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This is the second volume from a series of five conferences and edited collections on the theme ‘Negotiating the Sacred’. The first conference, Negotiating the Sacred: Blasphemy and Sacrilege in a Multicultural Society, was held at the ANU’s Centre for Cross-Cultural Research in 2004, and published as an edited collection by ANU E Press in 2006. Other conferences in the series have included ‘Religion, Medicine and the Body’ (ANU, 2006), ‘Tolerance, Education and the Curriculum’ (ANU, 2007), and ‘Governing the Family’ (Monash University, 2008).