



St Mark's
NATIONAL THEOLOGICAL CENTRE

PROSPECTUS 2027



Giving thanks
for 70 years.



GIVING THANKS FOR 70 YEARS

70

1957 - 2027

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Find out more
stmarks.edu.au



This is St Mark's. This is your community.

We've been in deep conversation since 1957.
And we'd love to have you join in.

It's a conversation with the Word of God and the world's sharpest minds. A conversation that changes people.

In the following pages, you'll meet the faculty members who will lead you in your part of the great conversation. And you'll start to see the areas of learning where you know you want to contribute.

We're a learning community. So yes, there are thoughtfully-delivered lectures from our side, and high-standard assignments from yours. But this isn't learning for its own sake. This is knowledge that forms you – for your life of service ahead.

You're invited to join us at St Mark's. A place not only of learning, but also of belonging. We know you'll have something great to contribute to the great conversation. More than that, you'll take that conversation back to your community, your nation, and your world.



About St Mark's

Welcome to St Mark's National Theological Centre

Be honest: do you wonder if you are surrounded by more narcissists nowadays?

You're not alone. Just across the lake from St Mark's, ANU psychology researchers noticed that the term is being used a lot now. So they developed the Unified Narcissism Scale to measure levels of the disorder, which was quickly taken up by researchers in the United States (Whitbourne, "A New Way to Think About Narcissism").

Back on our—much sunnier—side of Lake Burley Griffin, the teachers and researchers here at St Mark's work with the data points of Scripture and ancient theologians. And the finding is clear: we all have a badly flawed and unhealthy obsession with ourselves.

Isn't the contemporary phenomenon of phubbing, a narcissistic inclination to prefer interacting with your iPhone instead of the person right in front of you, part of a modern manifestation of what Augustine of Hippo calls pride?

What is pride but the craving for undue exaltation? And this is undue exaltation—when the soul abandons Him to whom it ought to cleave as its end, and becomes a kind of end to itself. — Augustine, *City of God*

Australians don't like people who are full of themselves, but Augustine argues that we all have the problem. It's not just that we cut off from the people in front of us. The core problem of pride, which he says comes before sin, is the cutting off from God. A thousand years after Augustine, Martin Luther would call this human tendency "incurvatus in se ipsum," where our attention is turned away from others, curved into ourselves. This is a dangerous threat to all human communities.

Happily, Augustine and Luther don't simply identify the destructive nature of pride and inward turning. They also show the path out of darkness.

For Canberra, this is extremely good news.

St Mark's lives in the heart of Canberra, the one city in Australia established not to look after itself and its own interests, but to serve the wider Commonwealth—to attend to the wellbeing of communities across the nation.

At its best, Canberra is a city called to look beyond itself. To help ensure that the people of Australia are safe and secure; that the sick receive care and the elderly can live with dignity; and that justice is upheld.

It's hard to see how a life of service can be sustained if all our thinking is only ever turned in on ourselves.

If you're called to a life of service, whether it be as a senior official in government, a teacher in a school, a member of the armed services, or as a pastor in a church community, you'll never find the resources you'll need by turning in on yourself.

All Christians are called away from a culture of narcissism (and certainly away from phubbing) towards a life of service.

None of us feels like we have the inner resources to do it well. To serve well we need strength outside of ourselves. Luther believed the best way to start is by doing theology—to consider God himself and his message to us. For example, Luther explains God's first commandment as:

**"See to it that you let Me alone be your God, and never seek another." In other words, "Whatever you lack of good things, expect it from Me. Look to Me for it. And whenever you suffer misfortune and distress, crawl and cling to Me. I, yes, I, will give you enough."
— Luther, *First Commandment***

St Mark's invites you to a community that doesn't just study God, but it also looks to God. We have committed our future to being a centre for transformational Christian learning, forming people in Christ's grace and truth to serve the Church, connect faith with life, and bear witness to the gospel hope in the world.

The Gospel of Mark tells us that Christ came not to be served, but to serve and give his life as a ransom to many. We know we're going against the grain of a self-obsessed culture as we deeply consider Christ, who delivers us from our tendency for sin, pride, and curving in on ourselves.

But we also know our culture needs a new generation of people whose hearts have been filled to the brim by our Lord, ready to serve.

More Than Ever

A Word from Our Director

Our age is marked by extraordinary change and uncertainty. Our societies face the promise and perils of Artificial Intelligence, mounting pressures on families and institutions, increasing threats of violence, the degradation of life, and a deep longing for meaning.

More than ever our world needs hope. More than ever our nation needs freedom.

But not the hope and freedom that is defined and curated through the media, politics, and the endless tribes of opinion. No, our communities need the hope and freedom of Christ Jesus—his beauty, his goodness, his truth, his life, death, and resurrection.

This is why the work of forming Christian leaders matters more than ever.

Here at St Mark's National Theological Centre, we are committed to cultivating men and women to serve the redeeming purposes of God in the Church and in our rapidly changing world. We seek to equip a new generation with the deep riches of the Christian faith—a faith that does not shrink back but rather sustains the long and often difficult journey of service. That journey may lead into education, public institutions, the defence force, small business, civil society, executive leadership, church and outreach ministries, or faithful service among family and friends.

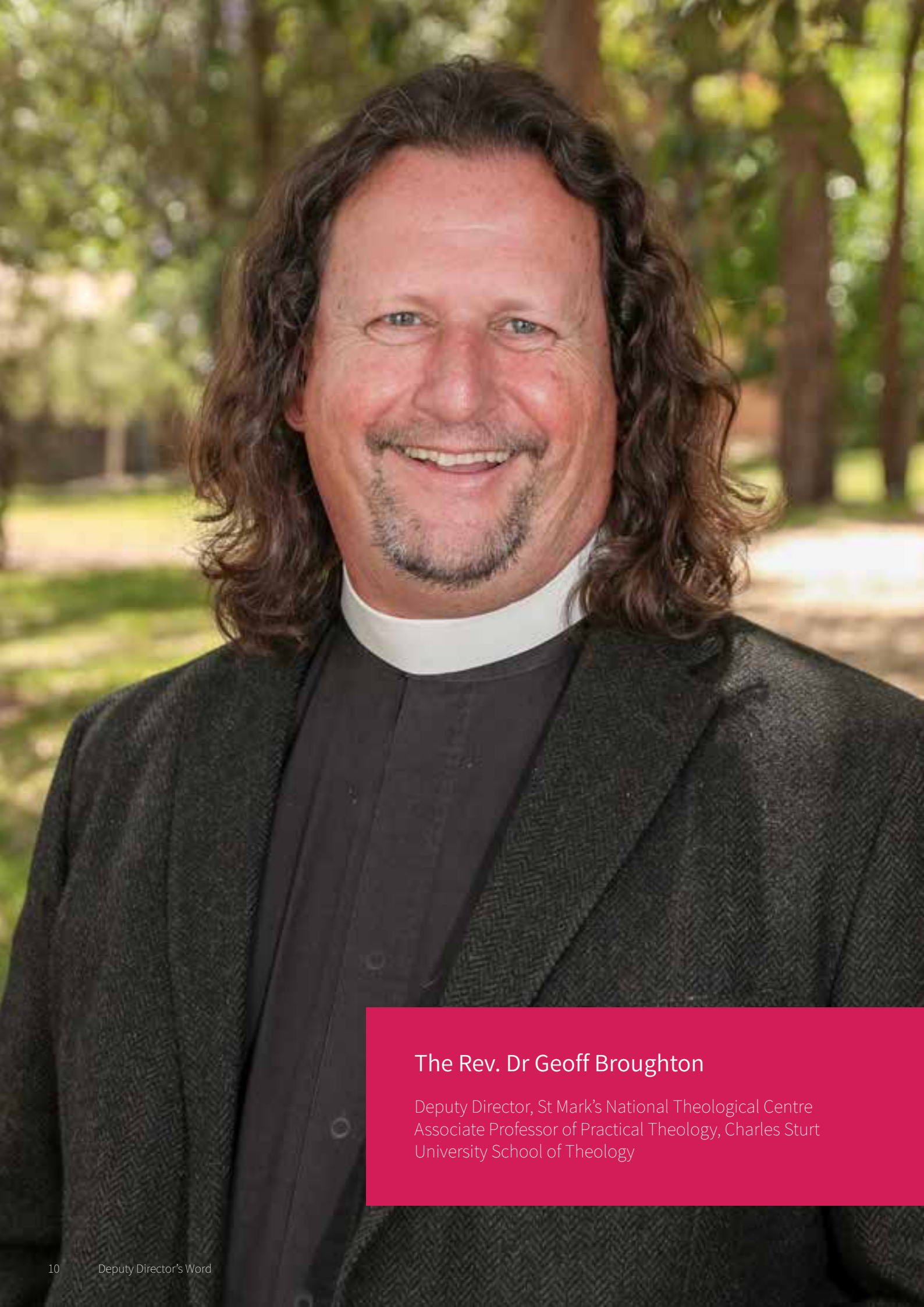
As a learning community we are anchored in Christ's unchanging grace and truth, grounded in Scripture, graciously orthodox in theological conviction, and Anglican in ethos. Our desire is that those who study with us are nurtured towards maturity in spirit, life, and intellect, becoming people who are dependent on prayer and dedicated to the fruitful transformation of lives and communities.

As you read this Prospectus, I encourage you to pray, asking God not only what he is calling you to, but also who else he may be calling to take up the torch and bear witness to the hope of the gospel in our world today. Because more than ever, our world needs men and women who know Christ and are prepared to serve him faithfully wherever he sends them.



Dr Jacqueline Service

Director, St Mark's National Theological Centre
Senior Lecturer in Systematic Theology
Charles Sturt University School of Theology



The Rev. Dr Geoff Broughton

Deputy Director, St Mark's National Theological Centre
Associate Professor of Practical Theology, Charles Sturt
University School of Theology

Your Soul, Your Role, and Your Context

A Word from Our Deputy Director

My faith in Jesus Christ informs and animates all aspects of my vocation as an educator, leader, theologian, and pastor. Theology enables us to ask the big questions and better serve each other, the church, and the wider world.

Our philosophy as educators is the integration of knowledge with lived experience.

In all contexts—from my early youth ministry to the decades I lived and ministered among marginalised communities in the inner city to the last 15 years at St Mark's—I remain intent on making the connections between faith, learning, and life for myself and for others.

Where and how might you be called to serve God's church or God's world?

While formation for ministry remains an integral part of the St Mark's mission, the reality is that most students serve beyond the church in schools, faith-based organisations, and, particularly here in Canberra, in the public service.

Here at St Mark's we are aware of the challenges of faithful service in leadership in these areas: Jacqui has served in the public service here in Canberra and I have been the rector (senior pastor) of two inner-city Anglican churches in Sydney. St Mark's creates a soft, brave space to have difficult conversations.

In professional/pastoral supervision we often speak of the intersection between your soul (my sense of calling to connect theology and life), your role (I am deputy director) and context (the intersection of church and university).

Enrol in one of our courses and we'll equip you to serve your context by developing your role and deepening your soul. We look forward to meeting you.

Why Study at St Mark's?



A Different Calling

We invite you away from an endless pursuit of “me time,” toward the joy of giving yourself for others—following Christ, who came not to be served, but to serve.

Founded for Renewal, Not Retreat

Imagined by Bishop Ernest Burgmann as a place of learning and life in our nation’s capital, St Mark’s has been a place to encounter God in his Word and engage the world in the hope of the gospel since 1957.

A Confessional, Biblical Foundation

Graciously lived Christianity, open in heart to all the great Christian traditions, with foundations that are—and will remain—Anglican.

For Every Walk of Life

We’ve equipped church leaders, chaplains, teachers, business owners, care workers, community leaders, and academics.

Men & Women, Serving Together

Side by side, men and women are formed for leadership and ministry—learning what it means to serve in unity.

Accredited Pathways, Postgraduate Depth

Study theology, ministry, pastoral counselling, or professional supervision through to a Master of Theology or Doctor of Philosophy.

Nationally Recognised

All programs are nationally recognised qualifications awarded through Charles Sturt University.

Flexible Study, Built Around Your Calling

Learn online or on campus, full or part time—so study fits alongside your work and your vocation.

Accessible to All Who Are Called

FEE-HELP, a fee offset for research degrees, and undergraduate fees up to 30% lower than other Australian theological colleges.

Prepare for Your Life of Service

St Mark’s National Theological Centre exists to build you up for a life of service. We are committed to a confessional, biblically grounded, and graciously lived Christianity—so that a thought-through faith becomes a faith that lasts.



Find out more

stmarks.edu.au/study-why-us



What Are We About?

Vision: Our Future

The future that draws us forward and fuels our purpose.

St Mark's is a centre for transformational Christian learning, forming people in Christ's grace and truth to serve the Church, connect faith with life, and bear witness to the gospel hope in the world.

Building on its rich tradition of 70 years, St Mark's is a centre for transformational Christian learning and formation. Anchored in Christ's unchanging grace and truth, our vision is to shape intellectually engaged and spiritually mature people who are equipped to serve a growing Church, connect the riches of the Christian faith with life and work, and bear witness to the hope of the gospel in the public square.

Mission: Our Purpose

The calling that directs our work and defines our contribution.

We deliver theological education that nurtures biblical wisdom, scholarly rigour, spiritual maturity, and practical service, integrating Christian faith with life and work.





Our Convictions & Principles

Compass: Our Convictions

The theological commitments that orient our service.

Anchored in Christ’s unchanging grace and truth, we are biblically grounded, graciously orthodox, and Anglican in ethos.

We are oriented toward nurturing the maturity of the whole person in intellect, spirit, and life; dependent on prayer and reflection; and dedicated to the fruitful transformation of lives and communities.

Values: Our Principles

The standards by which we act, lead, and serve day by day.

-  **Excellence**
Delivering high-quality theological education and scholarship.
-  **Hospitality**
Welcoming and caring in a Christ-centred community.
-  **Wisdom**
Shaped by Holy Scripture and the Holy Spirit.
-  **Wonder**
Inspired by the beauty and majesty of the Triune God.
-  **Faithfulness**
Prayerful and persevering through Christ’s truth and love.

For Those Called to Ordained Service

Formation Program for Anglican Ministry

St Mark's began as a library—a place where people could come to learn and grow. Before long, it became a space for preparing women and men for ordained ministry in the Anglican Church of Australia.

Today, we continue that calling but with a wider focus. Alongside future clergy, we also walk with lay leaders and everyday Christians who want to serve faithfully in their churches and communities. Some of these people discover along the way a deeper sense of God's call—to become deacons or priests, to serve as chaplains in the community, or to lead a parish church.



For those exploring ordination within the Anglican Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn, St Mark's partners with the Bishop to guide and equip you. Once accepted as an applicant, you'll enter a two-year formation journey.

Some applicants study theology at the same time, as required by the Bishop. Others come having already completed a theological degree. Unlike our open Charles Sturt University courses, the formation program is more personal and specific: it's open only to those whom the Bishop has given provisional approval to ordain. Alongside the Bishop's discernment, you'll need to show an active Christian faith, current involvement in ministry, a pastoral recommendation, and undertake assessments to ensure there are no impediments.

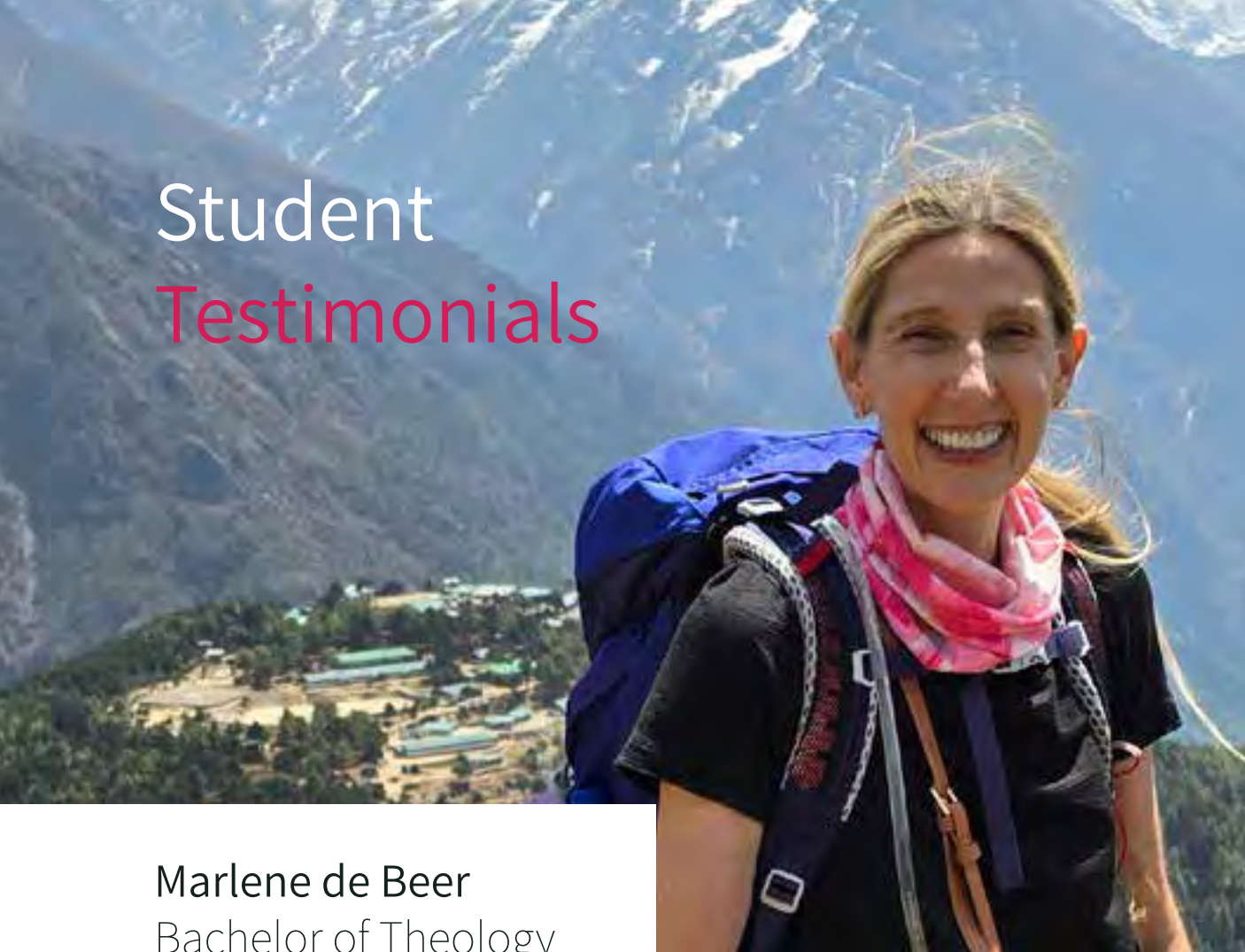
We see formation as a season of service and growth—a time of stretching, encouragement, and being made ready for what lies ahead. Monthly group gatherings involve reading, reflection, and practical training for Anglican ministry. Our experienced trainers will support you with guidance, honest feedback, and encouragement as you prepare for a life of service. Formation can be demanding, but it is also deeply rewarding—and a journey you don't do alone.



Find out more
stmarks.edu.au/about-main

“God is raising up leaders
to serve the Church—is
that you?”

Student Testimonials



Marlene de Beer
Bachelor of Theology

Studying at St Mark's is like drinking from a well brimming with living water. And I am the woman at the well, running to meet Jesus, time and time again.

When I started my Bachelor of Theology part-time, three years ago, I had no idea how it would work. A busy, working mother, living in a different state, with my only desire "to understand the Bible better". Little did I know that my life would be irrevocably changed.

I wonder whether all those years in church lulled me asleep as gradually my eyes were opened. I discovered the joys (and pains!) of an exegesis, I have learnt new terms like "hypostatic union" and "cruciformity", I read classic texts (who ever heard of Athanasius?) and, for the first time ever, I understood what "the word became flesh" really means.

Further to my surprise were the lecturers—incredibly knowledgeable and, simultaneously, warm and approachable. Even though I join online, I feel part of the St Mark's community, and I am proud to engage in a course that is theologically sound, intellectually stimulating, and personally fulfilling.

Fast-forward to today and I find myself on the ordination pathway—grateful to be suitably equipped and prepared for this next big step. Drinking from this well has broadened my knowledge, deepened my faith, and, I am happy to say, developed a delightfully unquenchable thirst—the more I grasp, the more I long to comprehend.



Andrew Blyth
MA in Theological Studies

I first walked through the doors at St Mark's twenty years ago. Bishop Tom Frame, who was Director at the time, was farewelling people at an event when he turned to me and asked, "How may I help you?" That simple question became the beginning of a friendship that's shaped my life—countless walks around the lake discussing theology and AFL, and, later, seven years working alongside Tom where our conversations continued over lunch breaks.

What's always struck me about St Mark's is how welcome I've felt. Never once have I felt out of place or wondered "what am I doing here?". Instead, I've found unexpected connections and genuine friendships—people like Michael Gladwin, one of those people in life you're glad you met. St Mark's has been rich in offering these kinds of relationships, fruitful and fulfilling, where you can truly lean on each other.

I've always loved the history of religion, and finally studying my MA in Theological Studies has given me the chance to explore that passion properly. What pleasantly surprised me was discovering how approachable the faculty are. These are academics with such high standing in their respective fields, yet they are always willing to sit down and chat. Now I'm on the formation pathway, serving at both St Edmund's in Gunning and All Saints in Ainslie. My formation group brings together senior military leaders, Baptists, Methodists—it's refreshing to learn alongside such a diverse range of people.

Twenty years since I first walked through those doors, I can say with certainty: koinonia—true community—is alive and well at St Mark's. It's given me not just theological knowledge, but friendships and formation that continue to shape how I serve.

Our Courses

UNDERGRADUATE

Undergraduate Certificate in Theology
Bachelor of Theology

POSTGRADUATE

Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies
Graduate Certificate in Ministry
Graduate Diploma of Theological Studies
Graduate Diploma of Pastoral Counselling
Master of Arts (Theological Studies)
Master of Theology
Master of Pastoral Counselling
Graduate Certificate in Professional Supervision (Pastoral)

HIGHER DEGREE BY RESEARCH

Master of Philosophy (Arts and Education)
Doctor of Philosophy (Arts and Education)

Charles Sturt University—TEQSA Provider Information:
PRV 12018, CRICOS Provider: 00005F.



Dr Aden Cotterill
Lecturer in Theology

A 30-Year Partnership



Charles Sturt
University



St Mark's
NATIONAL THEOLOGICAL CENTRE

In 1995 St Mark's entered into a partnership with Charles Sturt University to form the School of Theology, which is currently part of the Faculty of Arts & Education.

The partnership ensures St Mark's meets national standards of academic excellence, and that our graduates have qualifications that are recognised globally.

The School of Theology has established a reputation for its emphasis on student learning, quality teaching, and excellence in research. These are combined with a flexible learning environment that includes face-to-face teaching, online delivery of subjects, and intensives.

We don't merely teach theology—we do theology together. As seekers of truth, we wrestle with some of the deep questions of faith, meaning, and spirituality.

Our faculty are committed to delivering faithful, comprehensive, rigorous, and vibrant theological education. We respect each learner's starting point in their journey, helping them to see how other views from within the Christian tradition may inform their own.

Research is also highly valued in the School. We foster a scholarly theological community that engages with contemporary issues. This community of research is embodied in one of Australia's largest postgraduate research programs and in the ongoing research and scholarship of our teaching faculty.



Funding Your Study

Scholarships & Grants

A range of scholarships and grants may help you with some of the costs of studying at Charles Sturt University. Being granted a scholarship may be easier than you think. Start planning early!

- View the full range of scholarships: study.csu.edu.au/get-support/scholarships
- See if you are eligible for a Charles Sturt University alumni discount: alumni.csu.edu.au/benefits/study-discounts
- Use Charles Sturt University's fee calculator: study.csu.edu.au/apply/fees-costs

Credit for Prior Learning

When you apply to study at Charles Sturt University, you may be eligible to receive credit based on Recognition of Prior Learning for your previous study and/or work experience.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is an assessment process that involves assessment of an individual's relevant prior learning (including formal, informal, and non-formal learning) to determine the credit outcomes of an individual application for credit. Your application for credit, including full documentation of your prior learning, will need to be submitted together with your application for admission to a course.

- For more information: study.csu.edu.au/apply/credit



Find out more
stmarks.edu.au

HECS-HELP Loan

HECS-HELP is a loan which allows you to defer paying fees until you are earning a salary. If you are eligible for and are offered a Commonwealth supported place, the majority of your tuition fees will be subsidised and you will only be required to pay a portion of the total amount, which can be deferred through HECS-HELP.

A HECS-HELP loan can cover all or part of your student contribution amount, and you repay it through the taxation system once you are earning a certain salary.

- Read more about Commonwealth Supported Places: study.csu.edu.au/get-support/help-with-costs/government
- Check out your eligibility for a HELP loan: www.studyassist.gov.au

FEE-HELP Loan

FEE-HELP is a loan scheme that assists eligible fee-paying students pay all or part of their tuition fees. It cannot be used for additional study costs such as accommodation or text books. The total amount of FEE-HELP a person can use is known as the "FEE-HELP limit".

- For more information: studyassist.gov.au/help-loans/fee-help

Key Dates

We break up our academic year into three sessions. Most of our subjects are offered in Sessions 1 and 2, but Session 3 is offered over the summer holidays.

2026	Session 3 16 November 2026 – 26 February 2027
2027	Session 1 1 March 2027 – 18 June 2027 Session 2 12 July 2027 – 29 October 2027 Session 3 15 November 2027 – 11 February 2028

Application Dates

Application dates are listed on the Charles Sturt University website. However, there’s some flexibility regarding these dates and students can apply for courses right up to the beginning of session (see the three session starting dates above).

For the full calendar of important dates visit: about.csu.edu.au/our-university/important-dates
If you are a school leaver wanting to study on campus, you should apply through the Universities Admission Centre (UAC). Future students can also apply directly to Charles Sturt – an online application takes about 15 minutes to complete.

- uac.edu.au
- study.csu.edu.au/apply



Overseas Study

As a School of Theology student, you have the opportunity to include an overseas study experience as part of your degree. It's a great way for you to see the world while gaining credit towards your studies.

Through Charles Sturt University Global, you could study on exchange, participate in short-term study programs, attend conferences, volunteer, or undertake workplace learning at one of the many international destinations in our network.

St Mark's may offer study tours as an optional part of the curriculum. Students are able to claim credit for an 8-point subject for their participation in these tours.

The most recent tours include:

- a three-week study tour through the Holy Land with the first week spent doing biblical archaeological fieldwork in Bethsaida, followed by a tour of biblical and archaeological sites in Israel and Jordan.
- a two-week study tour of Germany, Switzerland, Italy, and France, exploring the history of the Renaissance and the European Reformations.

Generous travel grants, loans, and scholarships are available, from \$500 to \$8,400, to help you undertake these amazing international educational experiences. This is a truly memorable, hands-on way of grappling with source material during your theological journey with us.



Find out more
stmarks.edu.au



Online & Distance Learning

Theology Degrees Online

Learning about God includes learning in relationships, through community. In our huge country, that's quite hard. Through our partnership with Charles Sturt University, St Mark's specialises in building and maintaining a strong and supportive connection with students in Australia and beyond.

Each subject has a live lecturer, not a pre-taped person. Our faculty is experienced and qualified in their area. You won't be referred to a less qualified tutor.

Classes are usually live-streamed so you can engage in real time. You can also access recordings of classes later.

Charles Sturt University's easy-to-use online learning platform provides clear guidance, e-readings, teachers' notes, and more.

Online forums give you the opportunity to connect with other students. Our students come from several Christian denominations, and you'll meet interesting people in a collegial and respectful environment.

Some of our postgraduate courses (MPhil and PhD) have a number of competitive fee-offset places for the duration of your course.

You can learn alongside others in person on regular 2–4 day intensives in Canberra.

The full range of Charles Sturt University's magnificent library network, including its massive collection of e-books and e-journals, is accessible online. We also post books from our theological library, one of the most extensive theological libraries in the southern hemisphere, with reply-paid return.

Some undergraduate courses (such as the Bachelor of Theology) are Commonwealth Government supported, meaning you pay around 30% less than for comparable Australian degrees in theology.

St Mark's offers deep online learning in theology. We want you to know God more, with others, in the company of educators and trainers who will guide you well. If you're aiming to balance study with work and life commitments, we're always open to chat about how we can support you.



Find out more
stmarks.edu.au/study-online

Study Where You Are

St Mark's is here to strengthen you in the life of service you're already living. We want you to experience in-depth pastoral and theological learning while you serve. But sometimes the first question we hear is: "Does this mean I have to come to Canberra?"

The short answer is: it's flexible. Some students join us regularly on campus, while others study almost entirely online. We have students in every corner of Australia with varying ability to join us in person, but all can still access live lectures and a great community.



Student Support

Where to Go When You Need Help

We are committed to providing you with the support and guidance you need throughout your learning journey, whether it's in deciding which courses to take or finding the assistance available to students through Charles Sturt University.

Support services are available for:

- Help with academic writing
- Course and enrolment advice
- Well-being
- Library, information technology and online learning support
- Disability and inclusion

Our students consistently tell us they value the responsiveness and personal attention of our faculty and staff, who are committed to helping each student excel.

Helping You Find Your Way

As you consider how you'd like to serve in the future, we'd be glad to talk with you about your current qualifications, career goals, and how we can support your learning needs.

We can also help you adapt to your new learning environment, especially if it's your first foray into higher education or you're new to online learning.

CONTACT

Dr Bernard Doherty
bdoherty@csu.edu.au
Associate Head of School & Course Director, Associate Professor in History

Single-Subject Study & Auditing

Start with a Single Subject

Single-subject study enables you to start exploring theology. It might be an area you know you need to understand more, or it may simply be a way of testing yourself before committing to a full course. You'll get access to all subject materials and resources, and you can choose to complete your subject online or on-campus.

As long as you meet the minimum requirements for entry into a Charles Sturt University course, completing a single-subject can later be credited towards a degree.

Learn more about Single-Subject Study:
study.csu.edu.au/study-options/single-subject



Find out more

[stmarks.edu.au/study-courses
-single-subject-info/](http://stmarks.edu.au/study-courses-single-subject-info/)



Listen in with Auditing

Perhaps your first step is simply to come and listen to some quality theological lectures. If that's your starting point, we invite you to join us as an auditor. You'll be able to participate in weekly lectures and class discussions on campus. There are no entry requirements and no assignments.

It can be an excellent way to start your theological journey. Only some selected subjects are available for auditing each semester. Cost varies from \$350 to \$500, depending on the subject.

Contact us to find out which subjects are available in each session:
info@stmarks.edu.au

Bachelor of Theology

The Bachelor of Theology offers a thorough grounding in the four foundational areas of theology: Biblical Studies, Systematic Theology, Practical Theology, and Church History.

The course has a strong basis in Biblical Studies and Systematic Theology, but you will have opportunities to pursue a significant number of subjects in any of the four main areas. Although undertaken with the rigour of university studies, we still believe theology is where a life of service begins. Therefore, there is a strong commitment to integrating theory and practice with balance.

COURSE DURATION

3 years full-time / 6 years part-time

MODE

Online (Distance Education); On Campus (Canberra)

ADMISSION

Indicative ATAR is 65.00



Find out more

[stmarks.edu.au/
study-courses](https://stmarks.edu.au/study-courses)

SUBJECTS

The Bachelor of Theology comprises 24 subjects, beginning with core subjects that introduce the four discipline areas, a biblical language subject and an indigenous studies subject. Higher-level subjects give more focus and deeper analysis in the discipline areas.

It is possible to add up to four subjects from a non-theology discipline to this degree structure. Provided required core subjects are covered, students in this degree program may exit early either with an Associate Degree in Theology (16 subjects) or a Diploma of Theology (8 subjects).

PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE

In some subjects you will be expected to engage in reflection on practice as part of your assessment. Theology International Study Experience can be credited for one subject in the Bachelor of Theology.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The Bachelor of Theology is a foundational degree in many denominations for pastoral ministry, cross-cultural ministry, counselling, and chaplaincy. It can enhance lay involvement in church and parachurch organisations.

CORE SUBJECTS (88 POINTS)

Biblical Studies (3 Subjects)

- Introduction to Old Testament Studies
- Introduction to New Testament Studies

And one Biblical Language Subject chosen from:

- Introduction to Biblical Languages
- New Testament Greek 1
- Biblical Hebrew 1

Systematic Theology (4 Subjects)

- Introduction to Christian Theology
- Being the Church
- Jesus the Christ
- The Triune God

Church History (2 Subjects)

- Early Church History
- The European Reformations

Practical Theology (2 Subjects)

- Christian Worship
- Practical Theology

Indigenous Studies (1 Subjects)

- Indigenous Australian Cultures and Spiritualities

Electives (Full List Available Online)

- Anglican Foundations
- Biblical Hebrew 2, 3
- Christianity in Australian History
- Ecological Theology
- Global Christianity since 1700
- God and Humanity
- Homiletics
- Judaism and Early Christianity
- Mission, Evangelism and Apologetics
- New Testament Greek 2, 3
- Old Testament History and Narrative
- Pastoral Care
- Sacramental Theology
- The Diaconate
- The Pentateuch
- The Synoptic Gospels
- Theological Ethics
- World Religions and Christian Theology

Exit Points

- Associate Degree in Theology (16 Subjects): 10 core subjects, 6 electives
- Diploma of Theology (8 Subjects): 4 core subjects, 4 electives

Undergraduate Certificate in Theology

The Undergraduate Certificate in Theology is an entry-level course for students without another undergraduate degree. This course can provide a pathway into a Bachelor of Theology.

COURSE DURATION

1 year part-time

MODE

Online (Distance Education); On Campus (Canberra)

ADMISSION

Applicants require a High School Certificate (or equivalent), AQF Certificate III, or a completed Tertiary Preparation course from an Australian university. For more info, see the Charles Sturt University website.



Find out more

[stmarks.edu.au/
study-courses](https://stmarks.edu.au/study-courses)

SUBJECTS

This course comprises 4 subjects (32 points)

CORE SUBJECTS (32 POINTS)

- Introduction to Old Testament Studies
- Introduction to New Testament Studies
- Introduction to Christian Theology

Electives (Full List Available Online)

- Introduction to Biblical Languages
- New Testament Greek I
- Biblical Hebrew I
- Practical Theology
- Being the Church
- Early Church History
- The European Reformations

Dr David Neville

Lecturer in New Testament Studies

Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies

The Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies offers an admission pathway into theological study for students with an undergraduate degree from a different discipline. It provides an introduction to Christian theology, Old Testament studies, New Testament studies, and church history.

The course provides a great foundation for those wanting to serve—in church ministry or where you currently work. It offers students the opportunity to deepen their understanding of the Bible and theology. You can complete this Graduate Certificate in one year by studying four subjects part-time online, or break up your study over more semesters. This course also articulates into the Master of Arts (Theological Studies).

COURSE DURATION

1 year part-time

MODE

Online (Distance Education); On Campus (Canberra)

ADMISSION

You will need to have an undergraduate degree from an approved tertiary institution, other than an undergraduate degree in Theology.



Find out more

[stmarks.edu.au/
study-courses](https://stmarks.edu.au/study-courses)

SUBJECTS

A 32-point program comprising 2 core subjects (16 points) and 2 electives (16 points).

CORE SUBJECTS

- Introduction to Christian Theology
- Introduction to New Testament Studies or
- Introduction to Old Testament Studies

Electives (Full List Available Online)

- Anglican Foundations
- Being the Church
- Biblical Hebrew 1, 2, 3
- Christian Worship
- Christianity in Australian History
- Early Church History
- Ecological Theology
- Global Christianity since 1700
- God & Humanity
- Homiletics
- Jesus the Christ
- Judaism & Early Christianity
- Mission, Evangelism & Apologetics
- New Testament Greek 1, 2, 3
- Old Testament History & Narrative
- Pastoral Care
- Practical Theology
- Sacramental Theology
- The Diaconate
- The European Reformations
- The Pentateuch
- The Synoptic Gospels
- The Triune God
- Theological Ethics
- World Religions & Christian Theology

Dr Michael Gladwin
Senior Lecturer in History

Graduate Diploma of Theological Studies

The Graduate Diploma of Theological Studies offers a graduate pathway into theological study for students with an undergraduate degree from a different discipline. It is also a requirement for ordination to the diaconate in the Anglican Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn.

This course consists of eight subjects (64 points) with four core subjects and four electives. Students can choose to exit with a Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies upon completion of four subjects. This course articulates into the Master of Arts (Theological Studies).

COURSE DURATION

1 year full-time / 2 years part-time

MODE

Online (Distance Education); On Campus (Canberra)

ADMISSION

You will need to have an undergraduate degree from an approved tertiary institution, other than an undergraduate degree in Theology.



Find out more

[stmarks.edu.au/
study-courses](https://stmarks.edu.au/study-courses)

SUBJECTS

A 64-point program comprising four core subjects (32 points) and four restricted electives (32 points).

CORE SUBJECTS

- Introduction to Christian Theology
- Early Church History
- Indigenous Australian Cultures and Spiritualities
- Introduction to Old Testament Studies or Introduction to New Testament Studies

Electives (Full List Available Online)

- Anglican Foundations
- Being the Church
- Biblical Hebrew 1, 2, 3
- Christian Worship
- Christianity in Australian History
- Ecological Theology
- Global Christianity since 1700
- God & Humanity
- Homiletics
- Jesus the Christ
- Judaism & Early Christianity
- Mission, Evangelism & Apologetics
- New Testament Greek 1, 2, 3
- Old Testament History & Narrative
- Pastoral Care
- Practical Theology
- Sacramental Theology
- The Diaconate
- The Synoptic Gospels
- The European Reformations
- The Pentateuch
- The Triune God

Three Masters Programs for Theological Study

Charles Sturt University offers three different Masters-level theological courses that cater to different academic pathways and vocations.



Dr Jacqueline Service

Director, St Mark's National Theological Centre
Senior Lecturer in Systematic Theology

Master of Arts (Theological Studies) Coursework

If you have an undergraduate degree in another discipline and are new to theological study, this Masters will give you a broad and solid foundation in theology. The course can be completed in 18 months full-time and helps to equip you for Christian service or ministry. Successful completion of the Graduate Certificate or Graduate Diploma in Theological Studies can be credited toward this course.

Master of Philosophy (Arts & Education) Research

This course is for people who have excelled in theological study and who wish to investigate an issue from the perspective of Christian theology in-depth. Successful completion of this award can be an outstanding foundation for further doctoral research. This MPhil requires a completed research dissertation of no more than 50,000 words that deploys all the skills and expectations relevant to academic research. We recommend speaking to faculty at St Mark's before applying for this course.

Master of Theology Coursework (with Research Option)

This course is ideal for people seeking to deepen existing theological knowledge obtained through a previous tertiary theological qualification. Subjects are offered in areas ranging from classic and contemporary theology to approaches in Biblical Studies, Church History, Systematic Theology, and Practical Theology. The Master of Theology by coursework can be completed in 18 months full-time and includes generous options for the development of skills in research and writing. The research option grounds students in the skills necessary for further research (e.g. PhD). Since this option includes core subjects, we recommend speaking to faculty at St Mark's about your course progression early in your enrolment.

Master of Arts

Theological Studies

The Master of Arts (Theological Studies) is a pathway to theology for graduates from other disciplines. It gives students foundations in the four major areas of theological study—Biblical Studies, Systematic Theology, Church History, and Practical Theology.

COURSE DURATION

1.5 years full-time / 3 years part-time

MODE

Online (Distance Education); On Campus (Canberra)

ADMISSION

You will need to have an undergraduate degree from an approved tertiary institution, other than an undergraduate degree in Theology.



Find out more

[stmarks.edu.au/
study-courses](https://stmarks.edu.au/study-courses)

SUBJECTS

A 96-point program comprising six core subjects (56 points) and five electives (40 points).

CORE SUBJECTS

- Introduction to Christian Theology
- Introduction to Old Testament Studies
- Introduction to New Testament Studies
- Early Church History
- Indigenous Australian Cultures and Spiritualities
- Guided Research in Theology

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

After graduating with a Master of Arts (Theological Studies), you'll be ready for further study—or to start serving in a fresh way. Enter the ministry, move toward church leadership, or contribute through church-run organisations or various mission settings.

Electives (Full List Available Online)

- Anglican Foundations
- Being the Church
- Biblical Hebrew 1, 2, 3
- Christian Worship
- Ecological Theology
- Global Christianity since 1700
- God and Humanity
- Homiletics
- Jesus the Christ
- Judaism and Christianity
- Mission, Evangelism & Apologetics
- New Testament Greek 1, 2
- Old Testament History & Narrative
- Pastoral Care
- Practical Theology
- Sacramental Theology
- The Diaconate
- The European Reformations
- The Pentateuch
- The Synoptic Gospels
- The Triune God
- Theological Ethics
- World Religions & Christian Theology

Dr Aden Cotterill
Lecturer in Theology

Master of Theology

The Master of Theology builds on your previous study, strengthening your understanding of theology for the challenges you face.

By coursework, it can be completed in 18 months full-time and includes generous options for the development of skills in research and writing. The research option (Option 2) grounds students in the skills necessary for further higher degree by research study. Since this option includes core subjects, we recommend speaking to faculty at St Mark's about your course progression early in your enrolment.

COURSE DURATION

1.5 years full-time / 3 years part-time

MODE

Online (Distance Education); On Campus (Canberra)

ADMISSION

Students must hold an undergraduate degree in theology with no less than a Credit average or its equivalent; or have obtained a Credit average or higher in the Charles Sturt University Graduate Diploma of Theological Studies or equivalent.



Find out more

[stmarks.edu.au/
study-courses](https://stmarks.edu.au/study-courses)

SUBJECTS

The course consists of the following options:

Option 1: Coursework — Five restricted electives (80 points total) and Guided Research Subject (16 points) (in the last session of study).

Option 2: Research — Four restricted electives (48 points total) and one compulsory subject: Theology Masters Coursework Dissertation (32 points).

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A Master of Theology further equips you to work in ministry and mission, and to take up church positions and leadership roles. It also provides a pathway to specialised research (for example, at PhD level).

PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE

During your Master of Theology program you will develop your research, analytical, and communication skills, as well as your knowledge of contemporary developments in theology. By the end of the program you will be able to plan and execute a substantial research based project in your chosen sub-discipline.

Electives (Full List Available Online)

- Anglican Foundations
- Being the Church
- Biblical Hebrew 1, 2, 3
- Christian Worship
- Ecological Theology
- Global Christianity since 1700
- God and Humanity
- Homiletics
- Jesus the Christ
- Judaism and Christianity
- Mission, Evangelism & Apologetics
- New Testament Greek 1, 2
- Old Testament History & Narrative
- Pastoral Care
- Practical Theology
- Sacramental Theology
- The Diaconate
- The European Reformations
- The Pentateuch
- The Synoptic Gospels
- The Triune God
- Theological Ethics
- World Religions & Christian Theology

Dr Bernard Doherty

Associate Head of School
& Course Director,
Associate Professor in History

Master of Philosophy

Arts and Education

Pursue advanced studies in theology with Charles Sturt's Master of Philosophy (Arts and Education).

This higher degree by research gives you the opportunity to explore in depth a topic of your choosing by writing a thesis under specialist supervision. The topic areas you can choose from are varied and include themes in biblical studies, church history, systematic theology or practical theology. The MPhil is also a pathway to PhD studies.

In partnership with CSU we are currently offering fee-waiver places (that is, fees are waived for the normal duration of the course) for MPhil students who are accepted into our course.

COURSE DURATION

1-2 years full-time / 2-4 years part-time

MODE

Online (Distance Education); On Campus (Canberra)

ADMISSION

You will need the following qualifications to be eligible for this course:

- A Master of Theology from Charles Sturt University with a Distinction average plus evidence of research; or
- A Bachelor of Theology (Honours) with Class 1 or Class 2 Division 1 from Charles Sturt University; or
- An award from another accredited tertiary institution, accepted by the University as equivalent to one of the above awards, and/or have demonstrated in study or professional performance potential to undertake research at a Master degree level.

Intending applicants should contact the Higher Degree by Research coordinator at St Mark's to discuss the proposal before applying for admission to the program.



Find out more

[stmarks.edu.au/
study-courses](https://stmarks.edu.au/study-courses)

The Rev Dr Geoff Broughton

Deputy Director, Associate Professor in Practical Theology

Doctor of Philosophy

Arts and Education

The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) offers graduates who have an excellent academic record and proven research skills the opportunity to conduct research at a level that will contribute to the knowledge base of their discipline.

St Mark's is convinced that theology is ultimately a communal enterprise. Our HDR (Higher Degree by Research) community—comprising local and distant PhD, MPhil, and MTh students, faculty, and other scholars affiliated with St Mark's—will not only support you in completing your thesis but also help shape you into a more robust scholar and grounded person, equipped to serve the Church and the world as a humble thought leader. Monthly postgraduate seminars, regular academic skills sessions, and local campus community events can supplement your focused project work in conjunction with one of our qualified faculty supervisors who are concerned not only about what you produce, but who you are.

COURSE DURATION

3 years full-time / 6 years part-time

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students should contact the course coordinator or potential supervisor to discuss possible research topics. In accordance with the University's Higher Degree by Research regulations, students will be assigned an appropriate supervisor who will assist the student to develop a research proposal and title for the research project, and guide the student during the research process and thesis preparation.



Find out more

[stmarks.edu.au/
study-courses](https://stmarks.edu.au/study-courses)

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A Doctor of Philosophy with a focus on theology opens up teaching and research careers, and leadership positions in church and parachurch organisations.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR PHD

The entry qualifications required for admission are:

- a relevant Bachelor degree at Honours Class 1 or Honours Class 2 Division 1; or
- a relevant Master by Research (Master of Theology, Master of Philosophy); or
- enrolled in a Charles Sturt University Master by Research program and has demonstrated exceptional ability in the conduct of a research project which is clearly capable of being extended to a doctoral level; or
- a relevant coursework Master's degree with evidence of research at a Distinction level or above; or
- other qualifications acceptable to the Faculty of Arts & Education and the Research Advisory Committee.

Dr Amy Erickson

Lecturer in Theology &
HDR Coordinator

Ministry Courses

Professional Supervision Study Options

St Mark's has been delivering our Professional Supervision program for over 10 years. We are innovators and leaders in this space, having developed the first Professional Supervision courses, and our courses are recommended by numerous church bodies and parachurch organisations as the preferred industry standard for their professional supervisors.

We offer professional supervision training and study that cater to different academic pathways and training needs. Our Graduate Certificate in Professional Supervision course is accredited by the Australasian Association of Supervision (AAOS) for membership at Associate level and all courses are eligible for FEE-Help.

Graduate Certificate in Professional Supervision (Pastoral)

Delivered through face-to-face intensives blended with online learning, our course focuses on practice and includes a supervisory component. Our delivery style is also immersive as it models the transformational learning experience of professional supervision. There are flexible admission requirements and the course can be completed in 1 year part-time. FEE-Help is available. This course is accredited with AAOS for admission at Associate membership level.



Single-Subject Study

If you are interested in deepening your previous supervision studies, then single-subject study might be the best option for you.

Our Professional Supervision subjects are:

MIN503 Professional Supervision 1

MIN525 Professional Supervision 2

MIN406 Group & Peer Supervision

MIN400 Reflective Practice in Contemporary Ministry

Graduate Certificate in Professional Supervision

This course gives ministry workers, educators, and other mid-career professionals the opportunity to study the theory and practice of professional supervision for pastoral contexts. It integrates best practice in the sector within a theological and client-centred framework.

COURSE DURATION

1 or 2 years part-time

MODE

Online and work-based, with face-to-face intensives. Includes practical supervision sessions, 18 hours of supervision practice, and 100 hours of work placement.

ADMISSION

Relevant undergraduate degree, or 5+ years' experience in a helping profession with a professional recommendation.



Find out more

[stmarks.edu.au/
study-courses](https://stmarks.edu.au/study-courses)

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Our course is recognised by the Australasian Association of Supervisors (AAOS).

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Completion of this award will position clergy and those in the helping/caring professions to offer professional supervision to clergy and other helpers. (National standards around clergy supervision are now in place following the Royal Commission into churches and other institutions).

PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE

This graduate certificate emphasises face-to-face practical sessions for role play and simulated supervision experiences. This course includes emphasis on group sharing and discussion as a form of assessment. It also requires learners to contract with a supervisee for six sessions of supervision.

SUBJECTS

Skills and knowledge in this course are taught using a highly integrated approach. The course comprises four subjects worth 8 credit points each (total 32 points).

MIN503 Professional Supervision 1

This subject introduces students to the key aspects of professional supervision. The students will learn advanced skills and knowledge in a range of areas, including how to establish and manage a supervision relationship, how to facilitate transformational learning for a supervisee, how to provide professional supervision in a range of contexts, how to distinguish professional supervision from other forms of reflective practice, how to undertake professional and theological reflection, and how to apply legal and ethical responsibilities within professional and ministry contexts (involves workplace learning and an intensive school).

MIN525 Professional Supervision 2

This subject introduces students to the key aspects of professional supervision in pastoral contexts. The students will learn advanced skills and knowledge in a range of areas, including how to establish and manage a supervision relationship; how to provide professional supervision in ministry, community sector, and professional contexts; how to undertake professional reflection; how to plan group interventions; how to provide ethical and pastoral advice; and how to apply legal and ethical responsibilities within professional and ministry contexts (involves workplace learning and an intensive school).

MIN400 Reflective Practice in Contemporary Ministry

This subject provides an overview of the basic tools of theological reflection and their application to reflective practice, forming the foundation for critical inquiry into the practice of Christian ministry. Students will develop their skills in reflective practice through the exploration of issues associated with their ministry experience. Topics include critical investigations of particular approaches to identified pastoral issues undertaken to understand thoroughly the strengths and weaknesses of methodologies. Students will apply reflection in action cycles in their own fields of ministry and establish a personal template for their reflective practice in ministry.

MIN406 Group & Peer Supervision

This subject introduces students to the principles and practice of group and peer supervision, which complement individual professional and pastoral supervision. Students will be helped to grow in the skills of facilitating group and peer supervision. Students will also learn how group and peer supervision can optimise reflective learning processes, provide supervisors with opportunities continuing professional development in their supervision practice, and enhance the importance of collaborative peer networks for advanced professional supervisors.

Graduate Diploma of Pastoral Counselling

The Pastoral Counselling program qualifies individuals to undertake professional or highly skilled work in the field of Pastoral Counselling in settings such as pastoral and clinical counselling practice, church and community work, and lay or ordained ministry.



COURSE DURATION

2 years part-time

MODE

Online (Distance Education)

ADMISSION

Relevant undergraduate degree preferred, but applicants without one may be considered. Personal suitability and supporting references/evidence are required.



Find out more

[stmarks.edu.au/
study-courses](https://stmarks.edu.au/study-courses)

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

The Graduate Diploma has professional accreditation by the Australian Counselling Association (ACA) as an approved postgraduate counselling training program.

PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE

This counselling graduate diploma emphasises face-to-face practical sessions for role play and hands-on learning. This course includes emphasis on applying course learning to the student's background context for all assessment tasks.

SUBJECTS

- Pastoral Counselling Skills
- Pastoral Counselling: Theory and Professional Issues
- Pastoral Counselling: Grief and Loss
- Pastoral Counselling: Crisis Intervention
- Pastoral Counselling: Relationship and Family
- Pastoral Counselling: Mental Health and Trauma
- Spiritual Direction in the Christian Tradition
- Applied Pastoral Theology

EXIT POINT — GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN PASTORAL COUNSELLING

- Pastoral Counselling Skills
- Pastoral Counselling: Theory and Professional Issues
- Pastoral Counselling: Grief and Loss
- Applied Pastoral Theology

Master of Pastoral Counselling

The Master of Pastoral Counselling aims to qualify individuals from a variety of backgrounds in pastoral counselling, including churches, universities, schools, military service, corrective services, police, aged care facilities, and the general community.

Students will learn to apply advanced knowledge and skills (including knowledge of research principles and methods applicable to the field) in a range of professional pastoral counselling contexts, enabling them to develop a mastery of the field in their professional practice. The program integrates applied pastoral theology with advanced pastoral counselling theory and skills through in-depth understanding of the discipline. This course is done through either clinical coursework or pastoral counselling research, and serves as a pathway to further learning.

COURSE DURATION

4 years part-time

MODE

Online (Distance Education)

ADMISSION

Relevant undergraduate degree or a Graduate Diploma in Pastoral Counselling. Other degrees may be considered. Personal suitability is also required.



Find out more

[stmarks.edu.au/
study-courses](https://stmarks.edu.au/study-courses)

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

When you study the Master of Pastoral Counselling you will be able to directly serve in people's lives by providing spiritual and psychological support to those who need it most.

You will develop the skills and experience to offer counselling across a wide range of settings—pastoral and clinical practice, church and community work, and lay or ordained ministry—to help people with any issue, be it personal, family, marital or faith.

PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE

This Master's course emphasises face-to-face practical sessions for role play and hands-on learning. This course includes a focus on applying course learning to the student's background context for all assessment tasks.

SUBJECTS — MASTER OF PASTORAL COUNSELLING (128 POINTS)

All of the Graduate Diploma of Pastoral Counselling Subjects, plus:

- Advanced Pastoral Counselling (16 points)
- Social Research Methods for Pastoral Studies (8 points)
- Pastoral Counselling Research Proposal (8 points)
- Pastoral Counselling Dissertation (32 points)

SUBJECTS — MASTER OF PASTORAL COUNSELLING (CLINICAL) (13 SUBJECTS)

All of the Graduate Diploma of Pastoral Counselling Subjects, plus:

- Advanced Pastoral Counselling (16 points)
- Theological Ethics for the Helping Professions (8 points)
- Pastoral Counselling Professional Practice (16 points)
- Reflective Practitioner Perspectives in Pastoral Counselling (16 points)
- Social Research Methods for Pastoral Studies (8 points)

Faith seeking
understanding.

GIVING THANKS FOR 10 YEARS
70
1957 – 2027



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University