



Prof Gerald O'Collins SJ

Academic and Professional Qualifications:

- PhD Cantab 1968
- STL 1st Hons Heythrop College 1967
- MA 1st Hons Melbourne University 1959
- BA 1st Hons Melbourne University 1958.
- Several honorary doctorates: from the University of San Francisco (1991), University of Surrey (2003), Sacred Heart University (Bridgeport, Conn.) (2004); John Carroll University (Cleveland, Ohio) (2007); and a DD from Melbourne College of Divinity (2007)
- Honorary adjunct professor of Australian Catholic University (2007-2010)

Grants / Awards / Bursaries:

- Awarded best theology book of 2006 by the Catholic Press Association of the United States and of Canada for *Living Vatican II*, Paulist Press.
- Johannes Quaster Medal (Catholic University of America), 2006
- Companion of the Order of Australia (AC) 2006
- Stefano Borgia European Prize (Stefano Borgia Foundation), 2001
- Visiting Scholar, Pembroke College, Cambridge, 1991-92
- The Malipiero Prize (Malipiero Foundation, Bologna) 1987
- Honoured Visitor, Pembroke College, Cambridge 1973-74
- Research fellow Pembroke College (Cambridge) 1967-69
- Melbourne University travelling scholarship 1965-67
- Leeper Gold Medal (in classics) University of Melbourne, 1958

External Involvement (Consultancy / Professional Bodies / External Examining):

Appointed Wade Chair in Theology, Marquette University (Milwaukee), fall semester 2006 and subsequently involved in the selection of further occupants

Books:

- *Catholicism. A Very Short Introduction* OUP, 2008
- *The Legacy of John Paul II* (ed. with Michael Hayes) Continuum, 2008
- *Jesus. A Portrait* Darton, Longman & Todd, 2008
- *Salvation for All. God's Other Peoples* OUP, 2008
- *Pope John Paul II. A Reader* (With D Kendall and J LaBelle) Paulist Press, 2007
- *Christ Our Redeemer. A Christian Approach to Salvation* OUP, 2007
- *The Lord's Prayer* Darton, Longman & Todd, 2006
- *Living Vatican II. The 21st Council for the 21st Century*, Paulist Press, 2006 (awarded best theology book of 2006 by the Catholic Press Association of the United States and of Canada)
- 44 other books from 1965
- Many of these books have also been published in other languages, especially in Italian and Spanish
- Hundreds of articles in professional and popular journals; many chapters in books in collaboration; many entries in various dictionaries

Article and Books in Preparation:

- Christ Our Priest. A Christian Approach to the Priesthood of Christ OUP, 2010
- Tony de Mello on the Spiritual Exercises Doubleday, 2009
- Eight entries in The Cambridge Dictionary of Christianity, 2009
- Various articles and reviews to appear 2009 in The Heythrop Journal, The Pastoral Review and Theological Studies

Conference Presentations / Performances / Radio Broadcasts:

- 'Christ at the Center', The Mullen Lecture, St Mary Seminary, Cleveland (Ohio) 9 November 2008
 - 'Christ at the Center', The St Augustine Lecture for Bridgeport diocese, Fairfield, Conn. 6 November
 - 'The Beauty of Christ', The Newman Lecture, St Tomas More Center, Yale University, 5 November
 - Eight lectures on Christology, Pluscarden Abbey, Scotland, 13-17 October
 - Day-long symposium on the resurrection of Jesus, St Mary's College (Adelaide) 23 August 2008
 - Lecture on Jesus. A Portrait, Yarra Theological Union (Melbourne) 31 July 2008 Lecture on Jesus. A Portrait, Milltown Institute (Dublin) 17 May 2008
 - Lecture on Jesus. A Portrait, University of Birmingham, 26 April 2008
 - Three appearances on BBC World TV (on Pope Benedict's visit to the USA) 16, 18 and 20 April 2008
 - Conference on the theological legacy of John Paul II, St Mary's University College, 24-27 March 2008
- During 2008, many other lectures and interviews for audiences and media in the UK, Ireland, the USA, and Australia.
- Lecture (on the Church), Melbourne College of Divinity, August 2007
 - Two week course (on Christology), Boston College, July 2007
 - Conference for Clergy, St Mary's University College, 18-19 June 2007
 - BBC Radio 4 broadcast, Cambridge 6 May 2007
 - Margaret Beaufort Lecture, Cambridge, April 2007
 - Cardinal Hume lectures, Heythrop College, London, March 2007
 - Fisher lecture, Cambridge (February 2007)
 - Lecture ("Who is Jesus? Does it matter?") St Mary's University College, Belfast, February 2007
 - An interview with BBC One - for an obituary of Pope Benedict XVI, 13 February 2007
 - An interview with BBC (radio) Northern Ireland, 4 February 2007.
 - A conference in the National Press Club, Washington (DC) September 2006.
 - A paper on suffering and the incarnation at a conference in Leuven in November 2005
 - A paper at a conference on Teilhard de Chardin (Rome) in 2004
 - Over many years much TV work with the BBC and other networks; much radio work, especially with Vatican Radio



Presenters: Dr Rev Merrill Kitchen OA

The fact that Dr Merrill Kitchen was born into a family of rich religious inheritances probably explains the breadth of her religious as well as her professional activities.

Her mother's family has a Jewish and Methodist background while her father's family is so diverse that it is difficult to identify one single religious strand. 'I am told that my paternal grandmother directed her children never to marry Jews or Catholics,' she recalls, 'but two of the three married into Jewish families and the other married a Catholic!'

Merrill's surgeon husband Paul has a Baptist background. After their marriage, the couple joined the Swanston Street Church of Christ in Melbourne; while working since in the UK and Israel, they have been nourished in Baptist, Anglican and Catholic communities.

Her careers in pathology, church and community have always intertwined, so Merrill's description of herself as 'medical scientist', not to mention her current role as Principal of the Churches of Christ Theological College, former Dean of the Evangelical Theological Association and President of the Melbourne College of Divinity, does nothing to cover the range of her skills and experiences.

Her many connections with some of the most notable of our medical institutions include the Royal Women's Hospital and RMIT in Melbourne and Nazareth Hospital in Israel, where one of her three children was born. Over seven years of her hectic family and professional life, she completed undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in theology, her specialty being in a socio-rhetorical reading of the Gospels. Always deeply ecumenically committed, Merrill has worked with people struggling with HIV/AIDS through the Churches AIDS Pastoral Care and Education initiative.



Ms Philomena Billington is Director of Catholic Education in the Diocese of Sandhurst, with particular responsibility for Stewardship of Catholic Identity and Finance, Facilities and Resources. Phil has a deep and broad vision for Catholic Education in the context of the Church's Mission, and in particular for Religious Education in schools, life long education in faith and Catholic leadership formation for schools and parishes. Her generosity, influence and inspiration extend beyond the Catholic Education Office to the entire diocese, for Phil sees that Catholic Education in schools belongs within the life and mission of parishes across the Diocese and is linked with Faith Education at all levels. Therefore she is an active promoter of collaboration between parishes and schools.

Phil brings extensive experience, knowledge and wisdom and wide ranging skills to every task. Profoundly respectful of individuals, she recognizes and calls forth the gifts and skills of others, inspiring them to join her in major enterprises within the Church's mission. She has led the development and implementation of numerous diocesan programs, including the comprehensive Source of Life K – 12 Religious Education framework, curriculum and tertiary training and formation programs for Catholic teachers and leaders. Phil also continues her

'coal face' work as an inspirational teacher, facilitator and mentor in these and other programs. She is a vital member of diocesan reference groups including those which support Adult Faith Education and Youth Ministry in the Diocese of Sandhurst and Chair of the Diocesan Pastoral Planning Coordination Team.

Philomena Billington



Dr Claire Renkin has a PhD in art history from Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, and degrees in English, voice, education and art history from La Trobe University, the University of Melbourne, and the University of Massachusetts. Claire teaches art history and spirituality at Yarra Theological Union, Melbourne College of Divinity. Her research focuses on the art and spirituality of Italy in the late Middle Ages and early Renaissance, and she is currently researching the art and devotion to the Magdalen in Renaissance Florence.