



You are invited to an evening with
BISHOP GEOFFREY ROBINSON

Wednesday August 6 2008
5.30pm for 6.00pm

*The Queensland Terrace
State Library of Queensland
Cultural Centre
Stanley Place, South Bank, Brisbane
(be aware that this space is open and warm clothing is recommended)*

Cost: \$20 (*includes light refreshments*)
(*If cost is a problem please contact us for concession rates*)

RSVP: St Mary's House 3844 9122 (for catering purposes)
E: micah@merivale.org.au

Calling for conversation, not confrontation, over the issue of clergy sexual abuse in the church, retired Auxiliary Bishop Geoffrey Robinson of Sydney, has recently completed a 15-city U.S. speaking tour. The bishop's visit coincided with the U.S. release of his controversial book *Confronting Power and Sex in the Catholic Church: Reclaiming the Spirit of Jesus*.

Meeting and speaking with abuse survivors and their families convinced him that the roots of clergy abuse lay in fundamental church attitudes toward power and sex, and that the only solution was first to examine and then to change those attitudes.

“Sexual abuse is all about power and sex, so to counter abuse, we must be free to ask serious questions about power and sex in the institution of the church,” he said. “Without this freedom, we would be attempting to respond to abuse while handcuffed and blindfolded.”

This event is hosted by The Esther Centre.

The Esther Centre (Centre for Addressing Abuse in Human Services and Faith Communities) provides support for people who have experienced physical, sexual, emotional and spiritual abuse in church institutions, faith communities and human services.