



For immediate release

Monday, 28 June 2021

Biennial conference is going virtual.

One of Australia's most respected social psychologists and writers will join a diverse range of international and local speakers at the Mission: one heart many voices conference. The fifth edition of the biennial conference, convened by Catholic Mission and Catholic Religious Australia, is going virtual and will present for the first time to a worldwide audience.

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 as an opportunity to expand its reach and provide connection with so many more than the traditional face to face," says Catholic Mission Deputy National Director Peter Gates.

"In our context of global cultural, social, environmental, political, and economic change participants will dream, discern, and contemplate the wisdom shared on leading mission and taking action now."

Prominent Australian author, Hugh Mackay will lead a special workshop at the conference, focusing on his latest book, *The Kindness Revolution*, which takes inspiration from the difficulties Australia faced throughout 2020.

The presentation will discuss how best to incorporate the lessons learned during 2020 to build a stronger, more resilient society with more compassion, respect, and harmony.

Another keynote presenter is 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. The conference will end with Sister Lyndall Brown focusing on communal discernment," says Mr Gates

Focusing on Leadership Now, the conference is an opportunity to depth an understanding of the role of the Church today.

"It will explore approaches to engage, lead and co-create with those Pope Francis refers to as 'people of good will'," Says Mr Gates.

Human rights activist, broadcaster and former Soccerroo, Craig Foster will also speak at the conference as well as Chiara Porro, Ambassador of Australia to the Holy See, and Cardinal Luis Antonio Gokim Tagle, Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelisation of Peoples.

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.