



## **YEAR 11 RELIGION AND ETHICS**

The aim of Religious Education at Marymount College is to provide Christian education in the Catholic tradition to students so that they may participate critically and authentically in faith contexts and wider society. As an Authority-registered subject designed for Year 11 and 12 students, it enhances students' understanding of how personal beliefs, values and spiritual identity are shaped and influenced by factors such as family, culture, gender, race, class and economics. It allows for flexible programs of study that recognise the varied needs and interests of students investigating topics such as spirituality, purpose and destiny life choices, moral and ethical issues and justice. Within this study area, the focus is on students gaining knowledge and developing an ability to reflect on, critique and communicate this knowledge in relation to their lives and the world in which they live. The learning experiences and assessment tasks (are) practical and experiential. (Religion and Ethics Study Area Specification 2004 QSA p.1).

The senior secondary curriculum builds on the prior learning in Prep to Year 10, allowing students to use, consolidate and expand on what they have learned. Whilst incorporating the core components of The Nature and Significance of Religion, Australian Perspectives and World Religions, the four interrelated strands of Sacred Texts, Beliefs, Church and Christian Life also underpin the senior secondary curriculum, identifying core content that is to be taught and that students should learn.

In Term 1 of Year 11 students investigate “**The Australian Scene**”. They explore the diverse attitudes to religion and spirituality in Australia and examine the place of the Catholic Christian tradition in Australia. The unit also allows students to investigate cultural and religious diversity and critique the apparent contradictions and stereotypes that are present in Australia today.

In Term 2 of Year 11 students study the **Social Justice** unit and learn that Social Justice issues should always evoke a religious and ethical response. In this unit, students have the opportunity to investigate a diversity of local, national and international approaches to social justice concerns and link these with different ethical and religious responses. Students explore active means of participation in responding to social justice concerns and reflect on personal involvement in social justice outreach.

In Term 3 students have the opportunity to study “**Peace and Conflict**” and to examine and evaluate practical questions of how to realise peace and justice in the world. This elective explores how religion and in particular the Catholic Christian tradition can play an important part in establishing, promoting and maintaining peace. It will give students opportunities to investigate the causes of war, violence and injustice; explore non-violent and peaceful approaches at all levels of social organisation as well as the political, professional and personal behaviours necessary to bring about a more just and peaceful world.

In Term 4 students explore “**Spirituality**” where they learn about spirituality and ritual in the Catholic Christian tradition. They will have the opportunity to explore, experience and express their own spirituality, and to learn about the spirituality of others.





