

# Catholic Men's Fellowship 2021



## ***Gather-Reflect-Grow***

### ***What is Catholic Men's Fellowship, Sydney (CMFSYD) 2021?***

CMFSYD is a group of Catholic men who live in the Inner West of Sydney or thereabouts. We pray, plan and act to create a up to six (6) parish-based gatherings per calendar year, and virtual meetings via zoom at selected times through the year. It is in working as a team that we can help sustain scripture-based men's ministries at our own parishes. These tend to be Saturday 'Topic' Breakfasts and Friday 'Catechesis' Dinners. By limiting the number of these special gatherings, we can attend gatherings at those of our fellows: "You support something in my parish, and I support something in your parish." A gentleman's agreement.

### ***How is CMFSYD organised?***

The central decision-making body of CMFSYD consists of one clergyman of the Archdiocese of Sydney and two active Catholic men of the Archdiocese of Sydney [coordinator and treasurer]. All gatherings held in the name of CMFSYD must have the endorsement of the clergyman this central decision-making body. CMFSYD includes Sub-committees to help organise and share workloads. For example: a zoom Sub-committee consisting of four (4) men. Because these men "put their money where their mouth is" and actually do things, their opinion matters more than man who do "lip-service". However, any man who aligns himself with the CREDO of CMFSYD is encouraged to put forward suggestions. The decision-making body meets three (3) times per calendar year, and this is generally January or February, June or July and November. Enquires about CMFSYD shall be submitted to [cmfsyd@outlook.com](mailto:cmfsyd@outlook.com) and CMFSYD will endeavour to respond within a reasonable time frame, however, CMFSYD is not bound by the demands of any man. We act in good faith.

### **What is the CMFSYD CREDO?**

Our CREDO helps us remember what we are all about and sets boundaries. It was developed by Deacon Louis Azzopardi, Kevin Smith, Lee Caruana, David Wong. The CREDO meant to help us achieve our Mission and Vision, and ultimately to achieve our 3-5-year, Strategic Plan. The CREDO is read at the beginning of all endorsed gatherings.

#### **OUR AIMS OVER A 3-5 YEAR PERIOD**

1. To establish Leaders in Parishes of the Inner-West to Lead Men's Scripture Groups.
2. To facilitate regular Leadership Training Sessions for men to lead groups.
3. To develop a 'wide-to-deep' curriculum, providing for a wide range of men.
4. To provide a program of Catholic faith formation for men.
5. To support younger men as leaders in their parish.

## Catholic Men's Fellowship CREDO

"Catholic Men's Fellowship Sydney is an association of Catholic men, who gather on a regular basis to reflect on and grow in the love of Jesus Christ.

Our first concern is to interest other men in the value of regular scripture-based gatherings for the purposes of becoming better brothers, sons, husbands, fathers and grandfathers.

Our second stated purpose is to promote the spiritual development of our membership. Our gathering today is an effort in this direction.

Our conversation and our association together should be a source of inspiration and encouragement to each other, geared to our growth toward spiritual maturity.

Our participation in all other spiritual activities, such as the frequent celebration of the Liturgy, reception of the Sacraments, personal prayer and meditation, Holy Hours, Days of Recollection and retreats, aids us in our third objective, namely, to strive for the sanctification of the whole personality of each member.

We wish to share the spiritual power that is generated by gathering in small groups in a way that provides hope for the future by encouraging a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ."

### **Our Mission**

"To sustain a fellowship of men in parishes, which gathers on a regular basis to reflect on and grow in the love of Jesus Christ"

### **Our Vision**

*"All parishes have a scripture-based men's fellowship which empowers growth in the love of God"*

## What are the parish-based activities of CMFSYD in 2021?

- Saturday 13 February Leadership Breakfast                      Dulwich Hill
- Saturday 15 May Forgiveness Breakfast                              Enfield
- Friday 16 July Catholic Men's Night                                      Earlwood
- Saturday 6 November Breakfast                                      Five Dock
- Zoom 7am and 7.30pm on Selected Thursdays [refer zoom calendar]

*NB      Members of CMFSYD are usually involved in men's ministries within their parish, and this is a good thing. However, these ministries are only part of CMFSYD if the CREDO is read at meetings and the decision-making body of CMFSYD has endorsed such gatherings. No individual man can validly speak in the name of CMFSYD without prior endorsement.*