

CATHOLIC THEOLOGY IN CONTEXT

COURSE OVERVIEW

This module engages participants in the study and experience of God in the Catholic Tradition. The content and discussion will address questions such as, if God is infinite, is it even possible to know God? What reasons do we have for belief in the existence of God beyond religious frameworks? Within the Catholic understanding, how has God been revealed to humanity throughout history? What does it mean to know God in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit? What is the word that God speaks to us in Christ and what is the Gospel? How do we live in relationship to God in the Church? And finally, what principles underpin Catholic Theology? The module is not just intellectual, it is experiential, so be ready to understand God more deeply, and experience God personally.

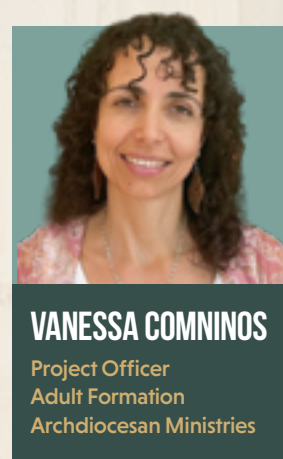
PRESENTED BY



GUEST PRESENTER



HOST



MODULE 1

CATHOLIC THEOLOGY IN CONTEXT

WEEK 1

Reasons to Believe

Here we address the limits of the finite human experience in comparison to an infinite God and explore logical and philosophical reasons to believe in the existence of God with reference to St Thomas Aquinas, Blaise Pascal and C.S. Lewis.

WEEK 2

God Revealed to Humanity

On this evening, we examine the biblical story and how God has gradually revealed more of Godself to humanity over time. We explore key moments in the revelation of God to humanity from the Garden of Eden through to the incarnation of Christ.

WEEK 3

God's Message

The Church is often known for what it is against, but what is it for? What is the good news that Jesus came to deliver? How is the paschal mystery significant for all of humanity? What is the Word of God that the Church has been given to proclaim to the world?

WEEK 4

The Central Mystery of the Christian Faith

Here we begin a three-week series of God as Trinity. We will look at various ways to understand and explain the concept of one God in Three Persons, with a specific emphasis on the first evening on God the Father.

WEEK 5

The Second Person of the Trinity

On this evening, we will focus on Christology: the study of Christ. Who is Jesus, what does the incarnation mean? What has been revealed to humanity through Christ, and what is our relationship to Christ?

WEEK 6

The Third Person of the Trinity

Here we engage in pneumatology, the study of the Holy Spirit. Who is the third person of the Trinity? What is the work of the Holy Spirit in the life of Christ, and in the life of the baptised? How do we relate to the Holy Spirit, and what role does the Holy Spirit play in the sacraments?

STARTING FE



WEEK 7

Living Theology

What difference does our understanding of God make to the life we live? How does God's presence, God's action, God's message give our lives meaning, inform our decision making, and give us hope? Here we look at what it means to live a Catholic life.

WEEK 8

Communication with God

In this presentation we examine the question of how we communicate with God? What is prayer? How do we listen to God? What are the various forms of prayer that are most common within the Christian tradition? What difference does prayer make?

WEEK 9

God's Church

Jesus started a Church! So, what is the Church? What is its purpose on earth? Why does it matter? And what role might we play in animating God's purpose for God's one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church?

WEEK 10

Theology and Unity

Without necessary structures and principles, theology can take us in all kinds of direction. What are the structures that prevent theological division whilst supporting theological development and what are the principles that underpin Catholic theology in order to keep our thinking about God on track?

WHO'S IT FOR?

This course is designed with all baptised Catholics in mind, particularly:

- Those who want to grow deeper in their love for God and others
- Those preparing for the ministries of lector, acolyte and catechist
- Those who are parish staff or volunteers who do not have any formal theological qualifications
- Those who want to share their faith with others.

FEBRUARY 2025

MONDAYS | 7-9PM

XAVIER HALL, HOLY SPIRIT SEMINARY

WEEK 1

MON 3 FEBRUARY

Reasons to Believe

WEEK 2

MON 10 FEBRUARY

God Revealed
to Humanity

WEEK 3

MON 17 FEBRUARY

God's Message

WEEK 4

MON 24 FEBRUARY

The Central Mystery
of the Christian Faith

WEEK 5

MON 3 MARCH

The Second Person
of the Trinity

WEEK 6

MON 10 MARCH

The Third Person
of the Trinity

WEEK 7

MON 17 MARCH

Living Theology

WEEK 8

MON 24 MARCH

Communication
with God

WEEK 9

MON 31 MARCH

God's Church

WEEK 10

MON 7 APRIL

Theology and Unity



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