



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BRIDGEPORT

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MEMORANDUM

TO: All Pastors and Faith Formation Leaders
FROM: Patrick Donovan
DATE: January 9, 2023
RE: January 2023 Updates

I am pleased to announce that **Deacon John DiTaranto** has been promoted to Assistant Director of the Institute for Catholic Formation. In addition to his great work with the Ambassadors and RCIA Collaborative, Deacon John will begin leading the diocesan efforts for marriage formation and other adult education opportunities. Please join me in congratulating Deacon John.

The **Rite of Election** is on February 26, 2023, at 4 pm at the Cathedral (note new time). You can find registration information on the Institute's [website](#). More information will be coming next week.

We will host a spring workshop for **adults who are practicing Catholics and lack only Confirmation**. As you know, these individuals will be confirmed on Pentecost Sunday (not the Easter Vigil). If you have a plan to offer formation for adult Catholics who lack only Confirmation, please proceed. If you do not or wish to offer the Institute workshop as an alternative, please invite them to the diocesan workshop on Saturday, April 1, 2023, from 9 to noon at the Catholic Center. Registration is [online](#).

If you have preparation already in place for these adults in **Spanish**, please email institute@diobpt.org so we can share in those resources.

The **Clergy Check Ins** have been discontinued for the spring semester. If you need anything from anyone on the Institute team, please do not hesitate to reach out to any of us.

- Patrick Donovan – pdonovan@diobpt.org – 203-416-1511
- Deacon John DiTaranto – dnditaranto@diobpt.org – 203-416-1650
- Carmela Williams – carmela.williams@diobpt.org – 203-416-1657

Invitations have been sent via LEAD, email, and through local leaders to all catechists, readers, and EMHCs for the **meetings with Bishop Caggiano**. If you have anyone in your parish who did not get an invitation and should have, please email institute@diobpt.org.



Free Video Series

Jim Steffan, a parishioner at St. Joseph parish in Brookfield, recently published a book that impressed Bishop Caggiano. The name of the book, *True Love That Lasts*, offers practical advice for couples at any stage in their marriage. The book has been made into a 37-session online video series and is available to anyone.

Please consider putting these announcements in your Sunday bulletins over the next few weeks:

January

Happily Married? Would You Like to be Happier? Pope Francis' concern for couples inspired the *True Love That Lasts Movement*. The Movement is a way to grow in the enjoyment and love of your spouse even daily with just a simple question. Visit <https://formationreimagined.org> for more information.

February

Bumps in your Marriage or Unhappily Married? Would you like to smooth them out? Bishop Caggiano has a concern for your situation. He asked Dr. Jim Steffen to put his years of research into the free *True Love That Lasts* video series. Each week, it will give you a hint or a tool that is quick-to-learn, easy-to-use, and proven-to-work. Visit <https://formationreimagined.org> for more information.

March

Soon to Marry or Just Married? Want to keep your happiness growing – even daily? This was the challenge of Maria in the book, *The secret of growing True Love That Lasts*. She feared divorce. She wanted a quick-to-learn, easy-to-use, and proven-to-work method to grow her new love a little even daily. The book, now a video series created just for couples in the Diocese of Bridgeport, shows how you can grow true love with a simple question a day. Visit <https://formationreimagined.org> for more information.

April

Divorced? Want a simple way to make it better next time? That method exists and you can have it free. Dr. Jim Steffen did years of research on how to grow the enjoyment and love of your spouse a little each day with a simple question. He co-authored his discoveries with his spouse, Carol, in the book: *The Secret of Growing True Love That Lasts*, now a video series on the Institute's website. Visit <https://formationreimagined.org> for more information.

