

A workshop on

Reforming education: Applying Bernard Lonergan's theory of education

presented by

Dr Philip McShane

*“If you do not know what it is to learn, how can you invite others
enlightenedly to discover what it is to learn?”*

*“When teaching children geometry one is teaching children children” – the
Childout Principle of Education*

*“Human living, whether in the classroom, in the office, in the temple, in the
street, is an invitation to discover.”*

What makes a good teacher? What is good education? What might you do, what is a concrete strategy for a teacher who is stuck in the system and has to teach the standard stuff?

In a series of short presentations on reforming education, Dr. Philip McShane will:

- identify the major cultural stumbling block to the reform of education
- reflect on what is to be cultivated in good education
- describe the nature of good education
- reflect on Lonergan's struggle to formulate a fuller solution to the problem of education
- suggest ways in which we can concretely apply Lonergan's revolutionary suggestions about education.

Date: Friday 27th April, 2007
Time: 2.00pm – 5.00pm
Venue: Australian Catholic University, Melbourne
Cost: \$80

To register for the workshop, please complete and return the attached form.
(Please note that participants in the workshop will be limited to 40.)

Bernard Lonergan (1904-1984), a Canadian Jesuit, was an eminent methodologist, philosopher, theologian and economist. His books *Insight: a study of human understanding* and *Method in Theology* stand as one of the great achievements in philosophy and theology in the last century. Lonergan's own struggle to find and express the nature of the education brought him to the writing of *Insight*. His book, *Topics in Education*, illustrates a wide range of issues for education: in theory, in morality, in history, in culture and aesthetics and, in changes in scientific perspective.

Philip McShane has devoted the past 55 years his life to understanding and communicating Lonergan's revolution in philosophy, theology and economics. He will be in Australia in April and May as the Dr. Ann Clark Scholar in Residence at St. Ignatius College, Riverview assisting staff in their quest to revitalize education and spirituality. Dr McShane, an engaging teacher, now an elder speaking plainly, was Professor of Philosophy at Mount St. Vincent University, Halifax, Nova Scotia for 20 years. He is the author of numerous books and articles including, most recently, a text for higher secondary school students entitled *Introducing Critical Thinking* (co-authored with Alexandra Drage and John Benton). Many of his writings are available on his website:

www.philipmcshane.ca.

Sponsored by: Centre for Research into Ethics and Decision-making in Organisations (CREDO)
and Australian Lonergan Workshop Committee