

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**8 March 2017**

**For immediate release**

### **Women of Mission series celebrates those who inspire us to #BeBoldForChange**

Catholic Mission is celebrating International Women's Day by profiling and honouring some of the remarkable women working in mission in communities around the world.

In Brisbane, the organisation is marking the special day with a high tea for supporters, where the stories of missionary women and their extraordinary work for communities and children will be shared.

Meanwhile, some of those stories have been shared across social media by Catholic Mission in a series called Women of Mission.

Launched last week in the lead-up to International Women's Day, the series features women exemplifying this year's theme, **#BeBoldForChange**.

Women of Mission profiled both religious and lay leaders in mission, working in education, health, social services, and spiritual formation in communities in Asia, Africa, the Americas and even here in remote Australia.

Father Brian Lucas, National Director of Catholic Mission, says the series aimed to raise awareness of women often working under the radar and displaying the qualities commonly associated with definitions of mission.

'In almost any place where you can find Church present there are women doing wonderful work, whether on the front lines or behind the scenes,' Father Lucas said. 'Not exclusively religious sisters either; there are millions of tremendously dedicated and faith-filled lay women too.'

'Our Women of Mission series shows in video and still imagery the broad cross-section of this work and gives insight into what inspires these wonderful women who through their love, compassion, forgiveness and sacrifice inspire us.'

Catholic Mission takes the opportunity each year on International Women's Day, through various events around the country, to celebrate the contribution of women of mission worldwide.

To read the stories of missionary women around the world, and their impact on the communities they serve, you can visit the Catholic Mission Facebook page or share your own stories with the hashtag **#womenofmission**.

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