BERNADETTE MERCIECA & ANN RENNIE

witness specialist moderator



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the critical role of Catholic educators in our changing world

Witness, Specialist, Moderator seeks to revitalise and refresh our formative religious identity to assure the future Catholic education. It prioritises the importance of Catholic education as a framework for living, based on the ideal of loving God and loving your neighbour. The book examines where we have come from, where we are now and shows that - despite vast social change – faith has a place in modern Australia.

Bernadette Mercieca and Ann Rennie have lived this book for decades. Their real-life examples of current methods and theories on RE in Australia have been road-tested within the vigours of the classroom. Reflection questions at the end of each chapter prompt the reader to examine their own hopes and ideas enabling them to gain a deeper understanding of their own vocation.

Witness, Specialist, Moderator is a must-read book for every Australian Catholic educator.

About the Authors

Bernadette Mercieca is a sessional Religious Education and Maths lecturer and tutor at ACU in Melbourne and a secondary Religious Education and Maths teacher at Our Lady of Mercy College, Heidelberg. She is also a Study Specialist for VCE Religion and Society at VCAA and has been an assessor for both VCE Religion and Society and VCE Texts and Tradition at different times.

Ann Rennie has over 25 years' experience in teaching in Melbourne Catholic schools. She has Masters' degrees in Religious Education and in Educational Leadership from the Australian Catholic University. Ann has held a number of leadership positions, has been a VCE English assessor, and currently teaches at Genazzano FCJ College, Kew.

Bernadette and Ann have lived this book for decades. Every idea has been tested in the rough and tumble of the classroom...Somewhere along the way, we have forgotten that religious education is not just a sacred trust but also a truckload of fun. Bernadette and Ann remind us with wisdom and grace.

> - Michael McGirr Author & Mission Director of Caritas. Australia

Bernadette and Ann lead us on a journey that begins with their own formative years and shows keen insight into the current context of Catholic Religious Education in Australia. They offer concrete examples of present-day approaches and theories that are relevant to RE and other educational settings. The book prompts reflection and meaningful discourse for religious educators across the world. The book leaves us with a sense of hope for the future of Catholic Religious Education.

> – Dr Bernadette Sweetman Post-doctoral researcher Dublin City University



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