

Date: February 2018

From: Progressive PR and Publicity on behalf of *Australian Book Review*

(03) 9696 6417 | darren@progressivepr.com.au



Available for interview: Paul Collins

'... Australian Catholicism is a 'hollowed out' institution with declining membership, mediocre leadership, and a seventeenth-century governance structure that is hopelessly inadequate in pluralist societies. This leaves the hierarchy struggling to come to terms with modernity. Yet this very shaky institution is the foundation for a vast ministerial enterprise in education, health, aged care, and social welfare that is largely funded by government.'

Paul Collins explores the nexus between the Australian government and the Catholic church in his powerful and highly detailed *ABR* RAFT Fellowship essay (published in the March 2018 issue).



Paul Collins is a historian, broadcaster, and writer. A Catholic priest for thirty-three years, he resigned from the active ministry in 2001 due to a dispute with the Vatican over his book *Papal Power* (1997). He is the author of fifteen books and often comments in the media on Catholicism and the papacy. He has a Master's degree in theology from Harvard University and a PhD in history from the ANU.

Further information

More information about *Australian Book Review* can be found on the [ABR website](http://www.australianbookreview.com.au).

Please direct interview requests to Darren Saffin at Progressive PR and Communications on (03) 9696 6417 or darren@progressivepr.com.au