

**PASTORAL INSTITUTE  
DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**Pastoral Institute Expands Foundations for Ministry Program**

The Pastoral Institute is proud to announce that in September it will be piloting its 10-week, twenty-hour *Foundations for Ministry Program* in Haitian Kreyòl and Polish. The program, which is designed for men and women who are discerning participation in the three-year Lay Ministry program or who desire a basic update in theology for ministry will be offered in English and Spanish at various host sites in the diocese as well.

The Pastoral Institute, an agency within the Secretariat for Catholic Education and Formation, is committed to the formation of the baptized faithful for various lay leadership roles in the parishes. After having been approached about the possibility of offering the *Foundations for Ministry Program* in Haitian Kreyòl and Polish, the Pastoral Institute was able to secure a grant from an anonymous source. The grant monies made the pilot programs possible.

The parishes that are hosting the *Foundations for Ministry Program* this September are:

Our Lady of Refuge, Brooklyn: English, Kreyòl and Spanish tracks.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Astoria: English and Spanish tracks.

St. Stanislaus-Kostka, Brooklyn: Polish track.

The 10-week program covers topics such as Theology as a Field of Study, The Emerging Role of the Laity, Jesus: His Mission, His Message, His Ministry, and Moral Theology, to name a few. Persons who successfully complete the program receive a Certificate of Completion and may be eligible to receive ongoing or enrichment formation credits for the Living and Leading by Faith Catechist Formation Program.

The *Foundations for Ministry Program* has been so successful that the Pastoral Institute is now working on translating the program into Mandarin in order to reach out to the Catholic Chinese community in the diocese.

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