What have past participants said about Living Water?

“My participation has refocused my teaching, which can easily become mechanical in trying to cover the curriculum in limited time, and refocused my awareness of the vocational aspect of my job”

“Formation has contributed to how I attend to the child in front of me – more attentiveness, patience and a sense of preciousness”

“My participation has given me a greater sense of where I fit and how I might enrich my community. I have greater respect for my colleagues and appreciation for their journey”

“I initially balked at the time commitment… but the time has made ‘me’ seem more valuable.”

As Henri Nouwen wrote,

“Spiritual formation requires not only taking the inward journey to the heart, but also the outward journey from the heart to community and ministry. Christian Spirituality is essentially communal”.

You are personally invited to register for the Fourth Formation Programme, *Living Water*, at Santa Teresa Retreat Centre, Ormiston

A Series of Six Retreats
Wednesday Evening to Friday Afternoon

1. 2-4 November, 2016
2. 1-3 February, 2017
3. 26-28 April, 2017
4. 23-25 August, 2017
5. 25-27 October, 2017
6. 7-9 February, 2018

Vocation is not just about working. It’s also about being. It’s not just about what you do, but more important, who you are. (Fr James Martin SJ in “The Jesuit Guide to Almost Everything“)
What to expect?

Facilitated by Dr Michael Downey & Sr Rita Carroll RSCJ, participants are guided through a series of six retreats, one retreat, each term. The focus of each retreat is on the personal calling of each individual participant.

Time, alone and in community, is provided for participants with guidance to discern and reflect on their individual vocation to teach in a Catholic school, so that their soul is congruent with their role.

Who?

The Living Water programme is for practicing teachers. You will be joined by colleagues from Villanova, Brigidine, Loreto and possibly other Colleges.

Costs?

All costs are met by the participating schools. There is no cost to the teachers involved.

What do we do on retreat?

Starting with the assumption that teaching in a Catholic school is a vocation, rather than just a job, the focus is on nurturing and sustaining the vocation of the self who teaches. Together, we make the time and space to step away from constant busyness and encourage what it most important to each of us, the work of our life.

Is Living Water Professional Development?

Yes, Living Water addresses Queensland College of Teachers Professional Standards 6, 7, 8, 9 & 10. On completion of the programme you will be given a certificate recognising more than 95 hours of professional development in Leadership for Catholic Identity and Mission.

Do I need to attend all six retreats?

Yes, in committing to the programme, you are also committing to being part of the community of teachers from different schools who are journeying together. Living Water is not about training, it is a journey which aims at encouraging growth and transformation in teachers called to work in Catholic schools.

More Questions?

Contact Michael Downey directly: 0438725749 or by email downeym@loreto.qld.edu.au

“A living water has given me a recognition of the value of what I am already doing and what I can bring to my school… to let go, and have faith, and follow my heart”

(A graduate from the Inaugural Programme)