPIC: "Living and walking in the Spirit" (Galatians 5:16-26)

**Dr Rosemary Canavan** – Senior Lecturer in Biblical Studies at Catholic Theological College, with particular expertise in the writings of St Paul.

