

## HOW YOU CAN JOIN THE LAY MINISTRY PROGRAM

Contact your pastor or a member of the parish staff. Information is also available from the Pastoral Institute.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Lay Ministry Program has received initial accreditation from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Commission on Certification and Accreditation. Additional information on accreditation is available from: USCCB/Commission on Certification & Accreditation  
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The laity's call to holiness is a gift of the Holy Spirit. Their response is a gift to the Church and the world.



## Lay Ministry Program

Forming Lay Church Leaders for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

# Pastoral Institute

Diocese of Brooklyn



# COME AND SEE

## MEET OUR LAY PASTORAL LEADERS

*Part of my ministry practicum was establishing a Consolation Ministry in my parish. My life has been enhanced by this ministry through the study of the scriptures. I have been personally touched by the people I have met in this ministry; each has enriched my life.*



AL MARCIANO

*This program has enriched me. I am more knowledgeable about my faith and seek opportunities to continue learning so that I can have more strength and insight for my life and work. I have made new friends and was blessed with a mentor whose guidance I valued and with whom I continue to have discussions related to spiritual matters. I now see myself in a new light, that of a pastoral musician.*



LOUISE R. GIDDINGS

*During my time in the program I met so many people who like myself, were working in their parishes in different kinds of ministries. Classes always included time for people to ask questions and share news in their parishes as well as in the Diocese. My life has been changed spiritually and personally because of this program.*



NANCY PARDO

## HOW YOU CAN BECOME A LAY PASTORAL LEADER

As a participant in the Lay Ministry Program, you will complete a three-year process of five integrated components that will contribute to your holistic formation for ministry. At the conclusion of the process, you will be commissioned by the diocesan bishop to serve as a volunteer coordinator or team member for one of the many ministries in our parishes.

### Spiritual Formation

This program will provide you with various experiences to enhance your spiritual life. Days of reflection provide time for personal and communal prayer, quiet reflection, and dialogue. You will also have opportunities for faith sharing with other participants.

### Theological Education

You will study the major areas of Catholic teaching and belief: Theology of Lay Ministry, Theology of Church, Liturgy and Sacraments, Moral Theology, Scripture, Christology, Cultural Diversity, Ecumenism and Inter-religious Dialogue. You will find that the adult learning methodology honors your own rich experiences as a Catholic adult.

### Pastoral Skills

During your time in the formation program, you will attend workshops on various pastoral skills, such as, communication and listening skills, creating prayer experiences, and exploring leadership styles. These are just a few of the workshops that are offered to you.

### Ministry Practicum

You will specialize in a particular ministry and have the opportunity to practice it under the direction of a skilled supervisor. As a result, you will discover the gifts that you bring to the ministry and the competencies that you need to develop.

### Mentoring Process

The mentoring process facilitates your dialogue with a parish staff member who serves as your mentor during your time in the formation process. Your mentor will also help you to discern your choice of ministry for the practicum experience.