



ASSEMBLY OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF ONTARIO

ASSEMBLÉE DES ÉVÊQUES CATHOLIQUES DE L'ONTARIO

MEDIA RELEASE



Dr. Anne Jamieson appointed to Vatican Council on Religious Education

TORONTO (5 August 2021) – Dr. Anne Jamieson (nee Devlin), Executive Director of the Ontario Institute for Catholic Education (ICE), has been appointed to the Vatican's International Council for Catechesis. The council consists of four bishops, four priests, two religious women and eight lay people, of which four are women, with representation from Europe, Asia, North America and Australia. Dr. Jamieson has been appointed to a five-year term of service in this part-time role and will continue to serve full-time as the Executive Director of ICE.

The International Council for Catechesis was instituted in 1973 during the pontificate of St. Paul VI. The council was recently renewed by Pope Francis. The Holy Father wanted to emphasize the vital role of catechesis in the New Evangelization and the call for Catholics to deepen their own faith and witness to it by their lives.

Prior to her 2020 appointment to ICE, Dr. Jamieson served in numerous roles as a teacher and university lecturer, published author and Director of Catechesis for the Diocese of Hamilton. In her role with the diocese, she provided resources to assist Directors of Education, Superintendents, and teachers in the development of policies and programs for the celebration of the sacraments. Dr. Jamieson completed her Doctor of Ministry in the area of catechesis through the University of Toronto and sits as the "Bishop's Delegate" on the Board of Governors of St. Jerome's University in Waterloo.

In demand as a keynote speaker and workshop facilitator throughout Canada, Dr. Jamieson weaves the thread of faith through her life experiences including her journey as a wife and mother of four children. She commented on learning of her appointment to the International Council of Catechesis:

"I was at home on the farm when I received a couriered letter from the Vatican sharing the news of my appointment. It was a complete surprise. I am humbled to be asked to serve the church in this unique capacity. I know I will be able to draw on my relationships and dialogue with the Catholic Education community across the province and beyond to bring the concerns, hopes, challenges and gifts of Catholic Education in Ontario and across Canada to the global conversation with the International Council of Catechesis. This is a remarkable opportunity and I know that I will learn as much as I share as part of this exciting experience."

Bishop Ronald Fabbro, C.S.B., President of the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario stated on the news of Dr. Jamieson's appointment:

“The appointment of Dr. Jamieson to the International Council for Catechesis is a wonderful tribute for her and for our province and our country. Dr. Jamieson’s commitment to serve the Church and communicate our faith in new and creative ways has been a great blessing for us. Recognition of her gifts on an international level is a tremendous acknowledgement of Dr. Jamieson’s strong faith and leadership abilities. We rejoice with her and pray for her and the important work she will undertake over her five-year term.”

Bishop Douglas Crosby, OMI, Bishop of Hamilton, offered his heartfelt congratulations:

“I am delighted by the news of the appointment of Dr. Anne Jamieson as a Member of the International Council for Catechesis. Dr. Jamieson is a hard-working and dedicated leader in Catholic education circles in Ontario. She understands the importance of catechetical programs for Catholic dioceses and schools. When one catechist from Canada is honoured, all are honoured. She will be an outstanding member of the council.”

The Ontario Institute for Catholic Education (ICE) was established by the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario, bringing together and assisting organizations that share responsibility for English Catholic education and ongoing support of publicly funded Catholic education in Ontario. Dr. Jamieson is the 4th Executive Director of ICE.

The Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario enables Ontario’s bishops to reflect together and collaborate on projects and to proclaim, celebrate and live the Good News of Jesus Christ in our province.

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