

Could You Be a Lay Pastoral Leader?

Yes, You Can!

God is Calling You

As Cardinal John Henry Newman once wrote, "The Church would look funny without the laity." Today it can be said, that Church and parish leadership would look funny without lay persons. Indeed there are currently over 36,000 trained lay ministers working in parishes in the United States.



*"Part of my ministry project 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 and **enabled** me to give even more of myself to others through this ministry."*

WHO ARE WE?

The diocesan agency committed to forming lay persons for leadership roles in our Church and advocating for lay ministers.

WHAT WE DO

We provide formation and training opportunities that enable lay persons to fully live out their baptismal calling and utilize their gifts in service to our Church.

WHY WE DO IT

"The laity's call to holiness is a gift of the Holy Spirit. Their response is a gift to the Church and the world."

- "Called and Gifted for the Third Millennium", USCCB

For more information please visit
www.dioceseofbrooklyn.org/lay_leadership/

A Lay Pastoral Leader is ...

- Someone who has been formed for ministry through theological study, spiritual growth, prayer, reflection, mentoring and pastoral skills development.
- Capable of coordinating a particular ministry in the parish either individually or as part of a team and under the direction of a parish staff member.
- A gifted and generous person who is committed to being a model of servant leadership.
- A person who recognizes the giftedness of others and calls them forward in service.
- An agent of the New Evangelization bringing Christ to all whom they serve and witnessing to the truth in society.
- A collaborator with the parish staff in meeting the many challenges faced in ministry.

A Lay Pastoral Leader feels enhanced, enriched and enabled.



Call Today for More Information

Pastoral Institute • Diocese of Brooklyn • 310 Prospect Park West • Brooklyn, NY 11215
Phone 718.281.9556 • Fax 718.399-5920
Email: pastoralinstitute@diobrook.org



The Pastoral Institute fulfills the needs of an ever-changing diocese through its excellent lay leadership formation programs which are offered in several languages. We welcome to our 3-year Lay Ministry Program those lay persons who are active in parish ministry and show leadership potential. For those who are seeking an update and overview of current theological topics or discerning participation in the 3-year program, the 10-week Foundations for Ministry Program would fulfill that need. And for persons who wish to pursue graduate studies in theology leading toward a professional ministerial role we have the M.A. Scholarship Program in Theology.

"Formation for lay ministry has helped me to grow in many ways. I have been able to grow spiritually and live my baptismal promises. I have grown in my faith in Christ. My trust and faith in the Lord has allowed me to become the person He has created me to be—fully human and fully alive."

Lay Ministry Program: Well rounded preparation of volunteer pastoral leaders capable of coordinating a particular ministry in the parish as an individual or a member of a team.

Foundations for Ministry Program: 10 weeks, 10 topics featuring prayer, vocabulary, activity, presentation and discussion.

M.A. Scholarship Program in Theology: Prepares women and men to serve as parish catechetical leaders, Pastoral Associates, or pastoral leaders in the Diocese of Brooklyn.

Pastoral Associates: Professional ministers called to service within the Church by assisting the pastor with the day-to-day pastoral care and administration of the parish.

Continuing Formation: Weekend retreats, workshops and continuing education in theology, scripture, spirituality and areas related to ministry

Lay Ministry Sunday: The diocesan wide celebration of all of those involved in lay ministry.



A Parish Needs Leaders Trained for ...

- Youth Ministry
- RCIA
- Sacramental Preparation
- Marriage Preparation and Enrichment
- Ministry of Consolation
- Pastoral Care of the Sick
- Liturgical Planning
- Ministry of Hospitality
- Evangelization / Adult Faith Formation
- Catechetical Ministry
- Prayer & Spirituality
- Women's / Men's Spirituality
- Parish Retreat Program
- Bible Study Groups
- Homeless Shelter
- Stewardship
- Inter-Faith Relations
- Family Life/Respect Life
- Bereavement Groups
- Social Justice Ministry

"Lay ministry has helped me to grow in understanding Jesus' mission and that everything I do is done for the Kingdom of God in communion with one another."

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