

Catholic Theological College Expands Flexible Study Options from 2027

From 2027, studying with Catholic Theological College (CTC) will become more accessible than ever, with major changes designed to support students throughout Aotearoa New Zealand.

Students enrolled in the **New Zealand Certificate in Christian Studies (Religious Education)**, **New Zealand Certificate in Christian Studies (Christian Ministry)**, and the **New Zealand Diploma in Christian Studies (Religious Education)** will be able to complete their programmes entirely online, regardless of where they live.

A key feature of the new delivery model is the regular online offering of all Level 5 and Level 6 papers. Students will be able to begin any available paper at the start of each month from February through August, providing greater flexibility and reducing the need to wait for traditional semester start dates.

The new approach will also make it easier for teachers in Catholic schools to meet the requirements of the new Catholic teaching certification framework. With papers available throughout the year and accessible nationwide, teachers will be able to more readily complete the study needed for **Classroom**, **Classroom Plus**, **Leadership**, and **Graduate** certification levels while balancing professional and personal commitments.

The new approach recognises the diverse commitments of adult students, including those balancing study with work, ministry, family, and community responsibilities. Most papers will be delivered online in an asynchronous format, allowing students to access learning materials and complete assessments at times that suit their schedules. Students will also be able to progress through their papers at their own pace within the course timeframe.

While online delivery will be the primary mode of study, face-to-face classes will continue to be available in some locations. These courses will run where there is sufficient demand, with a minimum of eight students enrolled, and will continue to be taught by Religious Education Advisers and CTC lecturers.

The changes reflect Catholic Theological College's commitment to making theological and ministry education more accessible, flexible, and responsive to the needs of students across the country. Whether preparing for ministry, professional development, religious education roles, certification requirements, or personal faith formation, students will have greater opportunities than ever before to engage in Catholic tertiary study.

For students seeking qualifications in religious education and ministry, 2027 will open the door to a more flexible and accessible way of learning, ensuring that quality Catholic education is available wherever you live and whenever you are ready to begin.