

How Catholic Women Can Escalate Their Leadership Capacity In Just Two Days

Source : Council for Australian Catholic Women

How do we make more space for women in decision-making, leadership and lay pastoral ministry in our Church? This is the focus for the Council for Australian Catholic Women's Colloquium from 17 to 18 September at Mary Mackillop Place, North Sydney.

The Colloquium theme, *Women as Witnesses to the Joy of the Gospel* will set the scene for theological and pastoral reflection on Pope Francis' call to "create still broader opportunities for a more incisive female presence in the Church" (*Evangelii Gaudium* 103).

The keynote addresses and workshops will examine this theme, Dr Maria Harries, Adjunct Professor at Curtin University will lead a keynote address considering the issues facing 'Women in the Family'. Dr Michele Connolly, RSJ, Lecturer of New Testament Studies at the Catholic Institute of Sydney, will explore the issues facing 'Women in the Church'. Dr Megan Brock RSJ, member of Catholic Religious Australia and a psychologist working in private practice, will deliver the final keynote address on 'Women in Society'.

In addition to the keynotes, a range of workshops will take place on topics including; lay pastoral ministry, women from culturally and linguistic diverse backgrounds, gender and domestic violence, women and disability, youth and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women.

An overview of the [Colloquium program](#) can be downloaded from the Office for the Participation of Women website: www.cacwcolloquium.org.au.

The registration costs (excluding GST and early bird rates) for the full programme including the Colloquium dinner are available [online](#). Early bird registration closes on 6 Aug 2016 at 5pm. Please note that registration does not include transport and accommodation. [Registration are now open online](#).

Everyone is welcome to attend the Colloquium. The Council hopes that each diocese will send two representatives to attend this important event in the life of the Church and to develop their capacity for leadership.

For further information, please contact Andrea Dean on director.opw@catholic.org.au.