

ANGLICAN ROMAN CATHOLIC INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION
COMMUNIQUÉ
AUGUST 2003

The Anglican Roman Catholic International Commission (ARCIC) met from 10 – 18 July at the Duncan Centre, Delray Beach, Florida, under the co-chairmanship of the Most Reverend Frank T. Griswold, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church (USA), and the Most Reverend Alexander J. Brunett, Archbishop of Seattle. New members included Bishop Brian Farrell LC, the new Secretary of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, and a new Anglican Co-Secretary, the Reverend Canon Gregory K. Cameron, who has succeeded the Right Reverend David Hamid as Director of Ecumenical Affairs and Studies at the Anglican Communion Office.

The Commission worked in the main on the text of a document on the place of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the life and doctrine of the Church, which it hopes to complete at its next meeting for publication in the course of 2004. Lengthy consideration was given to the treatment of an historical overview of devotion to Mary in the lives of the Anglican Communion and the Roman Catholic Church, together with a consideration of the theology of invocation of the saints. The main focus of remaining discussion for the next meeting will be the authority of the two Marian dogmas of the Assumption and the Immaculate Conception.

The Commission also heard an extensive report on the work of the International Anglican Roman Catholic Commission for Unity and Mission, which had met at Dromantine Conference Centre in Northern Ireland last month.

The Commission extended its profound gratitude to Dom Emmanuel Lanne OSB, who has assisted the Commission as a consultant on matters relating to Early Church History and the Eastern churches during the drafting process, and to other consultants who have advised on the revision of proposed texts.

During the meeting, the Commission members were guests at a dinner hosted by Presiding Bishop Frank Griswold, and were honoured to meet Bishops Leo Frade and James Ottley of the Anglican Diocese of South East Florida, together with Msgr Arthur Kennedy, Director of the Office for Ecumenical Affairs of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The Commission was especially grateful for the warmth of welcome and the gracious hospitality of the Revd Stephen and Mrs Fregeau and all the staff at the Duncan Conference Center.

The Commission noted with sadness the deaths of former members, Bishop Alan Clark (Roman Catholic Co-Chair from the Commission's inception until the publication of the Final Report in 1981), Bishop Edward Knapp-Fisher and Fr Edward Yarnold SJ during the last year.

ARCIC will next meet from 28th January to 2nd February 2004 in Seattle.

The members of ARCIC are:

Anglicans

The Most Revd Frank Griswold (Presiding Bishop, the Episcopal Church [USA], Co-Chair)

The Rt Revd John Baycroft

Dr Rozanne Elder

The Revd Canon Jonathan Gough

The Revd Professor Jaci Maraschin

The Revd Dr John Muddiman

The Rt Revd Michael Nazir-Ali (unable to attend this meeting)

The Revd Dr Nicholas Sagovsky

The Revd Dr Charles Sherlock

The Revd Canon Gregory Cameron (Anglican Communion Office, Co-Secretary)

Roman Catholics

Archbishop Alexander Brunett (Archbishop of Seattle, Co-Chair)

Sister Sara Butler, MSBT

The Revd Dr Peter Cross

The Revd Dr Adelbert Denaux

The Rt Revd Brian Farrell LC

The Rt Revd Malcolm McMahon OP

The Revd Charles Morerod OP

The Revd Liam Walsh OP

The Revd Donald Bolen (Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, Co-Secretary)

Consultant

Dom Emmanuel Lanne OSB

Administrative Staff

Mrs Christine Codner (Anglican Communion Office)

Ms Giovanna Ramon (Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity)

6 August 2003

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