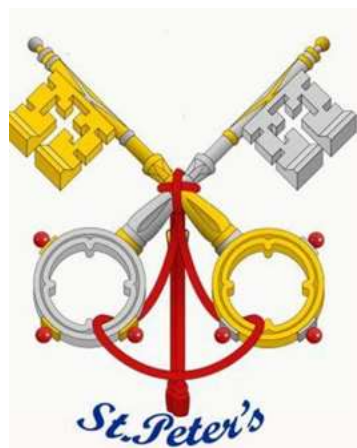




The Vatican (St Peter's) Cricket Team

Pontifical Council for Culture

Vatican City



ST PETER'S CC

Who we are

The Vatican (St. Peter's) Cricket Team is composed of priests and seminarians from Australia, Ireland, India, Sri Lanka, and Canada who are studying and working in Rome. The Team is affiliated with the Vatican's Pontifical Council for Culture and Sport and was founded in 2014.

OUR OBJECTIVES

The team's objectives are to promote inter-religious, ecumenical, and inter-cultural dialogue, increase the awareness of the importance of religion for society, address important social themes like slavery, and foster the spread of the Christian Gospel through the means of cricket. Cricket matches thus serve as platforms to bring different religious, social, and cultural communities together and promote what Pope Francis has called the 'culture of dialogue'. The team thus seeks to engage and challenge leaders in the areas of religion, sport, media, and culture to work together for the common good.



INTERNATIONAL TOURS

As a means to these ends, St Peter's has played several high-profile matches in its short history, engaging in six 'Light of Faith Tours'.

In 2014, 2016, and 2018 they toured England playing matches against Anglican, Muslim, and Hindu-Sikh teams at some of the most iconic grounds in the country: Lords in London, Headingley in York, Edgbaston in Birmingham, and the Kent Spitfire Ground. Visits to Canterbury Cathedral, York Minster, Leeds Cathedral, the Queens Ecumenical College in Birmingham, Stonyhurst College, and the Batley Mosque were all also part of these tours. In 2018 St Peter's played against the Royal Household Cricket Club of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth at Windsor Castle. Together with Baroness Patricia Scotland, Secretary General of the Commonwealth, it also launched the Peace at the Crease initiative and the Commonwealth Cup in 2018.

In 2017 St Peter's travelled to Portugal and played Muslim, Hindu, and Jewish teams in preparation for Pope Francis' trip to the country for the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Fatima. In 2017 it also travelled to Buenos Aires, Argentina to promote the *Cricket Sin Fronteras* (Cricket without boundaries) program that works with underprivileged children, and in 2019 visited Calabria, Italy to play with teams comprised of immigrants to the region.







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