



learn • connect • grow

Dear **formation.org.au** friends,

Hello! Welcome to the Autumn newsletter looping you in, to all the latest happenings in Australia's professional association for people who are designing, facilitating and leading Formation for Mission. We wish you a joy-filled Easter season as the month of April begins.

This newsletter is part of our commitment to building a vibrant and connected community of practice. This association is a place of dialogue, connection and nourishment. You have subscribed to our newsletter to keep in touch, and we look forward to welcoming you to Membership one day soon.

This association is the fruit of two years of conversation, prayer, dreaming and collaborative effort by many friends and colleagues who work in formation and related ministries. The possibilities for the work of the association are limitless, and it will be you, our friends and colleagues, together with our Members who co-create the future for formation and leadership for Mission.

As you will read below, there are exciting opportunities to learn, connect and grow. These opportunities are designed for Members, and open as an introductory encounter to you, our subscribers.

All practitioners of formation and leaders of Mission and Catholic Identity are welcome.

Click the links below to go directly to the section you're most interested to know more about:

News: Membership Investment Offer!

Learn: Professional Learning Series 2026: Inaugural session April 30th, 2026.

Connect: Community of Practice gatherings: Dates for your Calendar.

Grow: Introducing the Member **Mentors** program: Expressions of Interest open now.

We hope to see you at an event in-person or online very soon.

Yours in Mission,
Lana.

Lana Turvey-Collins
CEO, Lead Facilitator.



April 2026 offer for new Members!

Any person joining formation.org.au before Thursday April 30th, will gain access to a VIP ticket to an invitational event in November 2026.

Don't miss this special offer! **[CLICK HERE](#)** to join today.

Membership extended for foundational Members.

All members who joined formation.org.au between May 16th, 2025, and February 28th, 2026, have been pioneers of the association. They saw the potential of the association and believed in its value, they immediately said 'YES' and joined at the public launch. It was an exciting endorsement of the idea of the association, and we want to acknowledge their trust and commitment to our work, therefore, foundation memberships are extended until March 31st 2027.

This commitment will provide equal opportunity for all members to learn, connect and grow together during 2026 and into the future. Thank you to all foundation members, for your ongoing encouragement, tenacity and vision.

Please email hello@formation.org.au for questions of feedback



Introducing the 2026 Professional Learning Series!

In 2026, formation.org.au will offer all members five modules as part of the 2026 Professional Learning Series. It will include a selection of carefully curated topics highly relevant and deeply nourishing for all practitioners of Formation for Mission in all sectors of ministry.

Each module will be 90 minutes in duration and include unmissable content, facilitated collaborative space for dialogue, small group encounters and an opportunity for live Q&A with the facilitator and expert for that session.

Announcing Dr Caroline Thompson EdD, as the expert facilitator for the inaugural session of the formation.org.au 2026 Professional Learning Series.



The graphic features a pink background. On the left, the logo for formation.org.au is displayed, with the text 'Australian Association of Formation for Mission' below it. To the right of the logo is a stylized human figure icon with the text 'Learning & Leading' underneath. In the center, a portrait of Dr Caroline Thompson, a woman with glasses wearing a red jacket, is shown. Text to the left of her portrait reads: 'Presents Dr Caroline Thompson, EdD', 'From Purpose to Formation Practice; Mastering Mission-Centred Governance', 'An unmissable professional learning event for all designers, facilitators and leaders of formation for Mission-centred Governance.', and 'An event for Members and Guests. Register today.'

Date & Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm AEDT | April 30th 2026 | Online

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER TODAY](#)

If you work in formation and mission, and engage with Executive leadership or governance bodies, this session will help you become more effective in your approach and more persuasive in your relationships.

Dr Caroline Thompson is one of the co-creators of formation.org.au Ltd. and recently has been appointed as Head of Heritage and Spirituality with the Mercy International Association in Dublin, Ireland. Caroline brings extensive experience across Catholic education, health, and social services, and as a Formation for Mission practitioner will present the inaugural session of the 2026 Professional Learning Series. She facilitates with a deeply engaging, conversational style grounded in genuine empathy. Creating a thoughtful space for reflection, she helps others navigate practical challenges while uncovering meaningful insights— and, importantly, empowers them to translate those insights into real possibilities within their own contexts.

Sounds great! How do I register?

For Members: As members of formation.org.au, your registration fee is included in the value of your annual membership investment. [CLICK HERE](#) to register today.

For Guests: All people are warmly invited to register and attend. As an added benefit, your registration fee for this event will be credited toward your annual membership if you choose to join within four weeks of the session. [SHARE THIS LINK](#) and register today.



Introducing MemberConnect: a community of practice for dialogue, connection, and collaboration.

One of the primary reasons formation.org.au was established as a membership association is for you to *connect* with one another. We all know the power of having someone to call when you're stuck for ideas, you're facing seemingly insurmountable challenges, or when you need a listening ear.

MemberConnect is intentional time and space allocated for all members to participate in a *Community of Practice*. It is a gently facilitated session to come and share your work, ask one another questions, work through problems together, generate ideas and collaborate on shared initiatives. Dates and times are listed below.

Dates and times for your Calendar:

- Tuesday April 14th | 11.00am – 12.00pm AEDT | ONLINE
- Thursday June 4th 2026 | 1.00pm – 2.30pm AEDT | ONLINE
- Friday August 7th 2026 | 10.00am – 11.30am AEDT | ONLINE
- Tuesday October 20th 2026 | 1.00pm – 2.30pm AEDT | ONLINE
- Thursday December 3rd 2026 | 11.00am – 12.30pm AEDT | ONLINE

Just what I need! How do I participate?

For Members: As members of formation.org.au, your participation is included in the value of your annual membership investment. **Email** hello@formation.org.au to receive the MSTeams link to the MemberConnect sessions.

For Guests: All people are warmly invited to **submit an expression of interest** to attend via email to hello@formation.org.au. Non-members can attend their first Member**Connect** session complimentary. After participating, an invitation to join formation.org.au will be extended.



Introducing MemberMentors: Expressions of interest open.

A key pillar of its foundation is that formation.org.au will nourish and nurture current practitioners and emerging leaders in the field of formation and mission. In response we are delighted to introduce the Member**Mentors** program. This is a prototype program of accompaniment and growth which will begin in the second half of 2026.

The program will involve Mentors who will work in pairs. This is to ensure that a mix of expertise, perspective and approach is available for mentees. It also reduces the workload and the intensity of a one-to-one mentor-mentee relationship. Mentors can self-nominate as individuals, or in pairs – possibly with a colleague, or friend you may have worked with previously. Mentor pairs can nominate their availability, and specify the duration for which they want to be ‘in-residence’ and available to participate in this program. Mentors are not required to be members of formation.org.au.

Could you share your expertise and wisdom?

A number of leaders have already offered their time – thank you for this. If you feel that you have experience and wisdom to offer and you would like to know more about what is involved, please email Lana at hello@formation.org.au.

Are you seeking professional accompaniment?

During the initial design stages of developing formation.org.au, one of the frequent responses we received to the question of “*What do you hope this association might achieve?*” was “*I hope I can learn from those who have done this before.*” Or something to that effect. Working in this ministry is a journey of consolation and desolation, and having people to seek advice and guidance from is both a gift and a necessity.

The program is open to all *Professional and Early (Young) Professional members* of the association.

Email hello@formation.org.au your expression of interest in participating in the Member**Mentors** program. Once confirmed, you will receive an invitation to join a small group of 3-4 mentees who will be connected with a pair of Mentors. This small group approach provides capacity for flexibility of focus and approach. Importantly, it acknowledges that we all learn from one another and wisdom is discovered in unexpected moments.

Do you know someone who might benefit from joining formation.org.au?

We are available for information sessions or organisational briefings about the benefits and value of membership for individuals or organisations. If you provide an introduction or recommendation and that person or organisation joins the association, you gain access to a VIP ticket to an invitational event in November 2026. Thank you for your support.

Thank you for supporting the work of formation.org.au. The journey of becoming a functioning membership network is an exciting, co-creative process made possible by colleagues and friends doing this work show up, offer their perspective and skill, share their time and together nourish the ongoing work and profession of Formation for Mission.

We look forward to continuing to learn, connect and grow in Mission, together with you.

Yours in Mission, Lana.



formation.org.au acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of this place now called Australia, as the traditional custodians of the land and waters on which we reside, work, travel and meet. We pay our respect to Elders past, present, and emerging as they hold, teach and care for story, country and culture, where sovereignty was never ceded. We thank and honour them for their stewardship and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation and walking together.

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