



For immediate release
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Biennial conference to feature 30 specialist workshops, prominent keynote speakers

Catholic Mission is partnering with Catholic Religious Australia to present a diverse range of international and local speakers at the Mission: one heart many voices conference.

Last seen in 2019, this year's conference will be held from 1-3 September 2021, with an additional day of creativity shaped by young people on 4 September.

"This is the fifth time Catholic Mission has partnered with Catholic Religious Australia to present this conference, and in this partnership, we seek to give an opportunity to all those engaged in mission to come together, to network, to reflect, and to learn," says Catholic Mission National Director Fr Brian Lucas.

Several keynote speakers will present at the conference including Senior Australian of the Year, Aboriginal elder from Nauiyu, renowned artist, activist, writer, and public speaker Dr Miriam-Rose Ungunmerr Baumann AM.

"Miriam-Rose will help with the conference welcome and opening prayer followed by her address focusing on *Dadirri*, an inner deep listening and quiet still awareness," says Fr Brian.

The conference will also feature several specialist workshops, 30 in total, including prominent Australian author, Hugh Mackay, as well as human rights activist, broadcaster and former Socceroo, Craig Foster. Chiara Porro, Ambassador of Australia to the Holy See, and Cardinal Luis Antonio Gokim Tagle, Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelisation of Peoples will also present at the conference.

The fifth edition of the biennial conference is going virtual and will present for the first time to a worldwide audience.

"With Covid and all the difficulties of lockdown, this is the first time we've had to present the conference digitally," says Fr Brian.

"I'm very grateful to all who are participating, and to our supporters and sponsors who make the conference possible."

"The conference is an opportunity to learn, an opportunity to share, and also it's an opportunity when we come together to understand more about ourselves and what is required in the world of mission."

To view the program and register for the conference visit www.mohmv.com.au

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About Catholic Mission

Catholic Mission is the Australian agency of the Pontifical Mission Societies – the Catholic Church's global organisation dedicated to continuing Jesus Christ's mission in the world: that all may have life to the full. Founded in Sydney in 1847, Catholic Mission contributes funding and project support to critical church-run initiatives in Africa, Asia, Oceania, and South America. These include spiritual formation, pastoral care, education, health, sanitation and agricultural programs. Here in Australia, we form people to go out and be missionary in their professional and personal lives; to pray, advocate and take action for those on the margins. Catholic Mission has offices in 27 Australian dioceses.