



The **ACES** Club

Our Monthly Newsletter: August 2024

President's Report

Dear friends and supporters,

I hope this newsletter finds you well!

At the outset, I would like to bring to your attention *a very important event* that will be happening in Brisbane on 24 September. Dr Kevin Donnelly, who is Senior Fellow at PM Glynn Institute at the Australian Catholic University (Melbourne), is organising a forum for the third consecutive year on classical/liberal arts education. The purpose of this forum is to bring together parents, teachers and any other supporters of classical education who are keen to establish classical schools. This year, the event will take place at ACU'S Brisbane Gaudete Centre and the full-day programme includes keynote speeches and plenty of opportunities for Q&A and networking. This forum has proved to be a fruitful gathering in the past and will doubtlessly be so again! If anyone is interested in attending, please feel free to contact Dr Kevin Donnelly: kevind@netspace.net.au. As previously mentioned, ACES Executive Committee members will participate at this event and we look forward to meeting old and new faces.



Secondly, during the last two weeks Volume 3 of *Principia*, a free online classical education journal, has been released. *Principia* is a peer-reviewed academic journal dedicated to the renewal of classical education. It includes articles, policy research, editorials and reviews related to the history, theory, practice and pedagogy of classic liberal arts education. To

access the journal, click [here](#). I especially urge all principals and teachers interested in classical education in Australia to read the articles in Volume 3 and perhaps even use these articles as the basis for staff development and teacher training.

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, an online book study on the book *Beauty for Truth's Sake* by Stratford Caldecott will be offered during the months of September and October this year. For those new to this kind of book study, an informative overview is provided in this [video](#) by Aaron Mitchell, who will lead this course. The 8-week online course will be led by Aaron Mitchell from the *Beautiful Teaching* team in the USA. The cost for this 8-week course is USD \$40/AUD \$60. That is a great bargain! All the sessions are interactive and will be recorded and made available to all participants 48-72 hours after the course. Please take note that the cost is non-refundable. The Australian dates and times for this course are on Saturday 7, 14, 21, 28 September and 12, 19, 26 October, each session running from 10AM-11AM. To register please go to this [link](#). The book can be purchased via [Amazon](#) or other online sources.

Many people are unaware that there are presently eight classical schools operating across Australia. Links to their websites can be found on the [ACES website](#). This fact alone further demonstrates that the classical renewal is well underway in our country and that more and more parents and teachers are aspiring to explore classical education as an alternative model of education. I would like to commend all those behind these schools and their supporters. ACES is hoping to share important news and developments in these schools in forthcoming editions of our newsletter to showcase the journey in the renewal of classical education in Australia.

Finally, I would like to encourage you all to let others know about our monthly newsletter and about ACES. Anyone can subscribe by simply visiting our [website](#). Please take time to visit the resources section on our website, where you will find videos and other useful information about classical education. As mentioned many times, please consider writing an article for our newsletter; we are best contacted via email: contact@classicaleducation.org.au. We at ACES always appreciate the effort and time that individuals take to contribute to the movement and are more than happy to include your submissions. Spread the word so that our movement continues to grow!

Yours sincerely,

Kon Bouzikos
President of ACES

Articles of Interest

[THE MYTH PILGRIM: FINDING TRUTH IN MYTHS AND FAIRYTALES](#)

Like Tolkien and Lewis before him, Brother Lawrence Yuen (MGL) not only possesses a passionate love for Christ and the Christian faith, but recognises that God's truth, goodness and beauty reveal themselves through human stories. In his podcast, "[The Myth Pilgrim](#)", Brother Lawrence explores the intersection of divinely-inspired human creativity and narrative, namely, how popular myths and fairytales can nourish the spiritual journey and assist in personal conversion to Christ. There are episodes on Harry Potter and the cardinal virtues (Ep 99), *The Matrix* and Christianity (Ep 43), what Snow White can show us about jealousy and freedom (Ep 80), and Christ figures in ancient mythology (Ep 94). To get a sense of what this podcast is about, a good place to start would be Episode 100, which is an interview with Brother Lawrence himself.



In addition to this show, Brother Lawrence runs the blog "[The Timeless Quill](#)", containing short reflections on Christian imagination. He has also written, illustrated and produced his own Christian fairytale called "The Legend of the Everspring Tree", which can be viewed [here](#).

CHRISTOPHER DAWSON CENTRE - SUMMER COURSES (2025)

The Christopher Dawson Centre's Summer School is holding two excellent courses.

Latin and Ecclesiastical Latin, Monday 6 - Friday 10 January 2025.

Held at Notre Dame Priory (Colebrook, Tasmania), the Latin school assumes some prior knowledge of the language and leads participants through a selection of important readings in poetry and prose, sacred and secular, from authors such as Augustine, Jerome, Bede, Peter Abelard, Aquinas, the Carmina Burana, and even Dante. In date our selections range from the poet Virgil to the abdication speech of Pope Benedict! There will also be a segment on palaeography when participants can handle real medieval manuscripts.

Accommodation is available on request in the Priory grounds: apply directly to guestmaster@notredamemonastery.org.

Note that this course does not take any position on the use of Latin for Mass, but it recognises that Latin remains the official language of the western Church and acknowledges the insistence of the last four popes that Latin must be preserved!

Biblical Greek for Beginners, Monday 13 - Friday 17 January 2025.

Held at Fr John Wall Community Library (31 Tower Road, New Town, Tasmania), the New Testament and Koine Greek school is for beginners who want to experience the excitement of reading parts of the Bible in the original language. We shall read extracts from the Gospel and Epistles, as well as some important passages from the Septuagint (the ancient Greek version of the Old Testament), as well as some pieces from the early Fathers of the Church and the Liturgy of St John Chrysostom.

For booking details and enquiries of either school, please visit the Christopher Dawson Centre [website](#) or email: director@dawsoncentre.org.



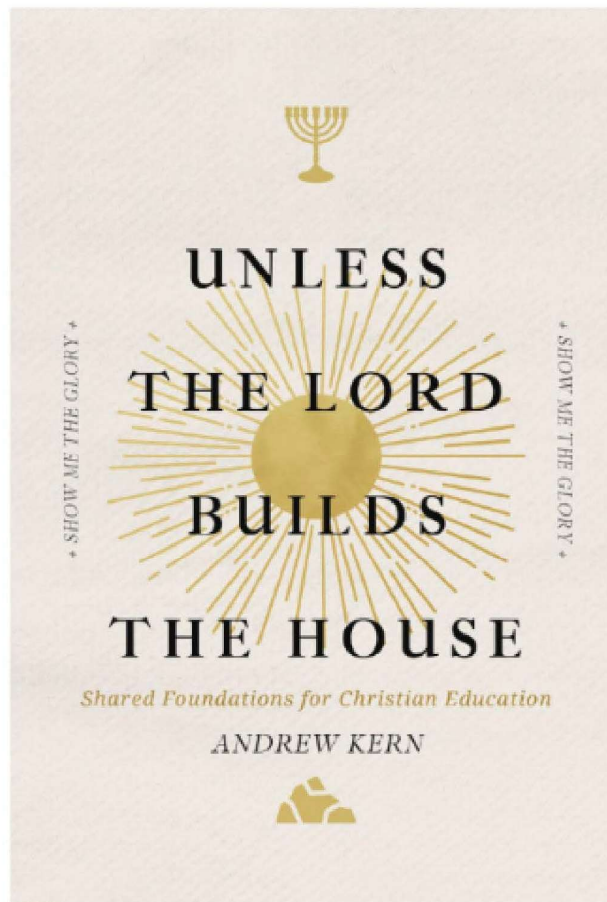
THE CHRISTOPHER DAWSON CENTRE FOR CULTURAL STUDIES



Today, many educators downplay the value of the Western canon. They discount any wisdom or insights one may glean from being steeped in the tradition we have inherited.

In this lecture from the Conference of Miletus, Anthony Esolen presents five reasons why teachers ought to teach the great works of the Western tradition and the impact it can have on students at a classical school.

Books of Interest



In this new treatise on Christian education, Andrew Kern returns to the roots of education by exploring the Hebrew Temple as a pattern for learning. He shows how this pattern applies to all of education, from selecting the course of study to practicing life-giving pedagogy, and he argues that if we rightly understand this pattern, it will transform all we do in education. Going beyond merely diagnosing the symptoms of conventional education, *Unless the Lord Builds the House* prescribes a cure: returning to the eternal foundation of Christ the Logos and building a house of wisdom on that Rock.

This book is the first in a series by Andrew Kern on the foundations of Christian education. Subsequent books will explore the history of Christian education, classical pedagogy, the liberal arts curriculum, wise assessment, and more.

The book can be purchased [here](#).

SHORT READS AND VIEWINGS

Some articles and videos of interest for the classically-minded educator:

1. ["Reclaiming childhood through poetry,"](#) by Anthony Esolen.
2. ["So your parents are thinking of sending you to a classical Christian school,"](#) by Joshua Gibbs.
3. ["The virtue of prudence: moral philosophy and wise decisions."](#) In this talk from the Conference of Miletus, Matthew Ogle, Head of Classical Education at Thales Academy, examines the virtue of prudence and provides three points of application for teachers: 1) model the love and joy that should accompany classical education; 2) encourage curiosity and wonder

through study and careful lesson planning; and 3) continue the conversation from class and into the real world.

4. **"5 essential great books for a classical education."** What five classic books are indispensable from a classical education? This podcaster highlights five great books spanning various time periods and subject matter that can't be overlooked.



ACES would like to thank Fr John Frangos and the staff at St John's College, Preston, for kindly hosting our introduction to classical education seminar. The talk stimulated some fruitful discussion and networking.



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