John Luttrell coordinates and teaches various Church History courses at the Catholic Institute of Sydney and the Broken Bay Institute. His main field of research has been in Australian Catholic history and he has had a long association with the Australian Catholic Historical Society. John is a Marist Brother in the North Sydney community.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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History is about people and so a way into understanding history is through the ‘lives’ or biographies of influential and representative figures. Biographies also are very popular – just look at the shelves in book shops or programmes like ‘Australian Story’. This course looks at the history of the Catholic Church in Australia through the lives of ten Catholics.

Five men, five women, clergy, two religious, two laywomen, two laymen, of Irish, English, Scot, German, Italian ancestry – their lives reflect major issues and developments that have shaped the Australian Catholic Church over two centuries: the plight of immigrants and the poor; missions and parishes; identity – Irish, Roman, Australian?; roles for women? Vatican II – and so on.

The course will explore the value and limitations of biography for understanding Australian Catholic history. You will also have the opportunity of comparing different biographies of each of our ten characters (Daniel Mannix has about ten biographers).

### WHY DO THE COURSE?

Session Dates, Times, Costs & Materials

9.30am to 3.30pm
January 28, 29, 30 (Wed – Fri);
May 16, 17 (Sat, Sun)

Unit Costs:
Award & Non-Award Students $1700
Audit Students $500
CISSA Fee $10

A book of Readings will be provided.

Registrations close Thursday 11 December 2014

### CONTENT

1. **John Bede Polding**: first and long-serving Bishop of Australian Church; a missionary on horseback; dreamer, revered and criticized.

2. **Caroline Chisholm**: convert Catholic; woman of initiative and practical concern for immigrant families; a real ‘net-worker’

3. **Charles Gordon O’Neill**: Scotland to New Zealand to Sydney; engineer to ‘engineer of charity’; founded St Vincent de Paul branch in Sydney; obscure death but ‘Vinnies’ is his monument.

4. **Mary MacKillop**: founder of the Josephites; independent woman of the Church; followed by thousands; first Australian Saint. ‘Never see a need without doing something about it.’

5. **Daniel Mannix**: charismatic Archbishop of Melbourne for five decades; lightning rod for controversy; central figure in the ‘Split’.

6. **Eileen O’Connor**: a short life of prayer, disability, sickness, suffering and service; founder of the Brown Nurses; another Australian Saint?

7. **Norman Thomas Gilroy**: from postal office to first Australian-born Archbishop of Sydney; archbishop of largest diocese over three decades of national and world change; another leader in the ‘Split’.

8. **Mary Tenison Woods**: Adelaide girl educated by the Mercies; first woman law graduate at University of Adelaide, 1917; advocate for social justice; member of St Joan Political Alliance; headed United Nations Office for status of women in 1950s.

9. **B. A. Santamaria**: from Italian fruitshop to graduation in law; life devoted to ‘Catholic Action’ as he saw it; a force in Australian politics, but never a parliamentarian; central to the Movement and the ‘Split’.

10. **Rosemary Goldie**: daughter of ‘Bohemian’ Dulcie Deamer; educated by Mercies in Parramatta, then at the Sorbonne; member of the Grail; under-secretary for the Council for the Laity in Rome; John XXIII’s ‘la piccinina’; an auditor at Vatican II.

### WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

Course participants can be:

- Students studying for a graduate degree and wishing to obtain credit for the course unit towards an award. Prerequisite: a completed unit in Church History.

- Students well advanced in an undergraduate degree and with approval from the Academic Registrar. Prerequisite: a completed unit in Church History.

- Students who are not enrolled in a degree but who wish to undertake all requirements of the course and have their work assessed (non-award students).

- Individuals, with a background in theology and/or history, wishing to deepen their understanding of the history of the Catholic Church in recent centuries. Such audit students must first seek approval from the lecturer. They will be invited to participate in reading, research and presentation (without assessment).

In all the above cases it would be advisable to check with the Academic Registrar.

### HOW WILL I PREPARE?

There is no required preparation. You may wish to consult biographies of the Catholic identities to be studied. The Veech Library catalogue should help you there. You can also find short biographies in the Australian Dictionary of Biography website, e.g. http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/polding-john-bede-2557