



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BRIDGEPORT

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MEMORANDUM

TO: All Pastors and Ministry Leaders
FROM: Patrick Donovan
DATE: April 26, 2021
RE: Updates from The Leadership Institute

Rosary in May 2021

As you know, Pope Francis has called for a global prayer marathon for the entire month of May, praying for the end to the pandemic. Each day in May, there will be a livestream from one of 30 chosen Marian shrines or sanctuaries to guide the prayer at 6 p.m. Rome time (noon EDT) on all Vatican media platforms.

To help spread the word and save time, The Leadership Institute website and Twitter feed will highlight the Rosary and will link directly to livestreams. Please consider encouraging others to participate.

The page will go live later this week - <https://formationreimagined.org/rosary-for-may-2021/>

Wedding Jubilee Mass

The wedding jubilee Mass will be held at St. Matthew Parish on September 25, 2021, at 10:30 am and 1:00 pm. Registration information will be sent to pastors in the next few weeks. In the meantime, please save the date.

Marriage Formation

When the pandemic struck, we made the investment to move English marriage formation online. Those courses have received wide acclaim and more than 100 couples have participated to date. We have noticed, however, that some parish bulletins still contain outdated information. If you rely on The Leadership Institute to prepare couples for marriage, please place this information in your parish bulletin and on your parish website:

The Diocese of Bridgeport offers formation for couples who wish to be married in the Catholic Church. Formation is available online in English and in person in Spanish. For more information, please visit <https://formationreimagined.org/marriage-prep-reimagined/>.



Formation Reports

As previously indicated, reports are sent from LEAD, the online learning platform, every Friday to whomever wishes to receive it. These reports indicate the formation status for catechists, readers, EMHCs, and anyone else enrolled in formation.

If you do not currently receive updates, please email pdonovan@diobpt.org to be added to the list.

Formation for Liturgical Ministers

Just a quick reminder that online formation is open for anyone who wishes to become a Reader or Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion in a parish or school. The entire process can be completed online and parishes are welcome and encouraged to supplement the formation with their own local “walk-through” and tips on how to engage in ministry at the parish. For complete details, please visit <https://formationreimagined.org/liturgical-formation/>

Funeral Planning

We have updated some of the funeral resources, including suggested songs. Feel free to link to these pages from your own website - <https://formationreimagined.org/funeral-norms/>.

We also encourage you to link to the Catholic Cemeteries page, which includes valuable information on pre-planning - <https://www.bridgeportdiocese.org/cemeteries/home/>

Catholic Biblical School

Beginning September 2021, The Leadership Institute will partner with the Catholic Biblical School of the Archdiocese of Hartford to offer a satellite location for classes at a discounted rate. More information will be shared in the coming weeks. The Catholic Biblical Schools has a long history of providing top notch formation to anyone who wishes to learn more about Sacred Scriptures.

Looking Ahead

In the coming weeks, we will offer specific dates and registration information for the following events:

- RCIA Collaborative partnership with RCL/Benziger
- Adult Confirmation learning path in LEAD
- In-service day for parish administrative staff
- Catechetical Summit for pastors and faith formation leaders
- Institute study groups for:
 - *Fratelli tutti*
 - *Christus vivit*
 - *New General Directory for Catechesis*

