St. Paul's Cathedral International Celebration of the Diaconate at St. Paul's

For three days in May 2018, Campion College at the University of Regina was host to an international Anglican-Roman Catholic-Ukrainian Catholic conference on the diaconate. St. Paul's Cathedral was honoured to host two concluding services, marking the Feast of the Transfiguration.

An initiative of the Anglican-Roman Catholic Covenant Implementation Committee (ARCCIC) of the Diocese of Qu'Appelle and the Archdiocese of Regina, and believed to be the first of its kind, the conference attracted nearly 100 people, including four bishops, eight priests, 55 deacons and a number of diaconal candidates and lay people, from seven Canadian provinces, six U.S. states, England, Scotland and New Zealand. Bishop Rob Hardwick of Qu'Appelle and Archbishop Donald Bolen of Regina co-chaired the conference, while Bishop Bryan Bayda of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon was a session chair.

Entitled "The Ministry of the Deacon: Word and Sacrament, Charity and Justice," the conference featured as speakers leading authorities on the diaconate from Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom. They addressed nine topics:

- the Conundrum of the Transitional Diaconate
- the Theological Basis of the Diaconate
- Women and the Diaconate
- the Diaconate as Ecumenical Opportunity
- the Diaconate in the Orthodox and Eastern Catholic Churches
- the Prophetic Ministry of the Deacon
- the Deacon in the Worshipping Community
- Diaconal Formation
- Diaconal Relationships

Highlights of the conference were two eucharistic celebrations. While the Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches are not in communion, Archbishop Bolen spoke of a real but incomplete unity. The bishops took part in each other's liturgies for the Feast of the Transfiguration. Bishop Hardwick preached at the Roman Catholic Mass at Campion College Chapel on May 12 concelebrated by Archbishop Bolen and Bishop Bayda. In turn, Archbishop Bolen preached at the Sung Eucharist at St. Paul's Cathedral on May 13, where Bishop Hardwick presided. All three bishops joined in giving the final blessing at both celebrations. And Bishop Bayda preached and gave the blessing at the May 13 joint prayer service of the Diocese of Qu'Appelle and Archdiocese of Regina – Solemn Evensong at St. Paul's Cathedral – the final event in the conference. This is believed to be the first time Ukrainian Catholic clergy have taken part in services at St. Paul's.

(Canon) Michael Jackson



Three bishops give the final blessing at the Eucharist: from left to right are Archbishop Donald Bolen, Deacon Michael Jackson, Bishop Robert Hardwick, Sub-Deacon Madison Engen, Bishop Bryan Bayda, Ukrainian Catholic Protodeacon David Kennedy, and Dean Mike Sinclair.

THE EPISTLE





Archbishop Donald Bolen gives the homily at the Choral Eucharist.

At the annual Anglican-Roman Catholic Joint Prayer Service on May 13, which took the form of Solemn Evensong, Bishop Bryan Bayda, Ukrainian Catholic Eparch of Saskatoon, gave a homily accompanied by his own music!





Solemn Evensong ended with the blessing given by the Ukrainian Catholic Eparch. From left to right: Deacon Michael Jackson, Protodeacon David Kennedy, Bishop Bryan Bayda, and Father Vladimir Simunovic.