

Deacon Robert A. DeLuca, M.A., '74
Catholic Leadership Award

Catechism is a word that rarely inspires excitement. But if you are Robert DeLuca, you know that catechesis derives from a Greek word meaning echo, and that the calling of the Catholic teacher is to echo the words and life of Christ. As a teacher, an ordained deacon, a writer, an administrator, and a pastoral presence, Deacon Bob has spent his life doing just that. Upon leaving Saint Anselm with a Bachelor's of Arts in Theology in 1974, Bob began work in catechetical ministry and has never stopped, serving in high schools, parishes, and colleges in New Hampshire, New York, and Florida for more than four decades. In 1986 Bob earned a Master of Arts Degree in Pastoral Ministry from the Jesuit Institute of Pastoral Ministry and Religious Education at Boston College and has pursued additional post-graduate work at Providence College and the University of Notre Dame. In 2006 he was ordained to the Sacred Order of Deacons by the Most Reverend Victor Galeone, and at an age when many people are enjoying retirement, Bob continues to actively live out his vocation by guiding young people in their faith as the Director of Campus Ministry and Religious Education at Bishop Kenny High School in St. Augustine, Florida. He also serves as a member of the pastoral staff of St. Luke Catholic Church, as the Chairperson of Clergy Continuing Education, as a faculty member of the of the diocesan Ministry Formation, and as an adjunct Instructor of Theology at Saint Leo's University. A member and leader of the National Conference of Catechetical Leaders, Bob continues as well to apply his expertise in consulting for Catholic publishers. In his determination to echo the words and life of Christ, Bob has cultivated a particular interest in the intersection of the fields of Psychology and Theology. He is zealous in his desire to welcome home alienated Catholics and promote the professional growth and development of lay women and men in the Church's ministry. The Saint Anselm Alumni Association is honored to join with others in recognizing this remarkable life of ministry to the Church and her people by awarding Deacon Robert DeLuca the 2018 Catholic Leadership Award.