

Christianity at the Crossroads of Post-Modernity

Missional Leadership into the Future

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Four theological concepts that are at the forefront of Pope Francis determination to engage the church with contemporary culture, include:

Accompaniment

Discernment

Inclusivity

Transcendence



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Objectives of this paper:

- ❖ To locate Missional Leadership within Catholic health care in the wider context of our history, secular culture and a contemporary understanding of the Australian church;
- ❖ To explore contemporary notions of Mission and church – for example, ‘The Mission as a church’;
- ❖ To centre Mission Leadership at the heart of Catholic health care in Australia;
- ❖ To emphasise the importance of formation for mission within the demands of 21st Century hospital culture and the threat of an ever increasing neo-liberal agenda of excessive profit or Armageddon.



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Discerning Mission in Chaotic Times...?

The Reason for *Being* in Catholic
Health Care?



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Vatican II to Pope Francis



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Three Models of Leadership for Mission:

- Operational Leadership
- Strategic Leadership
- Missional Leadership



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The Split between the Gospel and Culture



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A third dimension at the forefront of Pope Francis' Drive to reform the church along with **discernment** and **accompaniment** is

Inclusivity



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Awareness of Transcendence and Dialogue with Culture



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Pope Francis calls us to missional leadership that has three defining transcendent aspects:

- **To transcend** the material to promote a profound relationship with God
- **To transcend** the individual to promote a profound relationship with other human beings
- **To transcend** the individual elements of our world to understand them as parts of the whole of God's creation



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Questions for Reflection :

1. How do we measure success beyond the balance sheet, how do we measure success with regard to our historical reason for *being*?
2. What are the challenges to the future Mission of Catholic health care in Australia?
3. What should we safeguard in Catholic health care for future generations, what works well today?
4. Describe a Mission Leader in Catholic health care, what skills and training do we require from our leadership in faith-based organisations?
5. What will be distinctive about Catholic Health Care in the Future, how might we recognise a Catholic hospital in the future?



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