

# Introduction to Theology for Parishioners



Are you an accountant, an employee, a medical doctor or a tradie or perhaps a student?

Whichever profession you are practising, you know that you need certain grade of competency if you want to advance your professional career.

Being a Catholic is not an occupation and having faith may not advance your career, even though it contributes to your spiritual and mental well-being.

No matter what your profession is, as a believer reflect and think “informally” about God. Also, there is a formal way to do think and reflect. It is called theology which is a more formal task, a task performed by people who make a concerted and well-informed effort in a particular discipline of faith.

Theology is not just a task for professional or academic theologians. Rather, every baptised Christian is called to be a theologian, if the goal of theology is the understanding of God’s word in its profundity.

The course over six weeks aims to introduce you to the basic theological thoughts and concepts crucial for the understanding of the Bible, Catholic faith and doctrines and liturgy.

This course will help you to achieve:

1. An understanding of the major areas in the discipline of Theology—biblical studies, historical or comparative studies, systematic theology, ethics, and spirituality.
2. Familiarity with the variety of religious experiences and traditions
3. An understanding of how religious morality and justice are integrated with faith
4. The ability to apply difficult theological concepts and ideas within their writing, research, or in field experiences.
5. The ability to reflect on their own experiences in light of theological perspectives.

When: 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2021 at 7pm via Zoom (thereafter fortnightly)

Requirement: Nothing, except your faith and enthusiasm

Cost: Free (except contribution to cover cost of materials)

For registration: [joseph.lam@parracatholic.org](mailto:joseph.lam@parracatholic.org) or [secretary@stfinbars.org.au](mailto:secretary@stfinbars.org.au)

Upon registration, you will receive the link to ZOOM classroom

Presenter: Fr Joe Lam, PP of Glenbrook.



Fr Joe has been a Professor of Theology in Rome (Pontifical Patristic Institute, Lateran University) and a Senior Lecturer at the Australian Catholic University. He has published seven books and over 60 peer review articles in German, English, Italian and Spanish and Dutch.