



Graduates  
2025



Réveillon  
evening  
- Audrey  
Power and  
Michael  
Nunes



Chairman Rev  
Dr Adam Walk  
with College  
Medallist  
- Joanna  
Shannon



Students  
at the  
Summer  
Program  
2026

# CAMPION'S BRAZIL

Vol. 25 | No. 1  
Summer | 2026

CATHOLIC LEARNING  
IN THE LIBERAL ARTS

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# Graduation 2025

Gabriela Baricevic and Chairman Rev Dr Adam Walk



William Emery and family



## **“The world really needs saints right now.”**

**That was the challenge issued to graduates at Campion College Australia’s 18th Graduation Ceremony, held on Tuesday 16 December in the George Cardinal Pell Grand Hall on the College’s Toongabbie campus.**

Occasional Address speaker Dr Joanna Howe, Professor of Law at the University of Adelaide, urged graduates to see their lives as more than a pursuit of professional success, encouraging them instead to discern how their gifts could be placed at the service of others.

“Where do the world’s greatest needs and your own gifts and desires meet?” Dr Howe asked. “That’s the question you must answer with your life.”

Dr Howe cautioned that this task would not be easy, particularly in a culture resistant to truth and moral conviction.

“To actually speak truth and stand up for that truth,” she said, “you need to know that people will try and shut you down.”

Graduates were warned to expect resistance, discouragement and pressure to conform.

“You will be told that you shouldn’t do it that way,” Dr Howe said. “You will be told that you are not good enough, too young, or not experienced enough.”

She illustrated her message with the witness of St Maximilian Kolbe, who offered his life for another prisoner at Auschwitz, noting that extraordinary courage is formed long before moments of crisis.

“Father Kolbe prepared for that moment of extraordinary sacrifice through the daily moments of his life,” she said.

Earlier in the day, graduates and their families gathered for the Graduation Mass, celebrated by the Most Reverend Peter Mel Murphy, Bishop of Armidale, with concelebrants Very Rev Peter Williams, Fr John Flader, Dr Luke Holohan SM, Fr Anthony Robbie, and Fr Piotr Kruk OP, Campion College Chaplain.

In his homily, Bishop Murphy reflected on the word “graduation,” noting its origin in the Latin gradus, meaning “to step up,” and encouraged graduates to respond to a culture lacking spiritual depth with hope and responsibility.

“This culture is devoid of spiritual transcendence,” Bishop Murphy said. “Fill those flaws, those potholes, with hope.”

Reflecting on the themes of the day, Campion College President Dr Paul Morrissey highlighted the College’s Bachelor of Arts in the Liberal Arts as a response grounded in integration rather than division.

“Our world is dangerously fragmented – it has disintegrated,” he said. “I encourage each of you to pursue the integrated life.”

The ceremony also marked a milestone for Campion College’s Graduate Certificate in Religious Education (Primary), with the largest cohort to attend graduation in person. Among them was a group of teachers from Mary Immaculate Catholic Primary School, Bossley Park, who graduated together. The online postgraduate program extends Campion College’s liberal arts mission into Catholic schools by equipping teachers with theological depth and practical classroom application.

Dr Howe concluded by reminding graduates that their call is personal and unrepeatable: “There is only one of you, and I can’t wait to see the contribution you each make.”

To watch Dr Howe’s live video, click here <https://www.campion.edu.au/2025-graduation-ceremony/>

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## Noreen Mavis Daley Poetry Prize

The Noreen Mavis Daley Poetry Prize was endowed by the late Royston Porthouse in memory of his mother. The 2025 Prize was awarded to Isaac Pople. If you would like to learn more about how to set up a prize/scholarship for the students contact Elaine Nehme: [elaine.nehme@campion.edu.au](mailto:elaine.nehme@campion.edu.au) / 02 9896 9318.



### Noreen Mavis Daley Poetry Prize Submission

*Synthesis*  
Upon Reading Pat Kavanagh,  
Burns & Nietzsche

*"The fruit now emerges  
as the truth of it..."*

- Hegel,  
Phenomenology  
of Spirit

2025 Prize  
winner

"Sometimes, I do regret these pitch-drop days of ours, and yearn that I might live in old parochial pastures, on shores more sodden with myth than mine, thicker than dew upon the downs, and with a mind more innocent, filled with the first flush o' Man's youth like Jenny's suitor treading 'cross the moor, dream.

Ah, bitter woe, I cannot go back! for the way is shut, waiting for a King to enter in."

"Dream now the fretful dreams of the ailing elder, who crouched at the carrion table, ate his young. Take your tail 'tween your teeth, dress with the fashion, scrape out your husk for a mil of soul to spend, and in that desiccated cadaver of a culture hide, but guard, turn your heart towards the East, and through the mire of our days, pilgrimage to meet Him, our hope and dread, love and judge."

A tempest bore us through these latter days, dispersing us like dust, so we came to rest at the root of all things - the Tree.

The Man looked to the Woman, and he unfurled a scroll, folded the ends together and gave it to me. The Woman said, "Eat what is set before you," so I tasted and saw: like cool nectar swallowed came the peace of quiet hollows, the comfort of kin in a moorland cot, made sweeter still by modernity's listless bitterness, and as I came to the fulcrum fold, I looked to the Man, who seeing my smile, said: "Peace at last?"



## Where are they now



### Anthony Day Class of 2011

Since graduating in 2011, I began my career in industrial relations as an employee advocate before moving into employment and industrial relations with a multinational materials handling company. Alongside full time work and a growing

family, I completed a law degree and now serve as Head of People and Participation for the Diocese of Broken Bay, where I lead initiatives to strengthen workplace culture, support staff development, and ensure people are at the centre of decision making.

My Campion degree has been foundational to my professional journey and what has stayed with me most was not a particular subject, but how I learned to think critically. Reading carefully, writing clearly, and grappling with complex ideas became habits that carried into work. This way of thinking has also shaped how I engage with people, namely: listening first, exercising judgement, and staying mindful of the human impact behind decisions.

## Why Classics?

### Thomas Flynn, Lecturer in Classical Languages

As a lecturer in Classical languages, I am often asked what is the value in learning Latin or Greek. I usually give a general explanation: it puts you closer to the experience of the ancient culture and societies which are at the root of Western Civilisation; you share in the experience of people like Dante, St Thomas More, or Shakespeare, and so on. But there also very specific reasons. For example, in the *Odyssey*, the Cyclops traps Odysseus and demands his name. Odysseus replies "my name is Noman", in Greek "Outis", using one of the two ordinary Greek words for "nobody". After Odysseus and his men blind the monster and the other Cyclopes come to his aid he tells them "Noman is slaying me". They misunderstand and go away. Then, towards the end of the poem, Odysseus is in disguise in his own home being mistreated by the suitors who want to marry his wife in his absence. He gives a powerful soliloquy telling himself to keep courage, just as he did in the cave of the Cyclops, where he thought he would die, "until your cunning brought you out". The word for "cunning" is "mētis" but this is a pun because the same word, with a slightly different accent, is the other Greek word for "nobody". It was Odysseus' mētis "cunning" which brought him from the Cyclops' cave, to be precise it was his use of the pseudonym "Outis" or "Mētis" which did this. And being able to understand this is one of many reasons for learning the ancient languages.

## Support a Student's Journey: Help Fund a Scholarship or Bursary

At Campion College, we believe in making the liberal arts education as accessible as possible. Through our Scholarship and Bursary Program, we offer vital financial support to students, helping to ease the burden of tuition, accommodation, and daily living expenses. The Scholarship program have made a significant impact on many students, opening doors to a life-changing education in an environment that fosters both intellectual and spiritual growth.

But none of this would be possible without the support of our generous donors. Your contribution plays a pivotal role in ensuring that Campion College remains an opportunity for all young people.

## Why Mr. John Fraser Supports the Scholarship Program

Mr. John Fraser, a dedicated supporter of Campion College, shares why he supports our Scholarship and Bursary Program:

*"Campion College provides a terrific opportunity to support young people in attaining a broad-based education in a Christian environment. In particular, it affords young people from the country areas of NSW and Victoria a real opportunity to access top-level academic teaching, all within a spiritual framework.*

*It is a very realistic alternative for students seeking a broad-based liberal arts education."*

Young people and their families, especially those from rural areas, make great sacrifices to ensure that their children receive a rewarding undergraduate education. Your support will go a long way in helping these students realise their dreams. I encourage you to consider establishing a scholarship or bursary, or contributing to the Campion

College Scholarship Fund, ensuring that as many students as possible can benefit from this transformative educational experience.

## The Impact of Scholarships and Bursaries

Our scholarships and bursaries play a crucial role in helping students focus on what matters most: their studies and personal growth. At Campion College, we offer a range of scholarships and bursaries, for example:

- **Academic Excellence Scholarship:** Recognises students who have demonstrated outstanding academic achievement.
- **Leadership Scholarship:** Awarded to students who show exceptional leadership qualities and a drive for innovation.

### Bursaries:

- **City Student Bursary:** Provides support for students from the city, covering daily transport, meals, and course materials.
- **Rural Student Bursary:** Assists students from rural areas with accommodation costs and travel expenses.

Each scholarship and bursary help reduce financial stress, enabling students to thrive academically and spiritually.

### How You Can Help

You can make a lasting difference in the lives of students eager to take on the challenges and opportunities offered by a Campion College education. Whether you decide to establish a new scholarship or contribute to the Scholarship Fund, your donation will have a direct, transformative impact on our students.

To learn more about how you can support our Scholarship and Bursary Program, please:

- Visit our website at [www.campion.edu.au/fund-a-scholarship](http://www.campion.edu.au/fund-a-scholarship)
- Contact the Foundation office via email at [foundation@campion.edu.au](mailto:foundation@campion.edu.au)

Your generosity ensures that Campion College continues to fulfill its mission to provide a foundational education in the Liberal Arts, integrating the insights of faith and reason. This equips our students to become visionary leaders, with a solid academic foundation and a deep sense of purpose, ready to make a lasting impact on the world through the guiding principles of faith and reason.

Join us in supporting the students at Campion College and help make their journey a reality.



### Interested in supporting the Campion College Scholarship/ Bursary Campaign?

To find out more about how you can support our Scholarship/Bursary Campaign complete your details below and return in a reply-paid envelope enclosed or email: [foundation@campion.edu.au](mailto:foundation@campion.edu.au)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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For further information contact Elaine Nehme, Assistant Development Officer 02 9896 9318 or email: [foundation@campion.edu.au](mailto:foundation@campion.edu.au)

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## Réveillon

Réveillon Dinner celebrates leadership and community at Campion College. Campion College marked the close of the academic year with its annual Réveillon Dinner on Thursday 20 November, bringing together students, staff, and guests for an evening celebrating community, leadership, and the achievements of 2025.

The night featured the presentation of numerous academic and cultural awards, including the Frank Sheed Prizes, Schola Awards, poetry and language prizes, and Dean's List certificates. Highlights also included speeches from the Campion College Student Association, with incoming President Caleb Smith reflecting on the legacy of recent student leaders, and outgoing President Jerome Lawrence celebrating a year defined by unity and a vibrant student culture.

The evening concluded with the traditional Third-Year Talk, offering a warm and humorous tribute to the graduating class and their time at Campion.

Read the full article on the Campion College website for complete coverage of the night and award recipients.  
<https://www.campion.edu.au/a-night-of-legacy-and-laughter-at-2025-reveillon/>

## Awards & Prizes Program

At the end of 2025 we awarded the following prizes.

### Ted O'Halloran Latin Prize

Funded by Anne Gray and John O'Halloran in memory of their father, Ted O'Halloran.

**Awarded to Elizabeth Boerdam**

### Fr Julián Carrón Prize for Theology

Funded by Dr Matthew Tan. **Awarded to Isaac Pople**

### Frank Sheed Public Speaking Competition

Funded by a John and Frances Fahey.

**1st place: James Power**

**2nd place: Solomon Ashton**

**3rd place: Carissa Zaragoza**



### Tom Cooper Book Grant

Funded by Mrs Pat Cooper.

**Awarded to Faustina Yeo**

### The Lord is Our Shepherd

Funded by Mr & Mrs Fennell.

**Awarded to Clare Corson & Sebastian Clare**

The College strongly encourages students to engage in the Awards and Prizes Program, offering them an opportunity to highlight their academic achievements and share their insights.

This program thrives thanks to the generosity of supporters who share the College's commitment to its mission: "to provide a foundational education in the liberal arts that integrates the insights of faith and reason."

For those interested in learning more about how to contribute to the Awards and Prizes Program, please email the foundation office at [foundation@campion.edu.au](mailto:foundation@campion.edu.au)



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## Summer Program 2026

From 13 to 16 January, Campion College welcomed more than 60 teenagers to campus for its annual Summer Program, offering participants an immersive introduction to college life as they discern enrolment in the coming years.

Across four days, students experienced a snapshot of academic and community life at Campion College, attending sample lectures, engaging in thoughtful discussion, and forming friendships through a lively program of social activities.



A highly competitive trivia night proved a standout, with teams bringing both intellectual firepower and plenty of good humour to the contest.

One of the week's highlights was the Formal Dinner, an evening marked by animated conversation, shared reflection, and a strong sense of College tradition. The dinner featured short presentations on studying at Campion College and the diverse career pathways open to graduates, before concluding with an engaging interview between Campion College President Dr Paul Morrissey and Faustina Yeo (Class of 2025). Their conversation offered participants a personal insight into the student experience and the formative impact of a liberal arts education.

Adding to the warmth of the week were the celebrations of three birthdays, thoughtfully organised by the participants themselves. In true Campion College fashion, students went out of their way to make each celebration memorable, a testament to the strong friendships and sense of community that developed over the course of the program.

The success of the Summer Program was made possible by a dedicated student leadership team, whose energy, generosity, and care helped create a welcoming and enriching experience for all involved. Program staff – Jess and Christine – extend their heartfelt thanks to Mikaela, Joey, Pat, Hannah, Holly, MK, Ed, Georgie, Ana, Ben, and Resh for their outstanding contribution throughout the week.

If you know a Year 11 or 12 student discerning enrolment at Campion College in 2027 or 2028, please encourage them to attend one of our upcoming holiday programs. Visit [www.campion.edu.au/events](http://www.campion.edu.au/events) to express interest.



Campion's Brag is a quarterly newsletter named in honour of the manifesto of St. Edmund Campion's mission of faith. It is edited by Elaine Nehme (Assistant Development Officer) and compiled by Angela Grabski (BLACKRHINO Creative) on behalf of the Campion Foundation.

7-10 July 2026

# WINTER PROGRAM

Experience college life and a taste of our liberal arts degree. For Year 11 & 12 students considering enrolment in 2026 and 2027.

Our immersive four-day program provides the opportunity to reside on campus and interact with like-minded peers. We have a fun-filled schedule including a bonfire night, movies, trivia, dancing and sports, as well as sample lectures from our history, literature, philosophy, theology and classics professors.

Given the specialised nature of this program, we have limited spots available to ensure a focused and enriching experience. We encourage interested parties to take a moment to seriously consider if this program aligns with their aspirations before registering.

For more information visit [www.campion.edu.au/event/winterprogram/](http://www.campion.edu.au/event/winterprogram/)



## Book a private campus tour

A private campus tour is a great way to experience Campion College firsthand and learn more about life on campus. Located on a peaceful 10-acre site in Toongabbie, Sydney's west, the college offers a tranquil setting ideal for study, just minutes from Parramatta and well connected to public transport and major roads.

Tours run for 30–60 minutes and are led by the Future Students Advisor. Visitors will explore key facilities including the main building, library, grand hall, lecture theatres, chapel, and accommodation, with opportunities to meet students and staff.

To arrange a free campus tour, contact the Future Students Advisor on 1300 061 678 or [study@campion.edu.au](mailto:study@campion.edu.au)