
MEDIA RELEASE

Leading Catholic thinker to tour Australia

Noted theologian and educationalist, Dom Mark Patrick Hederman OSB, the former Abbot of Glenstal Abbey, will be speaking in six cities around the country this month, thanks to Australia's Marists.

The tour is an initiative of the new Marist Association of St Marcellin Champagnat as a contribution to the spiritual life of the Australian Church.

Tony Clarke, the Marist Association's Director of Formation, said that the six events will offer a broad spectrum of Catholics, and all who are serious seekers of God in their lives, an opportunity to engage with one of the most compelling and insightful spiritual guides of our time.

"It is Dom Mark Patrick's contention that the Holy Spirit continues to do extraordinary things in quite unlikely places and people," said Mr Clarke. "He describes this as the Spirit's unearthing underground cathedrals."

Mr Clarke explained that the evenings in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Warragul, Adelaide and Perth will be the first of what will become an annual event organised by the Marists.

Marist Centre Sydney

Level 1 247 Coward St Mascot NSW 2020
Telephone +612 9218 4000
Facsimile +612 9218 4084

Marist Centre Melbourne

1 Dawson St, Brunswick VIC 3056
Telephone +613 9389 3100
Facsimile +613 9381 0417

Marist Centre Brisbane

58 Fernberg Rd, Paddington Qld 4064
Telephone +617 3512 9800
Facsimile +617 3369 0768

“We are calling it the Marian Lecture,” said Mr Clarke, “and we plan to hold it around May each year, with an outstanding speaker either from overseas or locally.”

“Our aim will be to bring a Marian perspective to the conversation around contemporary spirituality, in the hope that the mission of God can find fresh and possibly unexpected expression in and from the Church.”

“Mark Patrick Hederman sees Mary in this light, as a most unlikely woman in a most unlikely place, where God did the most extraordinary thing. He proposes that, in a sense, everyone’s Baptismal name is Mary.”

Tony Clarke said the 2017 Marian Lecture was open to all, and would be free. People are invited to register ahead of time on the Marist Association website, where further information about each venue is available: www.maristassociation.org.au

ENDS.

Further information: Tony Clarke
Director of Formation for the Marist Association
anthony.clarke@marists.org.au
0405 186 878

Photo of Dom Mark Patrick Hederman OSB attached