



# *catholic ethos*

The ethos and culture of every organisation is different. Some differences are obvious and explicit, whilst others are more subtle and take time to identify and understand. The Catholic ethos, an intangible “spirit”, is expressed in the identifiable culture of each agency and institution.

In a general sense, Catholic culture can be understood as the sum total of the assumptions, beliefs and values that the Catholic community shares and is expressed through “what is done, how it is done, and who is doing it”.

Culture is a complex and dynamic phenomenon, relating to the way people live and work as a group and as individuals, within a particular setting or context. The culture of an organisation determines and shapes why we do what we do and why we do it in a particular way.

Our work in a Catholic organisation is more than using our professional skills in the service of others. In everything we do, we are ministering in the name of the Catholic Church and the Gospel. We must, therefore, represent the values of the Church, presenting the compassionate face of Christ to the world – respecting the dignity of every person as a child of God.

Our work places are more appropriately described as communities where the core values of respect, integrity, hospitality, inclusiveness, forgiveness and justice are key qualities of people who serve in the name of Jesus. We celebrate our identity as Catholics through prayer, ritual and sacrament. Our unity is derived from the Eucharist, which Catholics acknowledge as the source and summit of our Christian life. (Lumen Gentium 11)

As employees of the Archdiocese of Hobart, we participate in the Mission of the Catholic Church in Tasmania. Our participation in this mission requires us to uphold, and have a sincere respect for, the teachings and Tradition of the Catholic Church. The Archbishop, as the Chief Shepherd of the Church in Tasmania, entrusts those employed in the various agencies of the Church with responsibility for particular aspects of the Church’s ministry.

The Archdiocese of Hobart requires that all people working within its institutions and agencies, regardless of their faith tradition or perspective, support the ethos of the Catholic Church.



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