

Transfigurations:
Seeing with New Eyes, Responding with Renewed Vision

Ramada Plaza Crystal Palace and Convention Centre

Dieppe, NB

May 27-29, 2011

Advance announcement to all who may be interested regarding the bi-annual Atlantic Catechetical Conference being hosted by the Office of Faith Development of the Archdiocese of Moncton in May 2011.

Guest presenters will be **Dr. Reginald Bibby** and **Carol Kuzmochka** who will explore for us the current reality in Canada: how does one define a Christian in Canada in the 21st century? How do our identities, which have been formed by the sacred and the secular, allow us to continue to reach those who we may see as 'disengaged' or 'disconnected' from the faith? How do we move from seeing the issue of the 'disengaged' as something which must be fixed, to something which we must understand, so that we may be led to a place where we recognize the presence of God in people who may not be 'churched' in the same way we are?

Reginald Bibby is Canadian sociologist and pre-eminent analyst of religious practice in Canada. He holds the Board of Governors Research Chair in the Department of Sociology at the University of Lethbridge, Alberta. Carol Kuzmochka is the Director of the Centre for Ministry Formation at St. Paul's University, Ottawa. She is a catechist, whose present research is focused on why, though people are spiritually hungry, churches seem to still not be making that connection for relevancy which people are seeking. Bibby has been monitoring religious practice trends in Canada focusing not only on adults but young people, and will provide us with a social and religious context with what it is we want to do. Kuzmochka will talk about what it is we need to do on a catechetical front to make a connection between faith and life.

Everyone is encouraged to attend this conference, because the *General Directory for Catechesis* reminds us that the entire Christian community is responsible for the catechesis of the community.

Further information will follow in September or October concerning the conference, and as soon as we are able we will provide you with specific information regarding costs. For now we invite you to reserve these dates on your calendar and plan to join us here in the Archdiocese of Moncton as we gather to celebrate, learn, share and grow as catechists in Atlantic Canada.

ACA Conference 2011 Planning Committee:

Ellen Bennett, Claudette Derdaele, Trevor Droesbeck, Deb Gillespie, Lorraine Joseph, Cathy Kennedy, Dianne LeBlanc, Karen LeBlanc, Pierrette LeBlanc-Robichaud, Frank MacPhee, Paul Meunier, Anne Mongraw, Carolyn O'Blenis, Andrew Wilson,