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Margaret Lyons to Retire from Catholic Diocese of Cleveland Education Leadership Post

Margaret Lyons, Secretary for Catechetical Formation and Education, and Superintendent of Schools for the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland, has announced she is retiring from her current role effective at the close of this academic year, 2015-2016. Ms. Lyons has served the Church in diocesan work as catechetical leader, teacher and administrator for over forty years.

A product of seventeen years of Catholic education, followed by two graduate degrees from Catholic universities, Ms. Lyons notes she has been blessed to work with the Most Reverend Richard Lennon, Bishop of Cleveland and his predecessor, the Most Reverend Anthony Pilla, Bishop Emeritus. "It was an honor and grace to further the Mission of the Church through the support of the pastors, administrators and catechists of the Diocese," she said. Ms. Lyons adds that she has been deeply inspired by the dedicated work of her colleagues

"I wish to express my gratitude to Margaret for her exemplary leadership and deep dedication to our schools over the years. She has made a tremendous positive contribution to the work of Catholic education in our Diocese most especially in the areas of professional development and catechetical renewal," said Bishop Lennon. As Margaret begins this new chapter of her life, may she continue to receive God's every grace and blessing."

Catholic Diocese of Cleveland day school enrollment was 45,919 or 5th nationally overall, a rank that has been maintained since 2009. With the exception of Los Angeles, whose general population is over 11 million and whose Catholic population is growing—Cleveland has outperformed every other top Catholic school system in maintaining Catholic school enrollment.

A Search Committee will be formed to recommend a candidate for the role Ms. Lyons will vacate.

About the Diocese of Cleveland:

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Cleveland was founded on April 23, 1847. Under the leadership of the Most Reverend Richard Lennon, bishop of Cleveland, it is the twenty-third largest diocese in the United States. The diocese encompasses the counties of Cuyahoga, Summit, Lorain, Lake, Geauga, Medina, Wayne and Ashland. There are more than 692,000 Catholics in the Diocese, and Catholic Charities- Diocese of Cleveland is one of the largest diocesan systems of social services in the world. There are 185 parishes, 114 Catholic schools, 1 pastoral center and 1 mission office within the diocese. The cathedral is the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, located in downtown Cleveland.