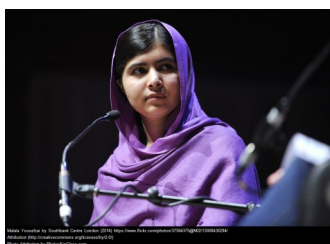


# Soul Sisters Presents



ST MARY'S PARISH GREENSBOROUGH

## David Letterman's interview with Malala Yousafzai



"They tried to bury us but they didn't know we were seeds."  
Malala 2012

Malala Yousafzai is a Pakistani education advocate who, at the age of 17, became the youngest person to win the Nobel Peace Prize after surviving an assassination attempt by the Taliban. Born on July 12, 1997, Yousafzai became an advocate for girls' education when she herself was still a child, which resulted in the Taliban issuing a

death threat against her. On October 9, 2012, a gunman shot Malala when she was traveling home from school. She survived and has continued to speak out on the importance of education. In 2013, she gave a speech to the United Nations and in 2014, she won the Nobel Peace Prize.

In congratulating Yousafzai, Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif said: "She is (the) pride of Pakistan, she has made her countrymen proud. Her achievement is unparalleled and unequalled. Girls and boys of the world should take lead from her struggle and commitment."

Former U.N. Secretary-

General Ban Ki-moon described Malala as "a brave and gentle advocate of peace who, through the simple act of going to school, became a global teacher."

Malala, turning 21 years of age next month, now attends Oxford University, where she is studying Philosophy, Politics and Economics.

Early this year, the former US talk show host, David Letterman, interviewed Malala for his Netflix program "My Next Guest Needs No Introduction".

Malala's interview revealed a courageous, wise and humble woman who encourages us all to make a difference.

Some of Malala's quotes:

"We realize the importance of our voices only when we are silenced." ...

"One child, one teacher, one book, one pen can change the world." ...

"When the whole world is silent, even one voice becomes powerful." ...

## We gathered to listen to Malala

In the evening of June 26th, around 40 people came together in our church Gathering Space, to watch David Letterman's interview with Malala and to share our thoughts.

It was a great cross-section of our community; young people, older people, men, women and children,

All curious, all inspired by this young woman, who is a bearer of hope.



### Upcoming events

THE WHITE HELMETS—2 AUGUST AT 7PM

BRENE BROWN 30 AUGUST AT 7PM

OTHER POSSIBILITIES ARE BEING EXPLORED SO THAT WE HOPE TO HAVE A NUMBER OF EVENTS IN THE NEXT 6 MONTHS

ENQUIRIES—PARISH OFFICE

ON 9435 1543

OR SPEAK WITH ANY MEMBERS OF SOUL SISTERS, WHO'S NAMES APPEAR OVERLEAF

## Soul Sisters

*Soul Sisters, has been meeting since 2010. The group meets to support each other and to grapple with the issues that affect contemporary women in the church and society; challenging accepted norms and working towards a culture of inclusivity where all are respected and valued.*

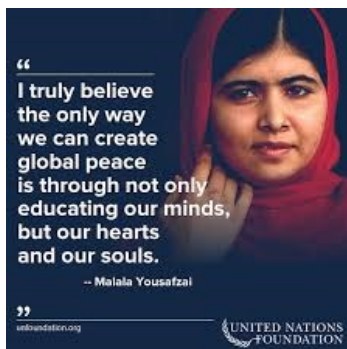
*Soul Sisters conducted a series, a couple of years ago, entitled Women of Faith in Australia and where we invited a Muslim woman, a Jewish Rabbini, and a Buddhist Nun to speak with us of their own experiences, over three sessions.*

*Our aim is to provide opportunities to explore our relationships with those whom we might otherwise believe are so different from us. Conscious of Jesus' relationship with those who are most marginalized in society we seek to grow, along with other interested parishioners, in our understanding and wisdom so that we build peace and justice.*

*The place; the voice of women is of particular interest to us, given that women have tended to be marginalised in the Catholic Church. Given that the Australian Bishops have called for Australians to contribute to a consultation, with Plenary 2020, we hope the events we provide will not only stimulate our thinking as members of the human race, but also as Catholics, so that when we do provide our input to the Bishops, we might consider the most marginalized in our society and the most marginalized in our Church.*

*The members of Soul Sisters are Ellen Smiddy, Anne Fleming, Susan Kempen, Anne Marshall, Fiona Scott, Frances Olofsson, Bec Signorini, Bernadette Douglas and Jacinta Bright*

## Comments from some who watched Malala with us



I found it enlightening. I enjoyed the interview by David Letterman and he and Malala relayed well, the worth of women. Women shouldn't put themselves down.

**Woman - 77 years**

It was really nice getting together with others to watch this interview and then to listen to everyone's points of view. What struck me was how brave Malala is and how humble she is. It inspired me that a girl could speak up for her beliefs.

Men are silenced at times, but people just shout women and girls down. Malala is a really amazing young woman. We need to be able to speak up and be listened to.

**Woman – 64**

Watching the David Letterman/Malala interview, organised by the Soul Sisters, was a treat. Sharing the night with a large cross section of like minded people and having the opportunity for group discussion afterwards, was both enlightening and rewarding.

**Lee - 51 years**

We really enjoyed getting together to watch an interview with Malala and having a heart felt conversation with others. We are all equal and we are all one however not all in the world have this opinion ... It's open dialog like this that can assist us to tap into our truth and help us to share, forgive

and be open so we can make a difference in our world. Everyone needs to read Malala's book to open the conversation in their home and community. Thank you for putting on such a special meeting.

**Amber and Grace - 35 years and 10 years**

It was amazing that despite everything Malala has gone through and all she has achieved, she continues to put others' needs before her own. She passionately fights for women's right to an education, focusing the conversation on her goals and values rather than talking about herself.

**Jessica – 18 years**

It was great to be part of the wide cross section of the St Mary's community of all ages who came out on a cold winter's evening to watch the David Letterman interview with Malala

Yousafzai and to be part of the discussion afterwards.

I came away shocked by the stark reality of the cold and brutal attack on her but found her amazing courage not to be deterred from her goals uplifting. Malala has shown us what can be achieved by bravery and perseverance even when the challenge at hand appears unsurmountable.

**David—68**

