

**NSW Ecumenical Council
THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION COMMISSION**

Conference, Saturday, 27 October 2018

WHAT NOW?

RESPONDING TO THE FINDINGS OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION

This conference is intended to help all Christians to grasp and reflect on the implications of the findings of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

The Royal Commission has been a momentous and resonant event whose implications will take time to be fully understood by everyone. It has been pointed out, too, that, while some larger churches with a long history in Australia may have special administrative units for addressing such issues, other churches may still be working out what they need to do next in a systematic way.

We hope that this day's presentations and discussions will lead to greater understanding and discernment for all of us as we share questions and experiences in an ecumenical setting. The conference is for everyone, especially lay leaders and members of the congregations, but also clergy seeking further guidance for the journey ahead and greater awareness of the concerns of their congregations indeed, this is for anyone interested.

The keynote speaker, who will be with us through the day, is a long-time leader of the Anglican program for addressing sexual abuse in the church and was a Chair of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse Working Group. His keynote address will focus on issues related to the training of church leaders:

Mr Garth Blake AM SC

**Implications of the Royal Commission *for*
the Education and Formation of Church Leaders**

The keynote presentation will begin at 10am after the welcome and communal worship.

There will also be short presentations by others, including:

Fr Tim Brennan msc (EO with the Catholic Church's National Professional Standards Office)

Ms Julianna Demetrius (Office of the NSW Deputy Ombudsman)

Mr Peter Makris (Head of the Greek Orthodox Church Unit to Address Responses)

There will be ample opportunity through the day for sharing collectively and amongst individuals.

Date and Time: Saturday, 27 October 2018, 9.30am to 3.30pm, with lunch and refreshments

Venue: Sydney College of Divinity, Unit 6B, 5 Talavera Road, Macquarie Park:
directions below.

RSVP: With name and contact details, by COB 24 October (for catering)
To Diane Speed: dianes@scd.edu.au

Cost: \$20, payable on the day.

For the location please see <https://scd.edu.au/location/>. Macquarie Park Railway Station will be closed but there are a number of buses to the area and also specific station link buses: <http://www.mysydney.nsw.gov.au/stationlink>.

The venue is on ground floor level, and parking is available near the SCD front door at the end of the driveway from Talavera Road.

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Programme

Chair for the Day Rev Paul Weaver

9.00 am -9.30 am	Arrive
9.30 am – 9.45 am	Registration
9.45 – 9.50 am	Welcome: Rev Paul Weaver
9.50 am– 10.00 am	Opening Worship: Rev Dr Doru Costache
10.00 – 11.20 am	Plenary Address: Mr Garth Blake AM SC
11.20 –11.40 am	Morning tea
11.40 am – 1.00 pm	Short presentations, including: Fr Tim Brennan msc, Ms Julianna Demetrius, and Mr Peter Makris
1.00 pm – 1.45 pm	Lunch
1.45 pm – 3.15 pm	Round table with all speakers and general discussion, based on key points from the morning
3.15 pm – 3.30 pm	Conclusion: Rev Paul Weaver
3.30 pm	Depart