



Diocese of St. Augustine

Ministry Formation Program: UPDATES Newsletter

Winter 2017

Mission Statement:

To reflect the mission of the Diocese of St. Augustine, the Ministry Formation Program prepares the participants through academic, spiritual, personal, and pastoral formation for lay ecclesial leadership and service in diocesan parishes and institutions.

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Annual Retreat March 31-April 1

The Ministry Formation Program extends an invitation to all participants, alumni, faculty, and Emmaus Companions, as well as their spouses, to join us for our annual retreat at Marywood Retreat Center. The theme of this year's retreat is: ***Confronted by Death, Challenged by Resurrection.***

As we near the end of Lent and beginning of Easter, we encounter two deep realities of living, death and new life. As in everything about our faith, it's not an either/or but always a both/and. One is not complete without the other.

As we reflect on the mystery of Jesus' death and resurrection, What are we called to do? Who are we called to be? This year's MFP retreat will give us an opportunity to slow down, pray, reflect, and encounter ideas and feelings about the core realities of our faith life, living the Paschal Mystery with Jesus, our brother.

Our retreat will be led by **Janet Schaeffler, OP.** A facilitator of retreats, parish missions, and workshops, an author, university teacher, and online instructor for the University of Dayton and Boston College, Sr. Janet continues the ministry she was involved in for many years in parishes and as Director for Adult Faith Formation for the Archdiocese of Detroit.

Sr. Janet created and publishes GEMS, a monthly newsletter from an ongoing international best practices study on adult faith formation. Her recent books include *Reflections and Prayers for Advent 2016*; *The Spirituality of the Catechist*; *The Creed: Understanding and Sharing What We Believe*; and *Activities for What Makes Us Catholic*. In April 2010, Sr. Janet received the Distinguished Service Award in Catechetics from the National Conference for Catechetical Leadership.

For more information and registration, contact Missy in the Office of Christian Formation. Registration deadline is March 21.

Retreat Schedule

Friday, March 31

Arrival and check-in: 5:30-6:45 pm
Supper: 6:00-7:00 pm
Opening Prayer and Welcome: 7:00-7:30 pm
Session I: 7:30-8:45 pm
Evening Prayer: 8:45-9:00 pm
Social: 9:15 pm

Saturday, April 1

Breakfast: 7:30-8:15 am
Session II: 8:30-10:45
Mass: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Lunch: 12:00-1:00 pm
Session III: 1:00-2:45 pm
Closing Prayer: 2:45-3:00 pm



Marywood Retreat Center

Ministry Formation Program Graduates



MJ Antone, Class of 2007: MFP was a life changing experience and an amazing blessing that allowed me to move from 33 years teaching in the public school system, to teach religion at Bishop Kenny for six wonderful, challenging years. Currently, I attempt to fulfill the responsibilities of Director of Parish Ministries and Adult Faith Formation

at St. Paul, Jacksonville Beach. It is my pleasure to serve God and His people and I pray that I can continue to do so with grace and gratitude.

Joanna Stark, Class of 2014: While in my second year of the Ministry Formation Program, I joined the diocesan Office of Development & Stewardship. I coordinated the Bishop's Annual Stewardship Appeal and helped support activities of the Catholic Foundation. It was very rewarding to help lead new stewardship efforts across the diocese. In July 2016, I accepted my current position as Director for the Shrine & Mission in Saint Augustine, Florida. The MFP enabled me to combine my past experience in marketing and communication with in-depth knowledge of my faith in order to better share my gifts with the Church.



Deacon Mark Sciuolo, Class of 2013: I was originally in the Class of 2011. Due to a change of employment, I had to discontinue the program. Several years later, I moved back to the area and joined the class of 2013. I began the Ministry Formation Program with the long-term goal of entering the Diaconate Formation Program. I found the MFP gave me a good solid basis, academically and pastorally, for diaconate formation. Currently, I am assigned to Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, near the World Golf Village. I am working in the areas of baptismal preparation, Adoration, vocation support, and marriage enhancement ministry. I recommend the MFP to anyone who wants to become a solid teacher of the faith.



Aixa Feliciano, Class of 2003: I continue to serve as DRE of Blessed Trinity, a position I have held since beginning the Ministry Formation Program in 2000. I oversee the catechesis for children that do not attend Catholic School as well as the sacramental preparation of all the children in the parish. I also coordinate Vacation Bible School with an amazing team. My husband Luis, MFP Class of 2006, and I celebrated 33 years of marriage this year. We have four children, three of whom live independently. Our youngest, Andy, who was an infant when I began the MFP, is 16, a junior in high school, and driving!



Robert Roldan, Class of 2011: Since graduation, I have continued to coordinate the Lenten Day For Men (www adayformen.com) hosted by my parish, Resurrection Catholic Church, for all of the men in our diocese. The 11th annual Day For Men will be March 4, 2017. About 300 men attend each year. I also helped to start "That Man Is You" at our parish, helped with the International Mass and Generational Healing Mass, sing in the Men's Choir, started the Young Men's Choir (ages 13-17), joined the couples Teams of Our Lady Ministry with my wife, and am a Eucharistic Minister and Lector. I am the "Spiritual Lecturer" for our Knights of Columbus, plus conduct the Family Spirituality night each month. For this purpose, I organized and hosted the "Catholic" Family Feud Game at Resurrection and Christ the King parishes. I was also the Rector for the Cursillo Men's Weekend in September 2016.



Ministry Formation Program Information Nights

Do you know an active lay minister who might be well-suited to advance their service to the Church by entering the Ministry Formation Program? This three-year program will prepare them to take on leadership roles by facilitating their professional and personal formation. It is often the recognition and encouragement of another that helps us take an important next step on our faith journey. Please share this invitation to our upcoming MFP information nights:

- ♦ **Thursday, February 16, 2017, 7:00-8:30 PM, Holy Faith Parish Life Center**
- ♦ **Thursday, March 16, 2017, 7:00-8:30 PM, Blessed Trinity Parish Hall**

Faculty Spotlight: Evelyn Hinkle

“Revert” is a fairly new term, referring to those who have been away from the faith for a time. My husband and I fall into that category. When we returned after a 30 year absence so much seemed different. In an effort to “catch up” I sought as much information as I could. My pastor at that time handed me the Ministry Formation Program brochure. For that simple act I am eternally grateful because it led me in a new direction and has given me the spiritual adventure of a lifetime.



The three years of formation went by quickly. The faculty shared a wealth of knowledge and grounded me well in the basics of the faith. The wonderful folk, my classmates, who journeyed with me were also my instructors. I learned much from their stories as well. Margaret McCully, MFP coordinator at that time, and Sister Lucy Clynes, D.W., then Program Director, led and guided us all. My adventure was less than smooth and without their faith in me I would not have completed the program.

After completing the MFP, Father Tim Lozier asked me to serve as the RCIA coordinator at Most Holy Redeemer. I was blessed to serve eight years in that role. All the while, MFP continued to be a part of my life. I continued as an Emmaus Companion and Practicum Supervisor. This year marks my third year facilitating Theological Reflection and the Human Growth and Development for third year participants. I presented the Intercultural Competence Workshop for two years before that. I have served on the MFP Advisory Board and the Interview Committee as well. Why am I so involved? I truly believe in the good that this program does, in its goal of shaping lay leaders of the Church by giving them a firm grounding in the faith and an understanding of the universality of the Church and their place in it.

After three years of very patient waiting, my husband asked that I surrender my duties as he whisks me off to new adventures - full-timing in our RV. I will miss and pray for the Ministry Formation Program, its leadership, faculty, participants, and alumni. I ask those who go on to serve to remember to always be on the lookout for potential leaders, who just like me, need a bit of shaping. Blessings!

Skills Workshops for Ministry Leaders

The Ministry Formation Program provides a series of skills workshops for participants. As space permits, the Office of Christian Formation is also offering the following workshops to MFP graduates and other leaders across all areas of parish and school ministry.

- ◆ **Intercultural Competence: Application & Celebration of Cultural Diversity**
 Saturday, January 21, 2017, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.; Fr. Jhon Guarnizo, Pastor of Blessed Trinity Parish
 Cost: \$42 (includes lunch and materials); Registration deadline is January 13.
- ◆ **Canon Law and Legal Issues**
 Saturday, April 22, 2017, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.; Karen Kight, JCL, Judge for the Tribunal
 Cost: \$45 (includes lunch and Code of Canon Law); Registration deadline is April 13.
- ◆ **Church Universal: A Broader Picture of the Church**
 Saturday, April 29, 2017, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.; Fr. John Gillespie, Pastor of San Sebastian Parish
 Cost: \$30 (includes lunch); Registration deadline is April 21.

Workshops are held at the Catholic Center, 11625 Old St. Augustine Rd., Jacksonville.
 Contact Missy Parkison, layministry@dosafll.com or 904/262-3200, ext. 103, for a registration form.

From the Director / De la oficina del Director

The Ministry Formation Program is for anyone who is actively involved in ministry and is seeking to be a recognized leader within the diocese, on a parish level, diocesan level, or within our Catholic Schools. The first step in the process is to meet with your Pastor to speak about your interest in the MFP, discuss with him the area of ministry for which you will prepare for leadership; and obtain his endorsement. Once your Pastor has approved the endorsement, contact us at (904)262-3200, ext. 103, or layministry@dosafll.com. We will answer any questions you may have about the application process, forward you an information packet, and finally, arrange a time to meet with either the director or a member of the MFP Advisory Board to learn about discerning for the program and exploring your sense of call to ministerial leadership. Application deadline is May 1st. The application process takes 4-6 weeks.

El programa de formación de ministros por sus siglas es para cualquier persona que participa activamente en el ministerio y que está tratando de ser un líder reconocido dentro de la diócesis, a nivel parroquial, diocesano, o dentro de nuestras escuelas católicas. El primer paso en el proceso es reunirse con su Párroco para hablar sobre su interés en el MFP, discutir con él el área del ministerio para el cual se preparará para ejercer en esa área su liderazgo; y obtener su apoyo. Una vez que su Párroco haya aprobado el apoyo económico, póngase en contacto con nosotros al (904) 262- 3200 , ext. 103, o layministry@dosafll.com . Vamos a responder a cualquier pregunta que pueda tener sobre el proceso de solicitud seguido de esto se le enviará un paquete de información, y, por último, fijaremos una hora para reunirse con el Director o un miembro del Consejo Asesor de MFP para darle a conocer más acerca del programa y explorar acerca de su llamado al liderazgo ministerial. Fecha límite de inscripción es el 1 de mayo. El proceso de solicitud toma de 4-6 semanas.

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Program Highlights

January 21, 2017 - Intercultural Competence Skills Workshop

March 24-26, 2017 - Eucharistic Congress

March 31-April 1, 2017 - Annual Retreat at Marywood

April 22, 2017 - Canon Law Skills Workshop

April 29, 2017 - Church Universal Skills Workshop

May 1, 2017 - Applications for MFP Class of 2020 due

June 11, 2017 - Class of 2017 Closing Ceremony, 2:00 p.m. at the

Cathedral Basilica. All are welcome.

June 19-23 - Office of Christian Formation School of Theology

More information and registration for
 the annual School of Theology on our
 website: www.dosaformation.org



Address Updates

Has your e-mail or mailing address changed? If so, please send us an update so you can continue to receive our newsletters and invitations to join us on the annual retreat.

Miss an issue? Find it on the web at www.dosaformation.org



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