

## About the Instructors

**Dr. Scott Morrison** is the Interim President of St. Mary's University in Calgary. Prior to this, Dr. Morrison was the Superintendent of Christ the Redeemer Catholic Schools. He has also served as both the President of the College of Alberta School Superintendents (CASS) and the Executive Director of the Council of Catholic School Superintendents of Alberta (CCSSA). Prior to becoming a superintendent, Scott served as a teacher and principal at both the elementary and secondary levels. Throughout much of his career, Scott has served as a sessional lecturer at both St. Mary's University and the University of Calgary and has presented across the province on topics such as leadership, organizational storytelling, safe and caring schools, and academic excellence.

**Dr. Andrea Holowka** is the Superintendent for Christ The Redeemer (CTR) Catholic Schools, serving approximately 10,500 students in Okotoks, High River, Brooks, Strathmore, Canmore, Drumheller, and Oyen. Since 1995, she has held teacher, principal, and superintendent roles, previously with the Calgary Board of Education and Calgary Catholic School District. She holds a doctorate in education, with a dissertation focus on systemic approaches to mental health interventions in school divisions. She has served as President of the Council of Catholic School Superintendents of Alberta (CCSSA) and President of the College of Alberta School Superintendents (CASS). Her leadership emphasizes collaborative and system-level change, through service and within the lens of a Catholic worldview. Andrea has led professional development and has been featured as a conference presenter on the topics of organizational change, academic achievement, data-informed practices, governance, student mental health supports, Catholic education, faith formation, rural education, and educational leadership.

**Dr. Bonnie Annicchiarico** is a retired Catholic educator with experience as a teacher, principal, and associate superintendent in Christ the Redeemer Catholic Schools who brings her perspective from her home in Brooks. In 2017 she became the founding executive director for GrACE (Grateful Advocates for Catholic Education), a provincial advocacy movement for Catholic education created in partnership with the Bishops of Alberta, Alberta Catholic School Trustees and the Council for Catholic Superintendents. Bonnie holds a PhD in Catholic School leadership from the University of Calgary and has served in various leadership roles including president of Council of Catholic School Superintendents of Alberta (CCSSA) and vice-chair of NET Canada. She has been a sessional instructor at St Mary's University, is currently chair of the Diocese of Calgary's Renewal Leadership Team and serves as the Bishop's Delegate on the Board of Governors for St Mary's University. Bonnie is active within her home parish of St Mary's in Brooks. As a wife, mother and grandmother, family remains central in her life. Bonnie lives by the maxim that leadership requires our "yes" and is embedded in faithful ways of knowing our call, our charisms and our hearts.

**Jennifer Woo** is the Interim Dean of Education at St. Mary's University, Calgary, Alberta, has extensive leadership experience and a distinguished record of service in Alberta's educational community. She held senior administrative positions at the Calgary Catholic School District, including Director and Supervisor of Religious Education and Family Life, and served as principal, and vice-principal in K-9 schools. Her work consistently advanced student achievement, teacher development, and the integration of faith and learning. She also led provincial initiatives, including Catholic education program reviews and the development of a Catholic School Identity Assessment Tool. In addition to her administrative accomplishments, Mrs. Woo continues to serve

as a sessional instructor at St. Mary's University, teaching courses on the spirituality and philosophy of Catholic education. She holds a Master of Education from the University of Toronto, a Graduate Diploma in Canon Law, and superintendent and leadership certifications.

**Nikayla Reize** (PhD Candidate, M.A., B.Th.) is a Canadian biblical scholar who was born and raised on Treaty 7 land. With a deep passion for embodied and collective liberation, she brings both heart and scholarship to her work. After 17 years of pastoring in Calgary, Nikayla has shared her love of learning and critical faith engagement by teaching in universities and churches across Canada. She now serves as an adjunct Professor of Religious Studies at St. Mary's University and her specialty is Sabbath, Jubilee, and social-justice in Luke-Acts.

**Teresa Miles** (PhD, M.Ed, B.A.): With roots in both Cree and Ukrainian heritage, I am a proud member of the Opaskwayak Cree Nation in Manitoba, which is part of Treaty 5 territory. My academic journey has led me to earn a B.A. (Hons) in Criminal Justice, a Master of Education, and a Doctor of Education. My research has focused on "The emotional experiences of Non-Indigenous educators teaching Indigenous curricula: exploring reconciliation through narrative inquiry". This work is deeply personal and meaningful, reflecting my commitment to fostering understanding and collaboration between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous communities. Currently I am teaching Indigenous Education to pre-service teachers at St. Mary's University. My role involves creating learning opportunities that are inclusive, engaging, and culturally relevant, drawing on my own experiences and research to support future educators. I believe education is a powerful tool for reconciliation and personal growth, and I am passionate about making a positive impact in this field.

**Linda Olsen** is an award-winning journalist and proud Calgarian who has spent more than three decades amplifying the stories that shape the city. After a 36-year career in the newsroom, where her experience and perspective guided coverage, and supported the team at Global News Calgary, she continues to champion community leadership through storytelling, mentorship, and connection. A longtime emcee and keynote speaker, Linda led the acclaimed Global Calgary Woman of Vision series for 15 years, celebrating extraordinary women and uniting the community at a sold-out luncheon on International Women's Day. Her commitment to the community includes roles with the Calgary Children's Foundation, Parks Foundation Calgary, Believe in the Gold, and as Co-Chair of United Way of Calgary and Area's 2025 campaign. Today, Linda hosts and produces The Spotlight Hour with Linda Olsen, a radio and podcast series where she continues her mission of elevating inspiring Calgarians and championing leadership in all its forms.

**Kathryn Strilchuk** is a lifelong learner with more than 35 years of experience in education, spanning K-12 classrooms, school leadership, and post-secondary student success. Before joining St. Mary's University as Director of Student Success, she served as a teacher and administrator in Alberta and British Columbia, where she developed a deep commitment to equity, growth, and learner-centered leadership. A values-based leader, Kathryn is passionate about creating meaningful opportunities and supportive pathways for the students and communities she serves. Grounded and reflective, she brings curiosity, compassion, and intentionality to her work. Outside of her professional life, Kathryn finds balance through reading, yoga, and time outdoors, and whenever possible, recharging on the beaches of Maui with her son, the light of her life

**Trisa Soroski** is the inaugural Executive Director of the Woitas Centre for Inclusive Education at St. Mary's University in Calgary, where she leads innovative and practical work supporting both pre-service and in-service teachers in advancing inclusive practice across Calgary and Alberta. With more than thirty years of experience as a teacher, consultant, administrator, and supervisor with the Calgary Catholic School District, Trisa brings a deeply rooted understanding of faith-based education, leadership, and community building. Her work is shaped by a conviction that inclusion is not simply a stated value, but a lived responsibility grounded in Gospel witness and Catholic social teaching.

**Keelin Kennedy** is the Campus Ministry Coordinator at St. Mary's University in Calgary. She has eight years of experience in youth and young adult ministry. A graduate of Encounter School of Ministries, Keelin is deeply committed to the New Evangelization and to accompanying young adults in their faith formation. She has a heart for helping young adults discover their true identity as beloved sons and daughters of God.

**Michelle Diment** is a wife of 33 years, mother of five and grandmother to two, but most of all she is a beloved daughter of the King and missionary disciple of Jesus Christ. Michelle is passionate about serving in her parish and community through evangelization ministry, teaching discernment, and spiritual direction. Michelle obtained a Certificate of Spiritual Formation from the Avila Institute, and is a certified spiritual director through the Lanteri Center for Ignatian Spirituality in Denver.

**Bishop William T. McGrattan** serves as the 8th bishop of the Diocese of Calgary. A native of London, Ontario, he received his undergraduate degree in Chemical Engineering at the University of Western Ontario, followed by a Master of Divinity from St. Peter's Seminary in London. Following his ordination in 1987, Bishop McGrattan continued his studies in theology at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, where he received a Licentiate in Fundamental Moral Theology in 1992. He served on the faculty of St. Peter's Seminary in London as an associate professor, vice-rector and dean of theology, and was appointed as rector of the seminary in 1997. In 2010, he was ordained as Auxiliary Bishop of Toronto and Titular Bishop of Furnos Minor. In 2014, he was appointed bishop of the Diocese of Peterborough, Ontario. In 2017, he was installed as the bishop of the Diocese of Calgary.

**Dr. Peter E. Baltutis** is Associate Professor of History and Religious Studies at St. Mary's University, where he also holds the Catholic Women's League (CWL) Endowed Chair for Catholic Studies and serves as the Chair of Humanities. He earned his Ph.D. in Theology from the University of St. Michael's College in the University of Toronto, specializing in the history of Christianity/Church History. His research focuses on the historical and theological development of Catholic social teaching in Canada.