

## A Convening Resource for participants in the Galilee Program

As people new to Catholic schools in the Edmund Rice Tradition you are invited to take part in the important work of building a better world for all creation. This can sometimes be difficult work, but the good news is that we are not called to do it on our own.

### Purpose of this resource:

This resource is designed to help you enter the Galilee program having commenced some thinking about what draws you into life and what inspires you in your work. Before the gathering, you are invited to consider the following questions and activity:

1. As you read through this resource note what takes your attention?
2. What draws you into life?

You might like to share your responses to the above with a colleague who is also attending the program.



As Jesus walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the Lake – for they were fishermen. And he said to them, Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.’ Immediately they left their nets and followed him.  
*Matthew 4:18 – 20*

### The unfolding presence of God . . .

God is an infinite sphere, the centre of which is everywhere, the circumference nowhere. Hermes Trismegistus

#### **Let It Go**

Let it go,  
Let it out  
Let it unravel,  
Let it free  
And it will be  
A path on which to travel

Michael Leunig

Click the link below to view the cartoon for this poem.

<http://www.leunig.com.au/index.php/offerings/cartoon-reproductions#>

## Our participation with this unfolding presence . . .

The following poem by William Stafford and the animation (linked below) capture something of our human journey with the mystery of God's unfolding presence.

### *The Way It Is*

There's a thread you follow, It goes among  
Things that change. But it doesn't change.  
People wander about what you are pursuing.  
You have to explain about the thread.  
But it is hard for others to see.  
While you hold it you can't get lost.  
Tragedies happen; people get hurt  
Or die; and you suffer and get old.  
Nothing you can do can stop time's unfolding.  
You don't ever let go of the thread.

William Stafford

View the following animation titled Seeds of Transformation using this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?=ATmw1QLHCCc>

## How do we Experience this presence . . .

The following extract reveals the transformative power that we can fall into when we allow ourselves to surrender to God's loving grace.

*"We're here today because of Edmund Rice, two years back I was in Ireland when they were exhuming the body of Blessed Edmund because they wanted to study the skull and to try to use modern technology to discover, "What would he have looked like when he died?" And we have scientists who are able to do that now. And so when the coffin was opened and I saw the bones that were there and I put my hands in and I picked up the skull, and I looked at it – I did not say, "Alas poor Yorick [Hamlet]!" I looked at that and I said, "Do you know the trouble you have caused me?" But I also wondered what quirk of fortune was it that brought me from India right across to Ireland – and brings me here again - one person – and I look at his life – someone who at the age of forty deciding to leave everything that he knew and take on something that he knew nothing about! And to start off an enterprise – to sell everything and then do it! There was no turning back and enough people told him that what he was doing was foolish – and I keep asking myself, "Where does someone get courage like that? Where does someone get courage like that?" And the answer is an experience of God! Nothing else will change a person's life except an experience of God. You may use all the other terms you want instead of the word 'God', use anything else you want – but at the heart of it – is a spirit that flows through our Universe that almost demands from us a response!"*

*(Br Phillip Pinto)*