

Canon Law Society  
of  
Australia and New Zealand



56<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

4 to 7 September 2023  
at



Rydges Latimer Christchurch

30 Latimer Square, Christchurch Central City, Christchurch 8011, New Zealand

+64 3 379 6760

[H8787-RE@accor.com](mailto:H8787-RE@accor.com)

[reservations\\_rydgeslatimerchristchurch@evt.com](mailto:reservations_rydgeslatimerchristchurch@evt.com)

# Monday, 4 September

- 2:00pm Check-in, Registration
- 3:00pm Afternoon Tea
- 3:45pm Opening of Conference  
Fr Ken Cafe ofm, President
- 4:00pm Conclusions of the New Zealand Royal Commission  
Dr Rocio Figueroa
- 5:15pm Break
- 6:30pm Dinner



## Presenters:

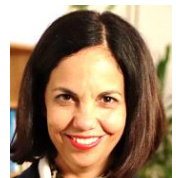
**Dr Michael-Andreas Nobel** completed a Diploma in Theology, at the Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz, Germany, in 2002, a JCL at the Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster, Germany, in 2004, and a PhD in Theology at the Theologische Fakultät Paderborn, Germany, in 2007. He has held several positions as an official in tribunals in Germany, Canada and Texas, and has been a professor in canon law at St Paul University, Ottawa since 2007. He has written several articles in refereed journals, including in *The Canonist*, and has recently published a ten books in total on Procedures and *Pastor Bonus*.



**Deacon Dr Jerry Jorgensen PhD, JCL**, is currently the consulting psychologist for the Archdiocese of Dubuque, Iowa, where he also serves as a judge in the Metropolitan Tribunal. He does ministry work at the Church of the Resurrection and is on the medical staff at Mercy Hospital, both in Dubuque. He is the father of three and husband to wife Mary. He graduated in canon law at Catholic University, Washington in 1998. During the Canon Law Society of America's 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention in 2018, Deacon Jorgensen was presented with the prestigious Role of Law Award.



**Dr Rocio Figueroa** is a Peruvian Catholic theologian and is a systematic theology lecturer in Catholic Theological College, Auckland. She has previously lectured and worked in Peru, Italy and Mexico. She worked in the Holy See as head of the women's section in the Pontifical Council for the Laity. Rocio's present research focus is theological and pastoral responses for survivors of Church sexual and spiritual abuse.



## Tuesday, 5 September



- 7:00am Breakfast
- 9:00am Prayer to begin the day
- 9:15am Church Records and Privacy  
Dr Michael-Andreas Nobel
- 10:30am Morning Tea
- 11:00am Tribunal Handbook  
Dr Michael-Andreas Nobel
- 12:30pm Luncheon
- 2:00pm Workshops  
Dealing With Antagonistic Respondents  
Mrs Paula Kerr and Mrs Sue Rivett  
Preliminary Investigation Canon 1717; the revised *VELM*  
Dr Brendan Daly  
The Role of Assessors in Marriage Nullity Cases  
Dr Michael-Andreas Nobel
- 3:00pm Afternoon Tea
- 3:30pm Canon 1392: Clerics Abandoning the Sacred Ministry  
Dicastery for the Clergy Speaker TBA
- 5:30pm Mass for Deceased Members  
at St Mary's Pro Cathedral [1.2km, buses provided]
- 6:30pm Dinner

### Catholic Cathedral Parish, Christchurch:

The late Bishop Joyce laid a new foundation stone on 8 December 1957 for what is now Catholic Cathedral Parish, also previously known as St Mary's Pro Cathedral. In the niche on the tower is a statue of Our lady of Immaculate Conception; the inside of the church has beautiful Stations of the Cross — both are made by Pelligrini in Australia. Catholic Cathedral Parish is one of the surviving churches after the devastating 2010/2011 Christchurch earthquakes and has been strengthened since. It comfortably sits 700 people and is a church with ties to Australia.

# Wednesday, 6 September



- 7:00am Breakfast
- 9:00am Prayer to begin the day
- 9:15am Gender Identity and Canonical Implications  
Deacon Jerry Jorgensen
- 10:30am Morning Tea
- 11:00am Vulnerable Persons, the Code and *Vos Estis*  
Dr Michael-Andreas Nobel
- 12:15pm Break
- 12:30pm Annual General Meeting of the Society
- 1:00pm Luncheon
- 3:00pm Workshops [as per Tuesday]
- 4:00pm Afternoon Tea
- 5:30pm Conference Mass at St Mary's Pro Cathedral [buses provided]
- 7:00pm Conference Dinner including Pre-Dinner Drinks

# Thursday, 7 September

- 7:00am Breakfast ... departure  
*Time for visiting Christchurch ...*



## Our Host Diocese:

The Diocese of Christchurch was created on 5 May 1887 with Bishop John Joseph Grimes SM being the first Bishop. The Diocese had previously been part of the then Diocese of Wellington, the latter being elevated to an Archdiocese on 10 May 1887. The Diocese of Christchurch is currently comprised of 18 parishes covering parts of the West Coast and Canterbury in the South Island of New Zealand, as well as the Chatham Islands, the first place in the world to be touched by the sun each day. Since 1887 the Diocese has had ten bishops. The Catholic population of the Diocese is 62,715. The diocese covers 51,780 square kilometres. The diocesan patron saint is St John the Baptist. The current and eleventh Bishop of Christchurch is Michael Gielen.