

13 March 2024

Dear Families

**Re: The Rite Journey Program – Calling and Departure Ceremonies Wednesday 27 March at 6:30am
Port Augusta Golf Club**

I am writing to inform you about The Rite Journey, an exciting and innovative program for all Year 9 students at Caritas College. It combines the Health and Personal Development and the Religious and Values Education curriculum and comprises two lessons per week for the year.

The program has been created to complement your role in guiding your child into young adulthood. The Rite Journey was developed in South Australia and is now being used by many schools across Australia and internationally. It provides the opportunity for students to participate in a year-long rite of passage experience in separate male and female classes. Many cultures have their own version of a rite of passage designed specifically for this age group, and our program aims to provide a similar sense of accomplishment in the transition to adulthood.

Learning how to be an adult in any society requires guidance, mentoring and a great many conversations. In our society today, young people often turn to their peers, the internet and the media to source their knowledge and guidance. During the Rite Journey, students will be required to have important conversations about what it is to be a respectful and responsible person in our society. As your child journeys through the year, they will explore four main themes: Relationship with self, Relationship with others, Relationship with Spirit and Relationship with the World. We hope that the discussions they are having at school may also stimulate conversation in your homes. A unique feature of The Rite Journey is the seven steps that form a contemporary rite of passage. In conjunction with the program's founder, Andrew Lines, we have developed a memorable series of celebrations, aimed at honouring your child's transition into young adulthood.

To launch the program, students and parents are invited to attend the Calling and Departure Ceremonies, these ceremonies form an essential component of the program. These will be conducted at the Port Augusta Golf Club on **Wednesday 27 March at 6:30am**. Following the ceremony, breakfast will be provided for students and families at Caritas College at approximately 7:30am. Families will be required to provide own transport to the ceremony and back to our College.

If you have any further questions, please contact the College on 86489700.

Please click [here](#) to complete the reply slip by **Monday 18 March**.

Yours sincerely



Toni Freer
7-9 Learning & Wellbeing Director



Damian Smith
Principal