



Diocese
of Toledo

Parish Lay Missionary Formation

Training for an Apostolic Church



The Basics

- **Who?** Lay parish employees & volunteers (religious sisters & brothers are welcome). Maximum annual cohort of 24 participants.
- **What?** Formation including all four dimensions: human, spiritual, intellectual & pastoral, focused on equipping for the concrete realities of parish ministry.
- **When?** Monthly formation gatherings and small groups over a two year period. A new cohort will start every year.
- **Where?** Hybrid in person and virtual formats.
- **Why?** Equip the laity for the work of the New Evangelization in their parishes and to more significantly support their pastors.
- **Cost?** \$200 - includes all formation, meals and material. Total Value = \$1,400. This formation program is made possible by the Living Christ Capital Campaign.

Instructional Elements



Quarterly In-Person Gatherings

9:00 am - 4:00 pm on Saturday



Monthly Virtual Sessions

(Months without in-person gatherings)
7:30 pm - 9:00 pm on a weekday evening



Individualized Growth Plan

Design a personal growth plan including goals for all four dimensions of formation: human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral



Formation Quads

Walk with a regional small group that meets monthly for prayer, sharing, accountability, and theological reflection.



Formation Director

Journey with a member of our diocesan team that will help guide you through your formation process.



PROGRAM SCHEDULE



Year One

2026

September 12th: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm (In-person) - Orientation and a Vision for Lay Ministry
October 8th: 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm (Virtual) - Reacquiring a Biblical Worldview: The Religion of the Day & Common Contemporary Heresies
November 7th: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm (In-Person) - Retreat: Restore the Initiative to God - Personal Prayer, Discernment, Spiritual Direction, and a Spirituality of Lay Ministry
December 10th: 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm (Virtual) - The Church, the Parish & the Pastor

2027

January: Winter Break
February 4th: 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm (Virtual) - The New Evangelization
March 13th: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm (In Person) - The Human Person: Physical & Mental Health
April 10th: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm (In Person) - Liturgy, Sacraments & Rites: Public Prayer Practicum
May 13th: 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm (Virtual) - Catechetics & Teaching
June 10th: 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm (Virtual) - Catholic Morality & Common Ethical Issues
July - August: Summer Break

Year Two

September 11th (In-Person) - Relational Ministry: Ministry of Presence, Pastoral Counseling v. Mental Healthcare, Mock Ministry Conversations and Speaking/Personal Witness Practicum
October TBD (Virtual) - Sacrament of Penance
November TBD (In-Person) - Retreat - Healing for Ministry & Healing Prayer
December TBD (Virtual) - Sacrament of Matrimony, Effective Marriage Preparation & Annulments

2027

January: Winter Break
February TBD (Virtual) - 19th Annotation Ignatian Retreat Orientation
Lent - At Home Ignatian Retreat: Daily Meditation, Examen & Regular Spiritual Direction
March TBD (In Person) - Parish Ministry: Inspiring & Leading Volunteers, Effective Teamwork, How to Lead Meetings & Event Planning
April TBD (In Person) - Parish Based Evangelization: Thresholds of Conversion, Lifelong Formation Pathway and the OCIA Process
May TBD (Virtual) - Pastoral Ministry: Accompanying the Sick & Dying and Anointing of the Sick
June TBD (Virtual) - Evangelization & the New Media: Effective Parish Social Media and Content Creation
July - August - Summer Break & Personal Formation Plan Wrap Up
September TBD (In Person) - Concluding Mass, Sending for Lifelong Formation & Reception

The Parish Lay Missionary Formation Program is made possible thanks to the Annual Catholic Appeal and the Living Christ Campaign.