

Most Reverend Julian Porteous, DD Archbishop of Hobart

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My Dear Friends, 11 February 2020

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Dr Gerard Gaskin to the position of Executive Director of Catholic Education Tasmania. I wish to extend my thanks to the selection panel and external consultant who managed the recruitment process.

Gerard brings a wealth of experience in Catholic education to Tasmania. He has taught at all levels: primary, secondary and tertiary, and was school principal for eight years in the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Gerard then spent 10 years as Assistant Director of Education and Director of Religious Education in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga. He has taught at Vianney College Seminary for 25 years and lectured to undergraduate students from Charles Sturt University.

In 2015, Gerard kindly accepted my invitation, and that of former CET Executive Director John Mula, to conduct a detailed review of Catholic Identity in Tasmanian Catholic Schools. Following the completion of the review, he became project leader of renewing Religious Education in the Diocese of Parramatta, before returning to Tasmania to take up the role of Director: Learning and Teaching with Catholic Education Tasmania for the past two years.

Gerard has multiple degrees in education that includes a Masters and PhD. He has worked for the University of Notre Dame reviewing research proposals, has examined doctoral theses, and co-supervises a number of PhD students. Gerard has written widely on education matters, and most recently assisted in drafting the National Catholic Education Commission's contribution to the Alice Springs Declaration on Education.

Gerard replaces John Mula who offered his resignation last year in order to take up a position with Catholic Education in South Australia. I wish to thank Acting Executive Director Sean Gill for his diligence while managing Catholic Education Tasmania since John's departure.

Please join me in congratulating Gerard on his appointment, which takes effect immediately.

Yours in Christ

Julian Porteous Archbishop of Hobart