

MEDIA RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday November 12, 2012

Being Christian in a world with the marginalized

The Association of Practical Theology in Oceania (APTO) held its ninth Annual Conference at the St. Joseph's Centre for Reflective Living in Baulkham Hills, Sydney, between Thursday November 8, 2012 and Sunday November 11, 2012.

The theme of this year's conference was 'Being Christian in a world with the marginalized.' Jim Carty SM delivered the keynote address and the title of his paper was 'Refugees and marginalisation: the Sabian Mandaean community.' In addition to this, there were seventeen papers presented and it was attended by people from various Christian denominations and countries.

Dr Bet Green, President of APTO, said the conference was a terrific success and presented a rich and diverse opportunity for people to collaborate about those marginalized in our society.

"The theme was interpreted broadly and approached from within the disciplines of practical and pastoral theology and the social sciences."

"The presenters engaged with a range of marginalized people both in the church and throughout the world, including refugees and people with a disability. Papers also dealt with the nature and mission of the church, the inter-relationship of Christian faith and culture, environment, ethics, justice and politics."

Dr Philip Gibbs, Vice President of APTO, said the conference "enabled participants to test current research findings in a collegial and collaborate way."

The Association of Practical Theology in Oceania is a professional association for researchers, scholars and practitioners who are working, teaching and/or studying in the field of practical theology.

For more information, contact Dr Bet Green, President of the Association of Practical Theology in Oceania, via email Bet.Green@acu.edu.au

<http://www.apto.asn.au/>