



St. THOMAS MORE FORUM

St. Thomas More:

The Patron of Statesmen, Politicians and Lawyers

Wednesday 7 September 2011



Venue: St. Thomas More Hall at 30 White Crescent, Campbell

Time: 7.30 – 9.00pm followed by light supper.

“Recognising Women of Faith”

Presented by

Anne Henderson

Deputy Director of The Sydney Institute and Author

The Speaker

Anne Henderson is Deputy Director of The Sydney Institute, which she has operated with her husband, Gerard Henderson, a well known political commentator, since 1989. She also edits The Sydney Papers Online and co-edits The Sydney Institute Quarterly.

Anne is also an author and freelance writer. Her books and essays include *From All Corners: Six Migrant Stories* (1993), *Educating Johannah: A Year in Year 12* (1995), *Mary MacKillop’s Sisters: A Life Unveiled* (1997), *Getting Even: Women MPs on Life, Power and Politics*, (1999), *The Killing of Sister Irene McCormack* (2002) and *An Angel in The Court: The Life of Major Joyce Harmer* (2005). In 2008, she published a biography of Dame Enid Lyons, *Enid Lyons: Leading Lady to a Nation*.

The objective of the St Thomas More Forum is to promote thought, discussion and debate on the challenges of faith in the workplace, family and public life in the modern world.

The St Thomas More Forum is a Committee of St Thomas More Parish, Campbell supported by Catholic Life of the Archdiocese of Canberra and and Goulburn

Please see the reverse side of this notice for advice on future Forums & booking details.

Speech Synopsis

The written historical record and the published histories of the Australian Catholic church and community before the 1990s, contained very few references of the achievements of the women of that church and community. We have been making up for such lost history ever since. This patriarchal and tribal church history has diminished women as part of the laity

Religious women have suffered in a story of a church and community as one of a pioneering faith where men led the institutions of the church and founded a network of dioceses and parishes across the colonies and federation. The story is told as resistance to a secular system of education from the latter part of the nineteenth century. But while the bishops set in train a separate Catholic education system, it was the work of religious orders – mostly female - that successfully created Australia's unique Catholic school system around which both parish and Catholic community developed.

In this, the work of Mary MacKillop cannot be underestimated, alongside many other equally strong female leaders within the many religious orders. These women gave their professional lives, gratis, to the education of Catholic children. Hospitals, refuges and orphanages likewise owed the services they offered to the work of such women. I shall examine the contribution and the significance of that contribution through the stories of a number of these women.

ST THOMAS MORE FORUM 2011 PROGRAM

Wednesday 9th November 2011

General Peter Cosgrove, Chancellor of ACU and former Chief of Australian Defence Force

Entry:

\$10 per person and \$3 per student at school or university and concession card holders.

Booking Details:

Prior bookings are requested by email to sttmforum@homemail.com.au for seating and catering purposes. Prepayment of bookings is encouraged and seating is only guaranteed for those who prepay for their tickets. Please see payment options below:

Payment Options:

1. For Online booking and payment by credit card -
Please register at www.sttmp.org.au
Enquiries for online bookings: Suze Forster (02) 6163 4300
2. By Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) using the following banking details:
Account Name: St Thomas More Forum Bank: CDF
BSB: 062786 Account Number: 0002245
Prior to transferring funds please write your full name in the description line.
3. By cheque made out to:
St. Thomas More Forum posted to PO Box 68, Campbell, ACT 2612.

Please note that these dates and speakers are correct at the time of printing. However, due to varying circumstances there could be changes and additional speakers may also be included in the Program depending on availability.