

**Paul Bird** is the Bishop of Ballarat and a Redemptorist priest. After his ordination, he led parish mission programs of prayer and preaching in parishes around Australia. He was editor of Majellan Publications and then provincial leader of the Redemptorists before being appointed to his current role as Bishop of Ballarat in 2012. His studies included a Master of Arts degree in Liturgy at the Catholic University of America. He is a member of the Bishops Commission for Liturgy of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. From 2008 to 2012 he served as Redemptorist Provincial for Australia, New Zealand, Singapore and Malaysia, and the Vice-Province of Manila in the Philippines. He was ordained as Bishop of Ballarat on October 16, 2012.

<https://mysteryandmission.com.au/breakouts>

**Sherry Balcombe**, an Olkola/Djabaguy woman originally from Far North Queensland is the Manager of Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Victoria located on Wurundjeri land in Thornbury, in Melbourne's inner north. Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Victoria (ACMV) contributes to the life of the Catholic Church by educating and informing the community about the spiritual and cultural traditions of Indigenous Peoples and to foster acknowledgment, truth-telling, reconciliation and healing both within the Aboriginal community, and with non-Indigenous people.

Sherry is often invited to speak in schools and parishes, including at parish council meetings, across the Melbourne Archdiocese

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/church-embracing-aboriginal-catholic-ministry>

**Vicki Clark** is a Mutthi Mutthi Wemba Wamba woman who has dedicated decades of her life to increasing understanding of Aboriginal spirituality and defending the rights of Aboriginal people to express this spirituality in its many forms. Vicki has worked to embody Aboriginal culture within the Catholic Church and education system and to improve educational outcomes for Aboriginal children and youth. She was a co-foundation member of the Opening the Doors Foundation, keeping Aboriginal children in an education of their choice. Vicki was asked to become the Coordinator of the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry (ACM) in Victoria, a role she held for 25 years. She is committed to strengthening understanding between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians so that we may walk together towards reconciliation.

Since her retirement from the ACM in 2015, Vicki has returned to her own country in northern Victoria, where she continues in a voluntary capacity to bring her knowledge and expertise to various programs and boards. Vicki continues in her quest, inherited from her grandmother, to enable visitors to listen, learn and feel the spirit of the land.

<https://www.firstpeoplesrelations.vic.gov.au/vicki-clark>

**Frank Brennan** is a Jesuit priest and Rector of Newman College at the University of Melbourne. He is a Distinguished Fellow of the PM Glynn Institute at Australian Catholic University, an Adjunct Professor at the Thomas More Law School at ACU and research professor at the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture.

Frank is an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for services to Aboriginal Australians, particularly as an advocate in the areas of law, social justice and reconciliation. He has been awarded honorary doctorates by the University of New South Wales and the Queensland University of Technology. Frank serves on the boards of Jesuit Social Services and the National Apology Foundation for Indigenous Australians and on the Advisory Council of the Global Foundation. His research interests include conscience and faith, human rights and the rule of law, and the rights of Indigenous peoples and asylum seekers.

The National Trust has classified him as a Living National Treasure.

<https://www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/faculties-directorates-and-staff/faculty-of-law-and-business/thomas-more-law-school/school-staff/frank-brennan>

### **Nyunggai Warren Mundine AO**

Nyunggai Warren Mundine AO is the Chair of the Australian Indigenous Education Foundation. He is from the First Australian Nations of the Bundjalung, Gumbaynggirr and Yuin people of coastal New South Wales. For his entire life, Warren has been fighting racism, discrimination and for an economic foundation for his people. He is one of Australia's most recognised, respected and revered activists and agents for improving his people's standing. Warren is an author and has been an advisor to Prime Ministers and senior business figures, even billionaires, an opinion writer for Australia's top broadsheets and opinion magazines and a highly sought-after public speaker and media identity. Warren has been recognised for his community, government and business achievements with an Honorary Doctorate from Southern Cross University, a Centenary Medal and made an officer of the Order of Australia. Warren has more than 40 years' experience working in the public, private and community sectors and is currently Managing Director of Nyungga Black Group.

[Board of Directors - About - Australian Indigenous Education Foundation \(aief.com.au\)](https://aief.com.au/Board-of-Directors-About-Australian-Indigenous-Education-Foundation)