

“ONE HEART, MANY VOICES”



Recently, Catherine Taggart and I from Emmanuel College Warrnambool attended the Catholic Missions “*One Heart, Many Voices*” Conference in Sydney. The conference allowed us to celebrate and identify the graces and the challenges of living the joy of the Gospels and helping to lead Mission at Emmanuel College, nationally and internationally. The conference explored Pope Francis’ vision for mission in the spirit of “*Evangelii Nuntiandi*”, Papal documents.

Mission, One Heart Many Voices 2015 was for those who are inspired to strive creatively to justice, truth, peace, freedom and reconciliation. It was a unique opportunity to listen, converse and experience the many and diverse voices that are an expression of the one heart mission in Australia. The conference explored the complexities and issues surrounding leadership, formation, theology and the practice of mission.

Over the three days at the conference, the Keynote Speakers and workshop presenters challenged and empowered us with the vision of mission that was scriptural and theological. It encouraged and inspired all of us to take up the challenges Pope Francis lays before us.

The conference gave Catherine and I a real insight into the vast array of Catholic Church agencies that are operating in Australia from health care, education and religious orders and individuals doing amazing things. It was nice to catch up with other colleagues too from the Ballarat Diocese and share a coffee and hear about their roles in mission at Catholic Education Office Ballarat and Mercy Mission.



Staff from the Ballarat Diocese: John O’Sullivan, Catherine Taggart, Sr. Veronica Lawson, Sue Searls, Daniele Peters.

Some Powerful Quotes Taken from the Three Days

“We are the only Gospel that most people will see today or this week”.

Fr Stephen Bevan SVD USA

“A gathering of like minded, passionate people from all aspects of Catholic Church agencies investing in honest dialogue about real issues that need addressing now”.

Fr Dennis Edwards Adelaide

John O’Sullivan