

The International Commission on English in the Liturgy

A MIXED COMMISSION OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCES

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The International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL) is a mixed commission of Catholic Bishops' Conferences in countries where English is used in the Sacred liturgy according to the Roman Rite. The purpose of the Commission is to prepare English translations of each of the Latin liturgical books in accord with the directives of the Holy See and the Conferences of Bishops, which it serves as their agency.

The ICEL Bishops having completed their annual meeting in Morristown, New Jersey, are happy to report on the continued work of the Commission and the election of its officers:

Bishop Arthur Serratelli, Bishop of Paterson, Chairman
Archbishop Denis Hart, Archbishop of Melbourne, Vice-Chairman
Archbishop Albert LeGatt, Archbishop of St Boniface, Treasurer
Archbishop Dominic Jala, Archbishop of Shillong, Secretary

The Commission expressed its deep and profound gratitude to Bishop Arthur Roche, Bishop of Leeds, who has guided the work of ICEL as its chairman since 2002. Two members of the Commission are passing their responsibilities on to other Bishops following this meeting. They are: Bishop John McAreavey, of Dromore, Ireland, whose successor was able to join the present meeting and Bishop Denis Browne, of Hamilton, New Zealand, whose successor will be named in the coming months. The ICEL Bishops are grateful for their devoted service over many years.

In accord with the Statutes of ICEL, received by the Conferences of Bishops from the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, the Commission will offer two draft translations in the coming weeks for the consideration of the English-speaking Conferences. These texts, the English translation of *Ordo celebrandi Matrimonium* and *Ordo Confirmationis*, have been prepared to conform to the style and form of the new Roman Missal, recently implemented in most ICEL member Conferences.

The ICEL Bishops at their present meeting have also completed the complex process of re-incorporating the agency based in Canada to comply with the civil requirements of the Canadian Government and in accord with the provisions contained in the ICEL Statutes, which govern the ecclesiastical body. The Bishop members of ICEL (www.icelweb.org) were assisted in their deliberations, by Bishop Douglas Crosby, who has guided the incorporation process over the course of the past several years.

In accordance with the Statutes, the Delegate of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, Msgr James Moroney, was also present at the ICEL meeting.

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