

The
Cushwa Center
for the
Study of American Catholicism

PRESENTS



AN INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

7-9 May 2015

University of Notre Dame
London Global Gateway

FEATURED SPEAKERS

Anne O'Brien

University of New South Wales

'Leaping Over Walls': Reflections on Histories of 'The Nun in the World'

Susan O'Brien

St. Edmund's College, University of Cambridge

"Sisters of the Third Sector: Working Identities, Constructs and Relationships in the 20th Century: A Case Study from Britain."

Linda Woodhead, M.B.E.

Lancaster University

"Nuns and the Significance of the 'In-out Marginal'"

Gemma Simmonds, C.J.

Heythrop College, University of London

"Where Do We Go From Here? Signs of Vitality in a Much-Changed World"

For registration, complete program,
and additional conference details:

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PRESENTERS

- Rosa Bruno-Jofré**
Queens' University
- Patricia Byrne, C.S.J.**
Trinity College
- Maria Cimperman, R.S.C.J.**
Catholic Theological Union
- Carol Coburn**
Avila University
- M. Finbarr Coffey, C.S.C.**
St. John's Seminary
- Kathleen Sprows Cummings**
University of Notre Dame
- Marie-Thérèse Desouche, xavière**
Catholic Institute of Toulouse
- Mary Anne Foley, C.N.D.**
University of Scranton
- Mary L. Gautier**
Georgetown University
- Giovanni Gregorini**
Catholic University of Milan
- Christine Baudin Hernandez**
St. Louis University
- Catherine Higgs**
University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- Theresa Keeley**
Georgetown University
- Mary Johnson, S.N.D.deN.**
Trinity Washington University
- Katrin Langewiesche**
University of Mainz
- Mary Ellen Lennon**
Marian University
- Peter Lynch**
University of Tasmania
- Heidi MacDonald**
University of Lethbridge
- Maryann Madhavathu, C.M.C.**
Katholieke Universiteit Leuven
- Carmen Mangion**
Birkbeck College, University of London
- Katharine Massam**
University of Divinity
- Catherine Maurer**
University of Strasbourg
- Caroline Mbonu, H.H.C.J.**
University of Port Harcourt
- Ryan Murphy**
Temple University
- Jillian Plummer**
University of Notre Dame
- Deirdre Raftery**
University College Dublin
- Olivier Rota**
University of Artois
- Sabine Rousseau**
University of Clermont-Ferrand
- Maureen Sabine**
University of Hong Kong
- Joel Schmidt**
Salve Regina University
- Elizabeth Smyth**
University of Toronto
- Margaret Susan Thompson**
Syracuse University
- Barbra Mann Wall**
University of Pennsylvania
- Patricia Wittberg, S.C.**
Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis
- Jessica Whitish**
University of Louisville
- Shannen Dee Williams**
University of Tennessee, Knoxville

ABOUT THE SYMPOSIUM

This symposium unites three burgeoning areas of scholarship in religious history: the examination of the “lived history” of the Second Vatican Council; an analysis of the Roman Catholic Church as an transnational actor in global history; and efforts to develop a comprehensive understanding of Catholic women’s religious institutes through the lens of the history of gender and voluntarism during one of the most transformative moments in their collective history. How did women religious made sense of the changes in religious life, and how did local and global circumstances shape the lives of women religious within and across congregations?

Invited by the Council to renew their lives and examine their founding charisms, women religious found the experience alternating exhilarating and agonizing; they worked out their *aggiornamento* in a world simultaneously rocked by the disintegration of empires and a revolution in gender roles. At this symposium, presenters from ten countries will use focused studies to describe the experience of sisters in disparate sites ranging from cloistered communities in Australia to activist outposts in Central America. The complexity of transnational relationships within far-flung networks of women religious appear in studies of European and American women’s experience of mission sites in Africa and Asia, while other speakers investigate African sisters’ experience as they now immigrate to the global north. Theological and governance debates at a range of “renewal chapters” shed light on how women religious felt their way towards new understandings of key topics like liturgy, authority, prayer, and mission.

In concert with the Cushwa Center’s ongoing project on the Lived History of Vatican II, this symposium establishes new territory in the study of the international history of a church now open and receptive to “the joys and hopes, griefs and anxieties” of the age.

FUNDING FOR THIS CONFERENCE HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY THE
CENTRE FOR CATHOLIC STUDIES, DURHAM UNIVERSITY



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