



LAY MINISTRY PROGRAM ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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FORTY-TWO LAY PASTORAL LEADERS ARE COMMISSIONED

On Friday, May 7, 2010, forty-two persons who successfully completed the Lay Ministry Program were commissioned by Msgr. Paul Sanchez, Vicar for Queens, during a beautiful Mass that was celebrated in the Main Chapel of the Immaculate Conception Center, Douglaston. Over 300 persons, including family members, friends, pastors, instructors and supervisors participated in the celebration. After the Mass everyone was invited to a reception in the Dining Room.

The Class of 2010 represented 26 parishes and is the first commissioned class to complete the mandatory third year of the Lay Ministry Program. During the third year each participant was prepared for a specific ministry approved by his or her pastor under the supervision of an experienced pastoral minister.

Reporters provided coverage of the Commissioning Ceremony for the *Tablet*, as well as for *Currents*, the daily news magazine program on Net-TV, the diocesan cable television network. [Click here for links to the Tablet article and Currents' report.](#)

In our changing diocese, there is an increasing need for well-prepared volunteer lay pastoral leaders. The Pastoral Institute continues to be at the forefront of this effort having prepared and commissioned over 500 lay pastoral leaders who help their pastors meet the pastoral needs of our diverse Church community.

Congratulations to the Class of 2010!

Turn to page 4 & 5 for pictures from the ceremony.

*May you enjoy a relaxing and fun summer.
If you are traveling, we wish you a safe journey!*

*Disfruta de un relajante y divertido verano.
¡Si viaja, nosotros le deseamos un paseo seguro!*

CUARENTA Y DOS LIDERES PASTORALES FUERO COMISIONADOS

El viernes, 7 de mayo 42 personas fueron comisionadas por el Monseñor Paul Sánchez durante una Misa en el Centro de la Inmaculada Concepción en Douglaston.

La Clase de 2010 representa 26 parroquias y es la primera clase comisionada después de cumplir tres años de estudio teológico que les preparó para un ministerio en particular. Más de 300 personas se reunieron para celebrar esta ocasión tan especial.

En nuestra diócesis cambiante, hay una necesidad creciente para líderes pastorales. El Instituto Pastoral continúa estar al frente de este esfuerzo habiendo preparado y comisionado a más de 500 líderes pastorales que ayudan a sus pastores con las necesidades pastorales de nuestra comunidad diversa de la Iglesia.

¡Felicitamos a todos los miembros de la Clase del 2010! *La página 4 & 5 tienen fotos de la ceremonia.*

“The ministries which exist and are at work at this time in the Church are all, even in their variety of forms, a participation in Jesus Christ’s own ministry as the Good Shepherd who lays down his life for the sheep, the humble servant who gives himself without reserve for the salvation of all .”

**- Pope John Paul II
(Christifideles Laici)**

RESULTS OF LAY MINISTRY SURVEY

Earlier this year, the Pastoral Institute conducted an electronic survey of commissioned lay pastoral leaders. This survey is a follow-up to the survey conducted in 2009 that obtained statistics on the engagement in ministry of commissioned leaders. The purpose of the second survey was to establish whether or not these leaders had advanced in their ministry as a result of the formation that they received in the *Lay Ministry Program* and to determine specific aids and barriers to ministry.

The survey indicated that many of the 84 respondents have received some kind of recognition of their particular role in their parishes. In addition, a majority of respondents have been given

increased ministerial responsibility or have started a new ministry. To a lesser extent respondents reported that there have been no changes in their ministerial role or have stepped down from ministry.

Respondents also reported that pastors, parish staff members, independent reading and retreats are of most help in ministry. Other factors cited included continuing education, other pastoral leaders, parishioners and spiritual direction. On the other hand, while many respondents reported that there were no real barriers to the practice of their ministry, the factors cited most often as being the greatest hindrance to ministry included changes in

pastors, the lack of recognition as a lay leader and personal reasons.

When asked what aspect of the lay formation program has benefitted them the most in ministry, many cited the entire program, while others cited individual elements such as theological studies, individual courses and the ministerial year.

At this time in the Diocese of Brooklyn, well trained and formed lay pastoral leaders have never been more in need. The results of this survey give the Pastoral Institute much needed data to assist in planning for the future.

View complete reports on the results of [this](#) and the [previous](#) survey.

ONLINE CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES IN THEOLOGY

Take online courses in theology and receive a 50% discount when you mention that you are a member of the Diocese of

Brooklyn. The average course costs \$99 before the discounted price. Go to the [STEP at Notre Dame website](#)

and select Course Registration Calendar under Quicklinks for upcoming course offerings.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEADERS OF ADULT FAITH FORMATION PROGRAMS

The Office of Faith Formation is offering a 10-week series on Adult Faith Formation, from

September to November 2010 at Cathedral Preparatory Seminary in Elmhurst.

[Click here to download the information flyer.](#)

OPORTUNIDADES PARA LÍDERES DE PROGRAMAS DE FORMACIÓN DE FE DE ADULTOS

La Oficina de Formación de Fe está ofreciendo un curso de 10 semanas sobre la Formación de

Fe de Adultos. El curso es gratis y será ofrecido de septiembre a noviembre 2010

en la Parroquia de Santa Rita en Brooklyn. [Haga clic aquí para leer mas información.](#)

ALUMNI REUNION/FUNDRAISER A SUCCESS!

Approximately 65 alumni of the Lay Ministry Program and their guests gathered at The Mary Louis Academy on Saturday, June 12th for the *Alumni Reunion/Fundraiser*. The keynote speaker was Dr. Rose Zuzworsky who spoke on *Environmental Concern from a Catholic Perspective*, a timely topic in light of the Gulf of Mexico oil spill disaster. During the buffet lunch, tickets

were sold for a 50/50 raffle and for 19 theme baskets that were being raffled. All proceeds will go towards the Pastoral Institute Fund for Lay Leadership.

There was plenty of time during the day to reconnect with old friends, reminisce about the good old days, and to share ideas on how to be good

stewards of our planet. The Reunion proved to be a day that was informative, as well as lots of fun! We thank all the alumni who attended for making the event a success. If you weren't able to attend, we hope that you will join us next year.



**“Everyone
can
be great
because
everyone
can
serve .”**

- Martin Luther
King, Jr.



YOU ARE OUR BEST ADVERTISEMENT

The Pastoral Institute would like to promote the successes of our lay pastoral leaders. To this end, we are looking for some articles telling your stories and projects that you

are coordinating in your parishes that could be published in The Tablet. Please email your articles of 500 or fewer words to pastoralinstitute@rcdob.org.

Remember to include a thumbnail sized photo and brief description of your ministerial role.

10-WEEK FOUNDATIONS FOR MINISTRY PROGRAM TO BE OFFERED IN 4 LANGUAGES

This fall the Pastoral Institute will be piloting the 10-week Foundations for Ministry Program in Haitian Kreyòl and Polish, in addition to offering the program in English and Spanish. This 10-week twenty-hour program is meant for persons discerning applying for the 3-year Lay Ministry Program, or for persons who already are involved in ministry but are looking for a theological update. The host sites in Brooklyn are Our Lady of Refuge (English,

Spanish, and Kreyòl) and St. Stanislaus-Kostka: Polish. In Queens the host site for both the English and Spanish tracks is Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Astoria.

We ask the alumni of the Lay Ministry Program to help spread the word to those persons in their parishes who might benefit from the Foundations for Ministry Program. Registrations are currently open. Interested

persons should call the Pastoral Institute at 718-29-8001, ext. 350 and ask for Nelsa Elias or Angie Madsen.

Persons who successfully complete the program will receive ongoing or enrichment credit for Living and Leading by Faith, the Catechist Formation Program. More information can be obtained on the [Diocesan website](#).

**“Nobody makes
a greater
mistake
than he
who did
nothing
because he
could do
only a little .”**

- Edmund Burke

PHOTOS FROM THE COMMISSIONING CEREMONY

“But the wise shall shine brightly like the splendor of the firmament, And those who lead the many to justice shall be like the stars forever.”

- Daniel 12:3



“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

- Margaret Mead



GO
of love and mercy, you
you gift us with yo
Make us a holy people, radi
Form us into a commun
expressing yo
Remind us day after day of
with joy an
Teach us how to grow in
in your p
Through Jesus and in your

- “Called and Gifted for the

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2010! / ¡FELICITACIONES!

ONY / FOTOS DE LA CEREMONIA DE COMISION



“Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show his works by a good life in the humility that comes from wisdom. .”

- James 3:13



“Do you not know that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?”

- I Corinthians 3:16



OD
*call us to be your people,
 your abundant grace.
 giving the fullness of your love.
 unity, a people who care,
 your compassion.
 our baptismal call to serve,
 and courage.
 wisdom and grace and joy
 presence.
 Spirit, we make this prayer.*

Third Millennium”, USCCB

AMOS A TODOS LOS MIEMBROS DE LA CLASE DEL 2010!

SAVE THE DATE: ALUMNI WEEKEND RETREAT

In our fast-paced world, it is very easy for lay pastoral ministers to neglect their own spiritual lives as they attend to their jobs, take care of their families and participate in parish ministries. That is why we encourage all alumni to consider registering for the **Fall Weekend Retreat** sponsored by the Alumni Executive Committee and the Pastoral Institute.

The retreat is scheduled for the weekend of October 22 through October 24, 2010 at the Bishop Molloy Retreat House in Jamaica. Rev. James K. Cunningham, Administrator of Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Windsor Terrace, will be the retreat director. The theme is *The Spirituality of Collaboration: Working Together to Build Up God's Kingdom*. Register early and pay a reduced price. To register for the retreat, [click here to get the registration form](#).

¡APARTE LA FECHA! RETIRO DE FIN DE SEMANA

El Instituto Pastoral y el Comité Ejecutivo de la Asociación de Ex-alumnos le invitan a un **Retiro Para Ex-alumnos** el fin de semana del 22 a 24 de octubre de 2010 en la Casa de Retiros Bishop Molloy, Jamaica. El tema es: *La Colaboración: Trabajando Juntos para Construir el Reino de Dios*. Aunque el retiro no será bilingüe en sí, ofreceremos una de las pláticas y grupos de discusión en español. Por favor hagan tiempo en sus vidas tan ocupadas para alimentar su vida espiritual. El Instituto Pastoral quiere servirle a la comunidad Hispana. Por favor inscribese para el retiro. Si se inscribe temprano recibe un descuento. Para registrarse para el retiro, [haga clic aquí para conseguir el formulario de registracion](#).

CHECK OUT THE PASTORAL INSTITUTE'S WEBPAGE

www.dioceseofbrooklyn.org/pastoral_inst/lay.aspx

We invite you to visit the Pastoral Institute's website. You will find links to pictures of the Commissioning Ceremony of the Class of 2010 and the recent Alumni Reunion, learn about all the programs the Pastoral Institute sponsors, as well as find out how to make a donation to The Alive in Hope Foundation Pastoral Institute Scholarship Fund. This fund helps support the M.A. Scholarship Program in Theology. It also permits the Pastoral Institute not to turn anyone away from the Lay Ministry or Foundations for Ministry programs because of financial need.

RECOMMENDED WEBSITES

Vatican

www.vatican.va/phome_en.htm

Diocese of Brooklyn

www.dioceseofbrooklyn.org

United States Congress of Catholic Bishops

www.usccb.org

Emerging Models of Pastoral Leadership

www.emergingmodels.org/

PÁGINAS WEB RECOMENDADAS

El Vaticano

www.vatican.va/phome_sp.htm

Lecturas diarias de la Santa Misa

www.ewtn.com/devotionals/lecturas.htm

Catholic.net en Español

www.es.catholic.net/

Enciclopedia católica

ec.aciprensa.com/

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**Have you moved? Do you have an email address?
Please remember to update your contact information
with the Pastoral Institute in order to stay connected.**

Please keep us informed of any happenings in your life, including accomplishments, experiences in ministry, but most especially about your family. If you have lost a loved one, or are dealing with illness or a difficult situation, we would like to hear from you so that we can keep you in our prayers and offer support.

We welcome your comments and suggestions. If you would like to submit material for the next edition, please contact us at: AlumniLayMinistry@gmail.com