



Ideas for Promoting the Lay Ministry Program in Parishes

- Invite commissioned lay pastoral leaders to a special Mass. Introduce them to the community and ask one to speak briefly about her/his individual ministry. After Mass, host a light reception in their honor.
- Invite the commissioned lay pastoral leaders in the parish to wear their Lay Ministry pins and make themselves available at the exits following Mass so they can answer questions people may have about the three-year Lay Ministry Program (LMP) and their service to the parish or about the impact their involvement as a lay leader has had on them personally.
- Include the sample announcements in the bulletin telling those interested in the LMP about the Information Sessions, where the new class sites will be located and to contact the pastor/administrator for more information.
- Include some of the above information in a pulpit announcement for several weeks.
- Print the LMP inquiry flyer (*Are You Being Called to Lay Ministry?*) and enclose it in all the bulletins.
- Invite the parish's commissioned lay pastoral leaders and current participants in the LMP to an informal gathering with those inquiring about the process. Ask your Hospitality Ministry team to provide a comfortable setting and light refreshments. Discuss what lay ministry means to the parish and the commitment the parish makes to individuals engaged in the training process, the time commitment required of candidates and what is actually involved in the training process, what personal impact it has for those who are commissioned as lay pastoral leaders and what parish needs exist that can be satisfied by lay pastoral leaders.
- Take stock of what needs you have in the parish and put "Wanted" ads in the bulletin asking for people to step forward to train for filling those specific areas of ministry.
- Invite commissioned lay pastoral leaders from the parish and/or deanery to speak at Masses about the LMP. The Pastoral Institute would be happy to work with these speakers on their message and to provide brochures and other materials. If you prefer, you may contact the Pastoral Institute to arrange to have a team of commissioned lay pastoral leaders come and speak at all of the masses during a weekend.
- List the names and ministry of your commissioned lay pastoral leaders on your bulletin masthead.