

## ACU Brings the World to You: Liturgy, Prayer and Pastoral Care in Time of Pandemic - free online public lecture

Australia 2020 has unfolded in ways none of us could have imagined. The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted our experiences of liturgy and public prayer as never before. Providing pastoral care to the sick and dying in high-risk environments alongside health professionals engaged in medical care, has necessitated the development of innovative approaches to this vital work.

The ACU Centre for Liturgy will examine this current reality in “Liturgy, Prayer, Pastoral Care and Pandemics,” a free public lecture presented live online from New York, USA by Sr Professor Julia Upton rsm of St John’s University (New York) on Monday October 12 via Zoom.

The ACU Centre for Liturgy welcomes Prof Upton as an expert in both liturgy and public health, to explore the challenge of providing pastoral care in the time of COVID-19. In her lecture, Prof Upton will review lessons learned from the renegotiation of what ‘community’ and ‘worship’ mean when gatherings are not permitted or are restricted by social distancing, and what kinds of pastoral care can occur for the sick and dying in hospitals and other settings when families cannot visit. Pastoral care providers, clergy and parishioners will find this free public lecture of great benefit as we consider what has been learned so far amid the pandemic and what the ramifications might be for future modes of pastoral care in the months and years ahead.

Please register for this event using the link below. A Zoom link will be sent to registrants prior to the public lecture. For further information or questions please contact the ACU Centre for Liturgy.

**Event: ACU Centre for Liturgy Presents: Sr Prof Julia Upton rsm “Liturgy, Prayer, Pastoral Care and Pandemics” (free online public lecture)**

**Date: Monday 12 October from 10-11.30am (AEST) via Zoom**

**Registration: essential by 7 October 2020. Register [here](#)**

**Downloaded the flyer [here](#). More information on ACU Centre for Liturgy offerings can be found [here](#)**

**Contact the ACU Centre for Liturgy at [CentreforLiturgy@acu.edu.au](mailto:CentreforLiturgy@acu.edu.au) or +61 (0)2 9701 4751**

**Interviews with Professor Upton are available prior to the event on request**

**Biography:** Sr Julia Upton RSM is Provost Emerita and Distinguished Professor of Theology at St John's University New York. She has worked at St John's university continuously since 1979 in various academic roles. Julia teaches liturgy and sacramental theology to both undergraduate and graduate students. She is a member of the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas and has a passion for social justice. Among her many publications are *Understanding the Sacrament of Reconciliation* (Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 2006) and *Worship in Spirit and Truth: The Life and Legacy of H. A. Reinhold* (Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 2010). Professor Upton holds the PhD in Theology from Fordham University and postgraduate qualifications in pastoral care. She has been an advisor to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Divine Worship.

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