

**CATHOLIC  
WOMEN  
STRIKE**

**GLOBAL WITNESS FOR EQUALITY**

# WELCOME!

**Please use the chat** to tell us your name, and one word or phrase that describes your relationship with the Church right now.

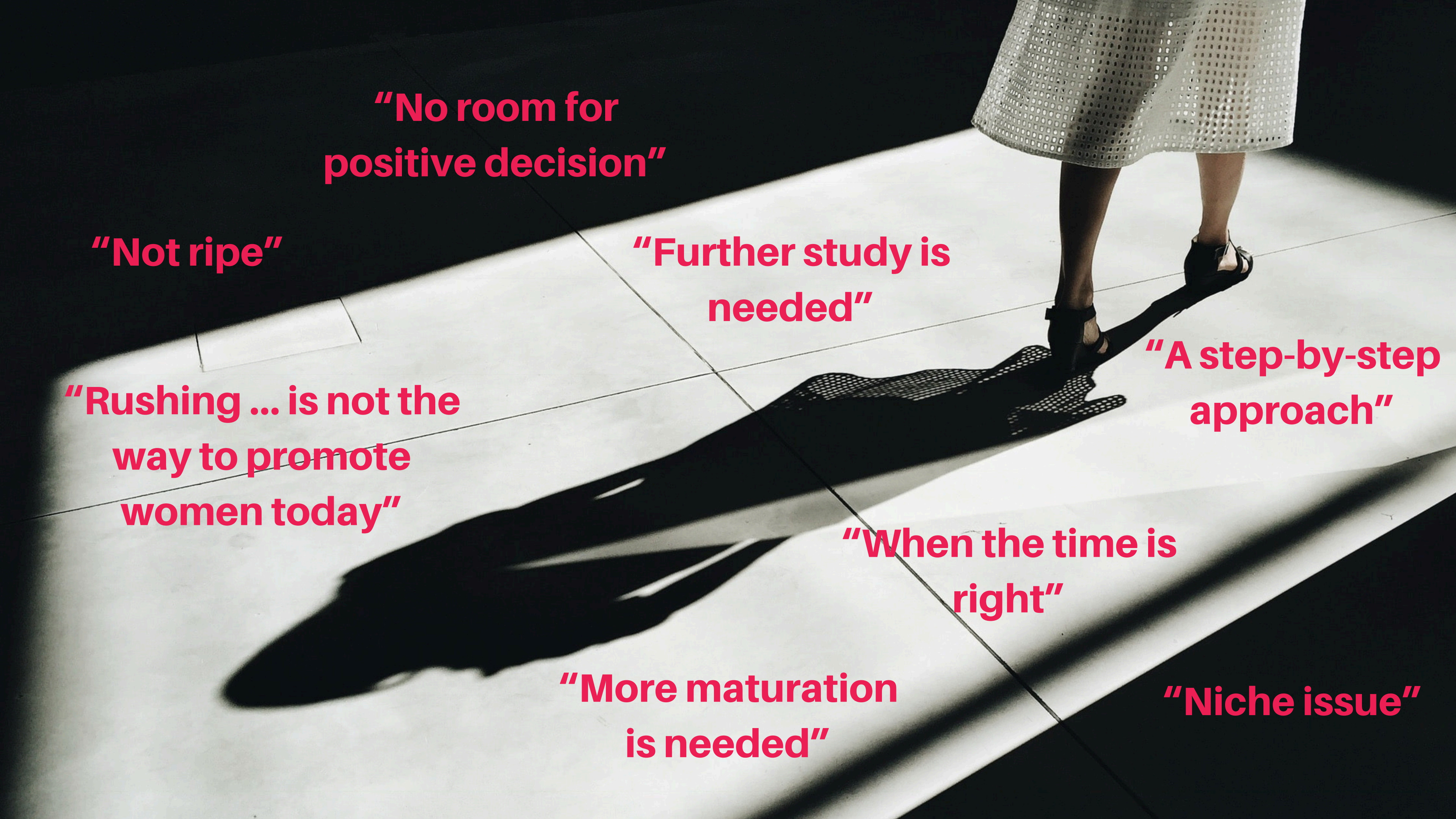


# OPENING BLESSING: “MOUNTAIN MOVING DAY”

"The day the mountains move has come.  
I speak, but no one believes me.  
For a time the mountains have been asleep.  
But long ago they all danced with fire.  
It doesn't matter if you don't believe this,  
my friends, as long as you believe:  
All the sleeping women  
are now awake and moving."

-Yosano Akiko, 1911





**“No room for  
positive decision”**

**“Not ripe”**

**“Further study is  
needed”**

**“A step-by-step  
approach”**

**“Rushing ... is not the  
way to promote  
women today”**

**“When the time is  
right”**

**“More maturation  
is needed”**

**“Niche issue”**



# THE CALL:

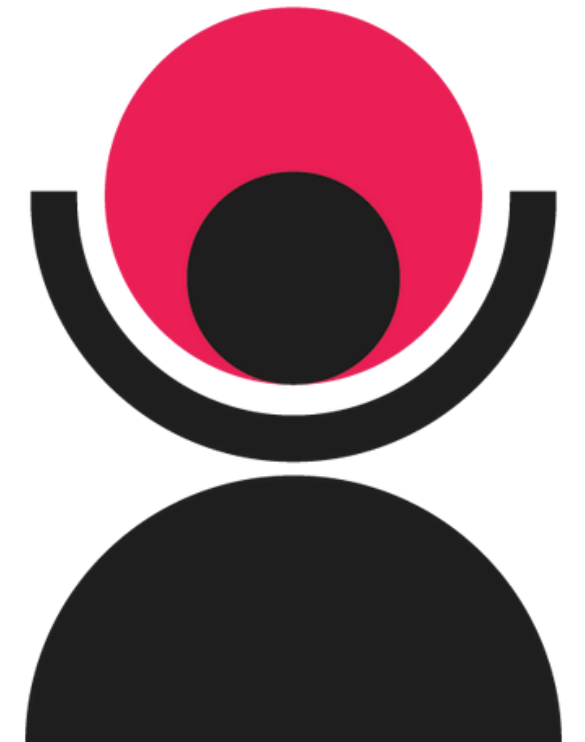
We are calling on the women of the church to join us in striking from sexism by withholding time, labor, and financial resources from the church during Lent 2025.

# THE GOAL

Our goal is straightforward: To remove all barriers to ministry and governance—including Holy Orders—for women and people of all genders.

# WHY NOW?

- We are not being heard, or worse, we have been heard and church leaders fail to act.
- The Synod on Synodality ended with no measurable or meaningful progress toward opening more ministries to women.
- We reject the Vatican's tactical timetable of endless "study" and need for "maturation"
- Women's labor, ministry, and resources are exploited, undervalued, or invisible in church structures, parishes, and at the Vatican.



# WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO STRIKE?

Withholding time, labor, and resources from the church will look different for different people—and for some of you, perhaps it's something you've been doing for a long time already. Here are some examples:

- If you attend a parish regularly, choose not to attend for the duration of Lent 2025 and instead find a woman-led community online where you can be spiritually nourished.
- If you volunteer for a parish or Catholic institution, decline to take on your usual tasks during Lent 2025: anything from lectoring to religious education. You may wish to inform your parish leadership ahead of time.
- If you work for a parish or Catholic institution, plan to walk out on a specific day or more with your colleagues. For example March 10th, following the first Sunday in Lent. Please reach out to us about any concerns about job risks if you strike during Lent. Our aim is to offer financial and moral support to make this feasible.
- If you already essentially “strike” from the church—withholding your labor, your presence, and your financial resources—we want to know!



# A LITTLE HISTORY

- Planned a March 2020 launch (perfect timing)
- Inspired by Iceland's "Women's Day Off" in 1975 and Women of Colour Global Women's Strike
- **Conversations With Women Who Strike:** Professor Annadís Greta Rúdólfsdóttir, professor at the University of Iceland, and Margaret Prescod, a founding member of the Women of Colour Global Women's Strike





# RESOURCES TODAY

- CatholicWomenStrike.org
- Social media branding and template gallery
- Catholic Women Strike Facebook Group:  
[facebook.com/catholicwomenstrike](https://www.facebook.com/catholicwomenstrike)
- Donation Page
- Petition: <https://www.groundswell-mvmt.org/petitions/catholic-women-strike>

# JOIN US: ORGANIZATIONALLY

- Endorse as a partner
- Share content
- Commit staff or volunteer time and resources for committee work
  - Resource development
  - Outreach
  - Liturgy



# HOW TO GET INVOLVED: INDIVIDUALLY

- Become a local organizer/lead
- Social Media and Storytelling Ambassador
- Resource development or letter writing
- Website support
- Inclusive mass/alternative liturgy directory
- Translation

# NEXT STEPS

- WOC will share slides and recording from this session
- Discuss with your organization or community, or schedule a one-on-one call with WOC staff
- Fill out the follow-up form

# Q & A TIME

What questions can we answer?



# CLOSING BLESSING: “CALL”

There is a new sound  
of roaring voices  
in the deep  
and light-shattered  
rushes in the heavens.

The mountains are coming alive,  
the fire-kindled mountains,  
moving again to reshape the earth.

It is we sleeping women,  
waking up in a darkened world,  
cutting the chains from off our bodies  
with our teeth, stretching our lives  
over the slow earth—

Seeing, moving, breathing in  
the vigor that commands us  
to make all things new.

It has been said that while the women sleep,  
the earth shall sleep—  
But listen! We are waking up and rising,  
and soon our sisters will know their strength.

The earth-moving day is here.  
We women wake to move in fire.  
The earth shall be remade.

—Alla Renee Bozarth



# I WON'T BE THERE

[CATHOLICWOMENSTRIKE.ORG](https://CATHOLICWOMENSTRIKE.ORG) | LENT 2025

