



Invitation to the book launch of *For God's Sake, The Hidden Life of Irish Nuns*

About IGRO

Irish Group Relations Organisation (IGRO) is a not-for-profit organisation promoting the field of group relations in Ireland. Group Relations offers an alternative way of thinking about and understanding the behavior and dynamics of individuals, groups and organisations' by adopting a psychodynamic and systemic perspective and a way of working

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(IGRO) held a very successful Workshop in February of this year based on the doctoral thesis of one of our members, Dr. Camillus Metcalfe. It is with a mixture of pride and pleasure that IGRO, in a hosting role, invites you to attend the launch of a new book by Camillus. It draws heavily on her earlier research and is both a social history and a type of group memoir covering the period 1930 – 2008 of religious life in Irish convents.

Date: November 6th

Time: 6.00pm

Venue: The Teachers' Club (36 Parnell Square West)

Guest Speaker: Dr Margaret Mac Curtain, Dominican, distinguished academic and historian

RSVP: info@igro.ie

Light refreshments will be provided

About the Author

Dr. Camillus Metcalfe is an Organisational Consultant and a Creative Arts Therapist. She trained at the Tavistock Clinic London where she undertook her doctoral research. Camillus has been an active member of IGRO for a number of years.

About the Book

In 1996 the television documentary *Dear Daughter* brought the subject of abuse in residential institutions to the attention of the public and in 2002 the film *The Magdalene Sisters* highlighted the treatment of women in the Magdalen laundries. The nuns who worked in these institutions have been, for the most part, silent about their experiences. This book explores the other side, the hidden life behind the convent walls. It is written from the perspective of a former nun who has a unique insight into religious life.

In *For God's Sake* ten nuns recount their life stories. They come from all social strata and different convents and congregations. They tell of experiences of a very repressive regime, of a social class system, of repressed emotions and **Life** in the Magdalen laundries and industrial schools. Each story covers some aspect of the **Life** and the individual responses to it. Collectively they offer some understanding of why nobody noticed the abuse, or if they did, why they had to turn a blind eye.