

Who we are:

The **Justice & Peace Commission of the Archdiocese of Kingston** was established in 1987 with the approval of Archbishop Francis Spence, through the efforts of Catherine Perkins, Rev. William Burns, Rev. Brent Brennan, and Rev. Lloyd Cummings. The inaugural meeting was held on November 17, 1987.

Since its inception, the Commission has enjoyed the leadership and commitment of outstanding men and women. Chief among its leaders was John Gomes, Coordinator of the Archdiocesan Justice & Peace Office, who facilitated the work of the Commission until his retirement in December, 2003. The Archdiocese and the Commission appreciated his profound knowledge and love of the Social Imperatives of the Gospels and his faith-driven commitment to their implementation.

Currently, the Commission is comprised of the following members:

Rev. Brent Brennan representing the Council of Priests; Rev. Lloyd Cummings representing the Northern Deanery; Wanda Campbell and Mary Bradshaw representing the Western Deanery; Chris Forster, Coordinator of Pastoral Services at Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School; Karen Leavitt, OECTA Representative and representative of the Social Justice Committee, Algonquin Lakeshore Catholic District School Board; Jamie Swift, Coordinator of the Justice & Peace Office, Sisters of Providence; Leigh Smith representing the Anglican Diocese of Ontario; Debra Fieguth, Coordinator of the Social Action Ministry, Anglican Diocese of Ontario; Ann Gollinger representing the Eastern Deanery; Bernadette Dedecchi and representing the Central Deanery; and Alice Gazeley Chair. Ex Officio members include Archbishop Meagher, Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Kingston and Bishop Bruce, Anglican Diocese of Ontario.

The Commission submits an Annual Report to the Archdiocesan Administration. The Chair also attends and reports at all meetings of the Adult Education Committee of the Archdiocese. Communications to the Parishes, to the Media, to Politicians, and to Social Interest Groups, are submitted to the Archdiocesan Chancery Office before publication.

The Commission is guided in its work by a set of ***Guidelines*** approved by the Archbishop and by the Commission. The Program for each coming year is formulated in December and prioritized and refined the following January. This Program then acts as a guide for the Commission's work throughout the year, but does not exclude issues arising during the year that are not foreseen. The Commission meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm at the Archdiocesan Centre. Working ad

hoc committees meet throughout the month to carry out the decisions of the Commission and/or to prepare "proposals" for future monthly meetings. The Commission interrupts its monthly meetings in July/ August to hold a one-day Study Retreat Session.

See the *Guidelines* and *Annual Report 2003* for further details of the Commission's Program.