

Media Release

12 November 2025

Jesuit Mission Webinar: From the Classroom to the World

Jesuit Mission Australia extends an invitation to their upcoming webinar, 'From the Classroom to the World: Transforming Lives through Jesuit Education in Timor-Leste' on Thursday 27 November 2025 at 6pm AEDT.

The event will celebrate the transformative power of Jesuit education in Timor-Leste, sharing how the generosity of Australian supporters is empowering young people from disadvantaged backgrounds to become leaders, educators, and agents of change.

Facilitated by Jesuit Mission Australia CEO, Helen Forde, Participants will hear directly from three alumni of Jesuit education programs and a Jesuit educator lighting the way to brighter futures for Timorese youth, Fr Calisto Seco Colo SJ, Director of Loyola College.

After independence in 2002, Timor-Leste faced immense challenges, including a shortage of qualified teachers and widespread poverty. In response, the Jesuits established two cornerstone institutions: Colégio de Santo Inácio de Loiola (Loyola College) and the Instituto de São João de Brito (ISJB).

Loyola College now educates more than 830 students and every year receives a 100% graduation rate. Adjacent to the College, ISJB trains over 400 teachers each year, equipping them to uplift education standards nationwide.

"From my Jesuit education at Loyola College to the scholarship that has supported me throughout university, you have been there lighting the way at every step," said Pedrosa.

"For my practical experience I chose a public school in my hometown. I want to teach and empower marginalised communities there," said Jesuina, a Loyola and ISJB alumna. Aprilia, another graduate, added, "My experience in Loyola really shaped me to think that, though you are a woman, you have the power to make change."

Reflecting on the partnership, Helen Forde said, "Education is the most powerful tool for breaking the cycle of poverty. We're proud to stand with the Jesuits in Timor-Leste as they nurture young people to lead and serve their communities.

"I'm thrilled to provide an opportunity for generous and compassionate Australians to hear directly from these three remarkable and incredibly inspiring changemakers who will lead transformational change in their own communities."

Be part of this rich conversation about hope, leadership, faith and education in Timor-Leste.

Register now for '[From the Classroom to the World: Transforming Lives through Jesuit Education in Timor-Leste](#),' Thursday 27 November, 6pm AEDT.

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Caption: Panellists (left to right) Jesuina, Fr Calisto Seco Colo SJ, Pedrosa and Aprilia.



Caption: The invitation to the webinar.

Supporting Links:

Register now at

<https://jesuitmission.org.au/webinar>

About Jesuit Mission

Jesuit Mission works in over 10 countries across Asia and Africa to uphold the innate dignity of people living with the effects of poverty, especially the most marginalised and vulnerable. Funds from our supporters:

- Break cycles of poverty through teaching and education
- Protect the health of communities by providing medical care and programs that improve access to clean water and toilets
- Develop independent, sustainable communities through livelihood training and income-generating projects
- Provide vulnerable individuals with pastoral care, social inclusion and advocacy
- Support refugees in crisis
- Enable effective disaster response and relief.