



**Heart Space Women's Prayer book launched in Canberra
Media Release
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On Thursday, 2 December, 2010, *Heart Space, A Compilation of Prayers and Reflections by Catholic Women of Australia* was launched at the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Secretariat by Hannah Norgrove and Bishop Michael Malone.

The prayer book, with a recommended retail price of \$7 is a project of the Office for the Participation of Women and brings together a unique collection of reflections from women across Australia. It is also available as a CD, which can also be purchased for \$7.

Heart Space is the result of an invitation to Catholic women to share their personal prayers and reflections. Behind the prayers that appear on the pages of this book are the prayers of the many who made submissions and the many others who supported this project.

Director of the OPW Kimberley Davis said that this was one of the most moving projects that she has taken part in, and feels that it has given women a chance to affirm their spirituality in a collaborative way.

“This project was to give women an opportunity to share with others how they pray, to attest to the very strong spirituality of Australian women”, she said.

The project of gathering together submissions and publishing took almost “three years of gestation” said Hannah Norgrove when launching the book.

“The project required a very collaborative approach. It was truly worthwhile to receive the large package of submissions which, as we read through them, we reflected prayerfully on”, said Hannah.

Bishops' delegate for the Council for Australian Catholic Women Bishop Michael Malone was extremely touched by the experience.

“I have been a part of the Council for Australian Catholic Women for a number of years now, and more and more, I find myself indebted to these women, and to women across Australia for the spiritual resources that they so generously share with the Church. This book is just another example of this sharing and I highly recommend it to anyone, women and men”, said Bishop Michael.

A promotional video for this book is now available for viewing on VIMEO at the following link <http://www.vimeo.com/17386210>

If you wish to purchase a copy of this book, an order form can be sought from the OPW director.opw@catholic.org.au or by emailing media@catholic.org.au.

An order form is also available on the front page of the OPW website at the following link www.opw.catholic.org.au.

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