

# NOSTRA AETATE

## In Our Age

**Exploring the historical origins and interfaith themes of one of the most influential documents of the Second Vatican Council**



**Saturday June 24<sup>th</sup>  
10am—4pm**

**Catholic Diocesan Centre  
33 Amesbury St  
Palmerston North**

**BYO lunch; tea and  
coffee provided**

**Contact  
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for more information**

### **Synagoga and Ecclesia In Our Time**

The sculpture above reverses medieval portrayals of a majestic Church (Ecclesia) triumphing over a defeated and blindfolded Synagogue (Synagoga) found in dozens of European churches.

Reflecting Catholic teaching today, it depicts the symbolic feminine figures as friends who are studying their respective sacred texts together. Synagoga is showing her companion a Torah scroll, while Ecclesia holds an open Christian Bible. The granite plinth is inscribed with a quotation from Pope Francis: "There exists a rich complementarity between the Church and the Jewish people that enables us to mine the riches of God's word."