

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Reno
**Lay Ministry Formation & Leadership Application Form
2020-2021**

THE APPLICATION DUE DATE HAS BEEN CHANGED BECAUSE OF THE COVID-RELATED SHUT-DOWN THIS SPRING.

The form and the letter of recommendation from a co-minister are now due **August 1st**. **Because of social distancing issues, whether or not that is still in force when we begin meeting, we will be at a location where we can do that (Our Lady of the Snows Parish Center).**

Because we anticipate beginning in September, rather than August, some of our meetings will be on Zoom Saturday mornings so as to catch up with the syllabus.

1. Complete this Application Form and return it to the address on the final page.
2. Give the Letter of Recommendation Form to a co-minister who is a lay person (not a priest or deacon.)
3. The Co-Minister fills it out and sends it in **SEPARATELY** from your Application Form
4. After you return this application, if appropriate, **this office will send the Endorsement Form to your pastor** (your principal if you are teaching at a Catholic school.) Your pastor (or principal) will also receive a copy of your application form at that time.
5. Please understand that we cannot and do not necessarily accept all applicants.

Requirements for Eligibility

1. Adult, 24 years of age or older
2. Be a practicing Roman Catholic for three consecutive years or more
3. Be active in ministry for at least one year
4. Be endorsed by your pastor. **We will** send your pastor the Endorsement Form, not you
5. Be in appropriate physical and mental health
6. Possess an eagerness for spiritual formation
7. Be open to, and interested in, contemporary expressions in theology
8. Have sufficient time for formation and ministry
9. Possess the desire and capacity for growth, continuing education, and developing skills for ministry
10. Possess reading and writing abilities in order to participate fully in the academic program
11. Be baptized; confirmed; First Eucharist (First Communion)
12. Have already taken the VIRTUS Protecting God's Children Awareness Session and begun the bulletins associated with it <https://renodiocese.org/safe-environment/>
13. Been cleared through the diocesan Background Check form
14. Please recognize that all materials, presentations, etc. will be in English
15. Contact maripazr@catholicreno.org for information about the program in Spanish

FILLING THIS FORM OUT THOUGHTFULLY & PRAYERFULLY IS PART OF THE FORMATION PROCESS

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Legal Name: _____
Last First Middle
2. Preferred First Name (what you want us to call you): _____
3. Current parish: _____
4. E-mail (hm or wk) _____
5. Preferred Phone _____ Other Phone _____
6. Your address _____
7. City _____ State _____ Zip _____
8. Birth date: _____ (mm/dd/yy)
9. May we give your preferred phone number, email and home address to other participants in the program? Y N
10. Do you regularly read email? Y N
11. Have you ever Zoomed? Y N
12. I have taken Protecting God's Children and am up to date on my bulletins (or have completed the process) Y N
13. Have you ever been to our Diocesan Conference? Y N

II. RELIGIOUS HISTORY

1. Were you baptized Catholic as a child? **Y N**
2. If you were not baptized Catholic as a child, please state what year you became a Catholic and briefly explain why you became one:

3. Have you celebrated your First Communion/First Eucharist? **Y N**
4. Have you been Confirmed in the Catholic Church? **Y N**
5. Have you ever been away from the active practice of the Catholic faith for more than 3 years?
Y N If yes, please briefly explain why

6. Have you ever been in a seminary or religious community? **Y N**
If yes, please briefly explain why you left

PARISH AFFILIATION

1. Number of years in current parish: _____
2. Sponsoring parish/agency/institution **IF** other than current parish (such as a Catholic school):

3. How long have you lived in the Diocese of Reno? _____
4. How long do you expect to remain in the diocese? _____

III. FINANCES

1. Tuition will be \$450 per year. A non-refundable deposit of \$150 is due before the first class from all those accepted into the program. (Notices of acceptance will go out around **August 15**). Book costs are about \$125 per year.
2. Who will pay your tuition?

_____ Parish (discuss this with your pastor)

_____ Self

_____ Scholarship needed from diocese

_____ Combination of the above (please describe)

IV. MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE

1. _____ Married
2. _____ Not Married
3. **If married**, have you and your spouse discussed your desire to enter Lay Ministry Formation and the ways you will prioritize the time needed to participate and complete this year of formation? **Y N**

V. EMPLOYMENT

1. Profession / Occupation _____ Number of Years: _____
2. Currently you are: _____ employed _____ self-employed _____ retired _____ other

VI. HEALTH

1. What is the general state of your health?
2. Describe any physical disability or chronic illness that may require special consideration.

VII. EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

1. Highest grade completed _____
2. Vocational Education or Job Training:

3. If you have a college/university/other degree, what was your major related to your highest educational level?

4. Name of school related to your highest educational level:

5. In addition to attendance and active class participation, the Lay Ministry Formation & Leadership program requires:
 - about 10-12 hours of theological reading per month
 - written reflection papers due at the next class
 - a project, approved by your pastor and the L.M.F.L. director
 - leading the group in prayer, as part of a team, following instructions that you will be given
 - Is any of this a concern for you? **Y N**
If yes, please explain:

6. In what language are you most fluent?

7. Other languages - please list:

4. Other comments on your past/present ministerial involvement that you want us to know about:
5. In just one or two sentences, answer the question, “**What is a leader?**” You may use your own words or you may quote someone else. If you quote someone else, please make sure you state who you are quoting.

6. What would you want the Church in our diocese to be like in 10 years?

7. Please put an X by the sentence below that best describes your involvement in ministry as a call from God:

I feel very strongly that what I do is a call from God

I feel that what I do is somewhat a call from God

I don't feel that my involvement in ministry is a call from God

8. Please put an X by the sentence below that best describes your sense of connection to diocese and other parishes in the diocese:

I feel very connected to the diocese and other parishes

I feel somewhat connected to the diocese and other parishes

I don't feel very connected to the diocese and other parishes

9. "My ministry gives me an opportunity to:"

10. Please briefly explain why you want to participate in this formation program:

11. Is there anything else you would like us to know?

12. How did you learn about this program? (circle all that apply)

- Talking to someone who has been in the program
- Diocesan Conference
- Parish bulletin
- Priest recommended it to me
- Other

CONCLUSION

The Office of Lay Ministry Formation adheres to a policy of strict confidentiality of records. This application form and all other information received will be kept confidential and shall be disclosed only to people associated with the application process.

I certify by my signature that the information in this application is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any misrepresentation of facts may be sufficient cause for refusal of admission.

I give permission to the Lay Ministry Formation and Leadership Team to contact my pastor as well as any other references relating to this application, if needed.

I have completed the Safe Environment training program and a background check through the diocese.

I understand that the completion of this process of lay ministry and leadership formation does not guarantee me a job in this diocese or elsewhere.

I will not tape or video record anything without the speaker's permission.

I understand that usage of cell phones during sessions will be limited and I will abide by the rules.

I understand that postings of the speakers' presentations will be for the use of participants only.

I understand that my picture/image may be used digitally, online or in print, with my name.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Contact information of sponsoring Pastor (or other if not parish-related ministry):

Name:

Email:

Phone number:

The completed application needs to be received by **August 1, 2020**

Send it to:

- Scan and email: laurianner@catholicreno.org
- Mail: **Dr. Lauri Anne Reinhart, Lay Ministry Formation & Leadership, Diocese of Reno**
290 S. Arlington Ave, Reno, NV 89501