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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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**For immediate release**

### **Inspiring and immersive mission conference to hit Sydney in May**

It has been called “an inspiring experience of the breadth and scope of Catholic Church mission services and activities...” and now the *Mission: one heart many voices* conference is returning to Sydney in 2017.

Archbishop of Brisbane Mark Coleridge, Professors Elaine Wainwright rsm and Larissa Behrendt, and Father Frank Brennan SJ AO are just some of the names slated to appear at Australia’s leading conference on mission, to be held at the SMC Conference Centre from May 15-17.

Included in the jam-packed three-day program are six keynote addresses, five masterclasses, 35 workshops and seminars and ten interactive experiences that creatively engage the heart in mission through the arts.

Bishop of Parramatta, Vincent Long van Nguyen, will give the keynote address at the conference breakfast on Day Two. Bishop Long’s journey from asylum seeker to church leader is inspiring and rings true for the conference’s themes which include diversity and hope for the future.

Peter Gates, the Deputy National Director of Catholic Mission, who are co-hosting the conference, says the event intends to set a strong example for participants. ‘The conference attempts to model moments of mission for all so to inspire moments of mission by all,’ he said.

A detailed program for the multi-sector conference is available on the website, and Mr Gates says the content will enable participants to discover ways to engage with mission in their work and lives.

‘The program’s specialised talks and workshops will allow participants to explore areas of theory and practice of mission and evangelisation,’ he said. ‘The content will be comprehensive and inclusive, with topics covering social services, education, faith formation, leadership for mission, migrants and refugees and ecology, among many others.’

The 2017 *Mission: one heart many voices* conference is organised jointly by Catholic Mission and Catholic Religious Australia. To learn more about the conference, or to register, visit [mohmv.com.au](http://mohmv.com.au), or phone 1800 257 296.

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