

Tricia Bruce

Responding to Abuse in the Catholic Church: The Challenge of Change from Within

Thursday, May 26 / 4:00 pm. / Free
Flying A Studios, University Center, UCSB



Drawing from her recent book, *Faithful Revolution: How Voice of the Faithful Is Changing the Church* (2011), Tricia Bruce explores the challenges faced by the lay Catholic group Voice of the Faithful in its efforts to promote structural change in the church following widespread allegations of child abuse. Based on three years of field observation and interviews with Voice of the Faithful founders, leaders, and participants in settings across the United States, Bruce shows the contested nature of a religious movement operating within the confines of a larger institution. Guided by the stories of individual participants, she brings to light the intense identity negotiations that accompany a challenge to one's own religion and offers a meaningful way to learn about Catholic identity, intrainstitutional social movements, and the complexity of institutional structures.

Tricia Bruce is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Maryville College. Her areas of focus include the sociology of religion and social movements. She holds undergraduate degrees in sociology and communication from Southwestern University in Texas and a PhD in sociology from the University of California at Santa Barbara. She was previously a Research Assistant Professor at Georgetown University at the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate. *Faithful Revolution: How Voice of the Faithful is Changing the Church* is her first book. Copies will be available for purchase and signing at this event.

Presented by the Virgil Cordano, OFM, Endowment in Catholic Studies in the Department of Religious Studies, Ford Foundation, and the Walter H. Capps Center for the Study of Ethics, Religion, and Public Life at UCSB.

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