

## **Ad Limina visit gets underway with Italian TV appearance**

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference President, Archbishop Francis Carroll has begun his ad limina visit to Rome by putting his linguistic skills to the test in a live appearance on Italian television.

Archbishop Carroll was the special guest on Rai International's religious program, Cristianita, which is broadcast on Sundays and includes a live cross to the Pope's Angelus address from St Peter's Square. He was accompanied on the program by Bishop Mark Coleridge of Melbourne, who is fluent in Italian after several years spent working at the Vatican. Both bishops took a series of questions from the host, Sr Myriam Castelli, on a variety of issues concerning the Church in Australia. They touched on such topics as interfaith relations, the family and human dignity as well as issues surrounding evangelization in Australia's multicultural, multi-faith and secular society. Following the show, Sr Myriam thanked Archbishop Carroll for appearing. "My compliments to you on your Italian," she said. Thirty-six of Australia's bishops are in Rome for the ad limina visit, which is a five-yearly pilgrimage to the tombs of the apostles, Sts Peter and Paul. Their program of visits to various Vatican congregations gets underway on Monday. A high point of the ad limina will occur on Tuesday when the bishops concelebrate Mass at St Peter's Basilica.