

# Lay

# Ministry

# Formation



**Diocese of New Ulm  
2011-2012**

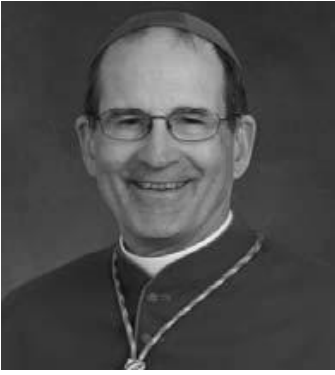
“The Risen Lord calls everyone to labor in his vineyard, that is, in a world that must be transformed in view of the final coming of the Reign of God; and the Holy Spirit empowers all with the various gifts and ministries for the building up of the Body of Christ.”

*Co-Workers in the Vineyard of the Lord*

**Contact Information**  
*Office of Lay Ministry*  
**507-359-2966**  
**email: [aprzybilla@dnu.org](mailto:aprzybilla@dnu.org)**



## **Bishop John M. LeVoir**



Lay Catholics have the responsibility by Baptism to: “Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope...” (1Peter 3:15). In the process of giving reasons for their hope, the laity evangelizes the culture. Lay Catholics are called to bring the Gospel message of Jesus Christ to the public square. To a culture that increasingly tells us that there is no God and that religion is a private, personal matter, we must answer in the negative. Instead, like the first Apostles, lay people are called to: “Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature” (Mark 15:16). *Foundations* prepares the laity to answer this call.

Ms. Ann Przybilla  
Director of Lay  
Ministry



Mr. Bryan Reising  
Director of  
Religious Education  
and Adult Faith  
Formation

Sr. Anna Marie  
Reha, SSND  
Director of  
Hispanic Ministry



Ms. Karla Cross  
Director of Lay  
Ecclesial Minister  
Certification

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# FOUNDATIONS

*A Discipleship Formation Program of the Diocese of New Ulm*

**FOUNDATIONS** equips Catholics with a greater understanding of Church, it prepares them for discipleship so as to live out their faith in the home, workplace, and/or parish ministry. Participants learn to live out their baptismal call more reflectively, to see their lives as a vocation, and to make wiser, faith-based decisions. Participants are introduced to the basic principles of the Catholic faith and the resources available to them for learning about their faith, including the Bible and *the Catechism of the Catholic Church*. Topics include theology, prayer, sacraments, philosophy, church history, and Scripture. Sessions are led by university professors who take an oath of fidelity according to Canon no. 833.7.

**Program start date: September 2011.**

## Schedule

9:00 a.m.	Gather
9:15 a.m.	Morning Prayer
9:30 a.m.	Period
10:45 a.m.	Break
11:00 a.m.	Period 2
12:15 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Period 3
2:15 p.m.	Break
2:30 p.m.	Period 4
3:45 p.m.	Prayer/Depart



Monthly Saturday sessions take place in September through April. One online session is held in January, eliminating travel cost and time. Participants are asked to participate in all sessions and to complete a short reading assignment prior to each session. Prayer, reflection, and group discussion are integrated into each session. The cost is very affordable when compared to courses taken at a university: \$110 and includes lunch.

Open to all Catholics with the approval of the pastoral leader.  
Sessions are held at St. Anastasia Church, Hutchinson, MN.  
(400 Lake St. SW)

# FOUNDATION COURSE FOR 2011-2012

**September 17, 2011**

## **Introduction to the Christian Scriptures**



***Sr. Judith K. Schaefer, OP, PhD***

- Revelation and the study of Scripture
- Gospels
- Letters

Sr. Judith Schaefer, O.P., is a tenured Associate Professor of Theology at St. Mary's University of MN and is the Chair of the Theology Department. Sr. Judy did her undergraduate work in elementary education and received a bachelor's degree from Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago. She has a master's of divinity degree from Aquinas Institute in St. Louis and a master's in pastoral studies from Loyola University in Chicago. Sr. Judy completed her doctoral work at Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI, in theology and society, with an allied discipline of psychology. Sr. Judith is a professed member of the Sinsinawa Dominican Congregation, Sinsinawa, Wisconsin.

**October 15, 2011**

## **Introduction to the Jewish Scriptures**



***Prof. Brian Singer-Towns***

- Torah: Covenant and Law
- Prophets

Brian Singer-Towns is general editor of *The Catholic Youth Bible*, *Breakthrough! The Bible for Young Catholics* and *The Catholic Faith Handbook for Youth*. He was the Director of Youth Ministry in Fenton, MI, and coordinated religious education and youth ministry in grades 7-12. From 1985-96, he was the Diocesan Director of Youth Ministry and Adolescent Catechesis for the Diocese of Lansing and did parish consulting, program planning, and leadership training. Since 1996 he is the Senior Editor for Bible Resources for St. Mary's Press in Winona. He does research, planning, and editing of resources for Junior High and High School youth, and for the adults who minister to them.

**November 19, 2011**

**Introduction to Catholic Philosophy**



***Prof. Kevin Rickert***

- Relationship of faith and reason
- John Paul II's encyclical *Faith and Reason* (Fides et Ratio)
- Illustrations from St. Augustine

Kevin is currently the Assistant Professor of Philosophy at St. Mary's University of MN. He has obtained a bachelor of arts degree from St. Meinrad College and a M.A. and Ph. D. from the University of St. Thomas. Dr. Rickert has published articles in journals such as The National Catholic Bioethics Quarterly, Homiletics and Pastoral Review.

**December 10, 2011**

**Introduction to Catholic Theology**



***Prof. Greg Sobolewski***

- The Mystery of God, The Trinity, Creation
- Jesus Christ
- The Holy Spirit

Greg Sobolewski is a tenured Professor of Theology at St. Mary's University of MN. He has also taught in the University's Institute of Pastoral Ministries since 1994 and became the Institute's director in 1996. Prof. Sobolewski was an invited participant in the U.S. bishops' national consultations on Co-Workers in the Vineyard of the Lord (2005), as well as a contributing writer for the "Proposed Foundational Document on Lay Ecclesial Ministry" that informed this document. Greg completed a Ph.D. in historical theology at Marquette in 1993, preceded by graduate studies at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. He served two terms as Chair of the Theology Department at St. Mary's (1994-1997, 2000-2003).

**January (online)**  
**Theology of Sacraments**



*Mr. Bryan Reising*

- Sacraments of Initiation
- Sacraments of Healing
- Sacraments of Vocation

Bryan attended Quincy University where he earned his bachelor's degree in religious education in 1983. He used this degree as a DRE and youth minister in the 1980s. He earned his master's degree in theology in 1990 from the University of Notre Dame and Loyola University Chicago. From there, he and his wife worked with evangelization efforts at a parish level in Mexico City and Rockford, IL. For 12 years beginning in 1994, he was Director for Evangelization for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. Since 2006, Bryan is the Director of Religious Education and Adult Faith Formation for the Diocese of New Ulm. Bryan is married to Linda, and together they have three children.

**February 25, 2012**  
**Theology of the Catholic Church**



*Prof. Rose Beal*

- Images of the Church
- Mission of the Church
- Church History, Role of Mary, Saints

Rose obtained her doctorate in systematic theology from the Catholic University of America in April 2009. She taught previously in the Ecumenical Institute of Saint Mary's Seminary and University (Baltimore) as well as the Church Leadership Institute of the Archdiocese of Baltimore. Prior to ministry, she was an intelligence analyst and manager for the National Security Agency. Her academic scholarship on French Dominican Cardinal Yves Congar has been matched by pastoral service at St. Joseph's Catholic Community in Eldersburg, Maryland. She and her husband Dave have resided in Minnesota since 2009.

**March 24, 2012**

**Prayer and Liturgy**



***Ms. Ann Przybilla***

- Ways of Prayer
- Liturgy and Ritual
- The Eucharist and Liturgy of the Hours

Ann Przybilla completed a liturgical music degree from the College of Saint Benedict in 1993. Following that, she worked for small and large parishes as organist, music coordinator, and director of liturgy. She completed a master of arts degree in pastoral ministry from St. John's University School of Theology in 2007. Ann has served the Diocese of New Ulm as an interim director of Religious Education. Ann currently serves the Diocese of New Ulm as the Director of Worship and the director of Lay Ministry Formation. She and her husband Scott and their five children reside in Tracy, MN.

**April 28, 2012**

**Morality and the Social Teaching of the Catholic Church**



***Prof. Dcn. Christopher Walchuk***

- Living in Relationship with God
- The Responsibility to Take Care of Our Neighbor
- The Social Teaching of the Church

Chris is the parish administrator and director of RCIA at Ss. Peter and Paul Church in Mankato, MN. Chris brings extensive experience in nonprofit development and management, Catholic Social Teaching, and adult education to his work. Chris holds a master's degree in pastoral ministry from Saint Mary's University of Minnesota, a master of arts degree in teaching from Mankato State University, and a certificate in nonprofit management from the University of St. Thomas (St. Paul). Chris has previously served as the founding director of New Focus, co-founder and finance officer for Theresa House homeless shelter, and Associate Chaplain at Immanuel St. Joseph's Hospital.

**Name of Parish/City** \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant's Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone (Home)** \_\_\_\_\_

**(Work)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Highest Level of School you have completed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Are you willing to be a facilitator?**      \_\_\_\_ **Yes** \_\_\_\_ **No**

Summarize your history of religious education or study of the Catholic faith:

Discuss how this program may help you deepen your commitment to follow Jesus:

**Pastoral Leader/Pastor's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

- Bill Parish
- Nonrefundable payment enclosed: \$110 for resources, site fees, staffing, food and other materials.
- Nonrefundable partial payment enclosed. Balance due at December session.

**Return by August 1, 2011** to FOUNDATIONS, 1400 6th St N, New Ulm, MN 56073



# T o g e t h e r i n C o m m u n i o n

*A Lay Leader Formation Program of the Diocese of New Ulm*

**TOGETHER IN COMMUNION** seeks to prepare disciples for leadership roles within the parish community. Having completed a year of FOUNDATIONS, the TOGETHER IN COMMUNION program provides further study on topics covered in FOUNDATIONS. Each session is preceded by reading a 10-20 page text or consideration of other media. Courses are taught at cognitive level of undergraduate sophomores and juniors. Professor-student interaction is a fundamental pedagogy.

*Program will be offered again in September 2012.*



*“Sharing in the function of Christ, priest, prophet and king, the laity have an active part of their own in the life and activity of the church. Their activity within the church communities is so necessary that without it the apostolate of the pastors will frequently be unable to obtain its full effect”.*

*Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity*

## ***FOUNDATIONS and TOGETHER IN COMMUNION***

*are collaborative efforts of the Diocese of New Ulm and St. Mary’s University, Winona, MN, to provide quality lay formation for adult parishioners. The program is funded in part by contributions to the Diocesan Ministries Appeal.*

**TOGETHER IN MINISTRY** seeks to prepare parishioners for various activities within parish life. Open to anyone who serves their parish community as a lay volunteer or as a paid employee. **TOGETHER IN MINISTRY** will give practical advice and guidance regarding the various ministries of parish life. Each session will outline church documents that are helpful for the ministry, recommend tools that assist with the specific tasks of the ministry and give practical guidance on how to best perform the ministry. Participants pick the session that correlates with their activity within the parish. All sessions are held at St. Anastasia Church in Hutchinson, MN and correlates with the same session dates as Foundations. The cost is \$10 per session and includes breakfast. Led by diocesan professional staff.



### **Schedule**

- 9:00 a.m. Gather/Breakfast
- 9:15 a.m. Morning Prayer
- 9:30 a.m. Period 1
- 11:00 a.m. Break
- 11:15 a.m. Period 2
- 12:15 p.m. depart (lunch on own)

### **September 17, 2011 led by Margaret McHugh**

**Youth Ministry:** Margaret will lead an interactive workshop for Youth Ministers on the skills needed to engage youth and lead them to Jesus.

### **October 15, 2011 led by Larry Vanden Plas**

**Human Resources:** This session will focus on aspects involving diocesan policy, preparation of documents, adherence to civil laws and other aspects related to the work of parish business administrators and managers, bookkeepers, and secretaries.

### **November 19, 2011 led by Chris Loetscher**

**Marriage and Family:** Chris will provide an overview of Catholic teaching regarding marriage and family life. Participants will also learn more about the resources available through the U.S. Catholic bishops' initiatives, "For Your Marriage" and "Marriage, Unique for a Reason."

### **December 10, 2011 led by Ann Przybilla**

**RCIA:** This session will focus on aspects involving the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, the preparation and rituals involved with those seeking initiation into the Catholic Church. The Rite of Acceptance/Welcoming, Rite of Sending/Election, Scrutinies and other rituals will be explored to give parish coordinators and parish teams the tools they need to assist candidates and catechumens in the process.

### **February 25, 2012 led by Sr. Anna Marie Reha**

**Weaving Together a Culturally Diverse Church:** This session will highlight best practices that recognize and affirm the growing diversity in rural Minnesota parishes. The pastoral, catechetical and liturgical facets of parish life in a diverse church will be explored.

### **April 28, 2012 led by Bryan Reising**

**Adult Faith Formation:** This session will focus on the US Bishops' document on Adult Faith Formation, *Our Hearts Were Burning Within Us*, and will look at ways a parish or AFC can develop a plan for evangelization and adult faith formation. We will also share best practices among the participants.

To register for the session related to your interest or involvement in the parish, fill out the participant registration form and return it to the Diocese of New Ulm. Kindly register one week prior to session.

TOGETHER IN MINISTRY  
PARTICIPANT  
APPLICATION



Name of Parish/City \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check the session(s) you would like to register for that correlates with your involvement at your parish or area faith community.**

- \_\_\_ September 17     *Youth Ministry*
- \_\_\_ October 15     *Human Resources*
- \_\_\_ November 19     *Marriage and Family*
- \_\_\_ December 10     *RCIA*
- \_\_\_ February 25     *Culture*
- \_\_\_ April 28     *Adult Faith Formation*

Pastoral Leader/Pastor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

- Bill Parish
- Nonrefundable payment enclosed

Registration per session is \$10 which includes breakfast and materials.

***Kindly register one week prior to session.***

**Return one week prior to session to TOGETHER IN MINISTRY, 1400 6th St N, New Ulm, MN 56073**



*Llamados A Servir*, un curso de la formación de la endecha ofreció para los católicos de habla hispana. Los participantes recolectan cada otro mes para discutir asuntos tales como discernimiento de los sacramentos, de la moralidad y de la vocación. Para más información y colocarse, entrar en contacto con el Sr. Ana Marie Reha en 507-359-2966. El programa inicia Septiembre 2011.

*Llamados A Servir*, a lay formation course offered for Spanish speaking Catholics. Participants gather every other month to discuss topics such as Sacraments, morality and vocation discernment. For more information and to register, contact Sr. Anna Marie Reha at 507-359-2966. **Program start date: September 2011.**

## Online Learning

University of Dayton's Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF) is an excellent opportunity for any adult catechist, adults working with youth, for parents, and for any adult for their adult faith formation or continuing education. Learning is done by reading specified books and writing online postings. Online learning eliminates the cost and time of travel. This opportunity is open to any interested adult.



- 4-6 week courses- \$40, 3 week seminars-\$30
- Studies include but are not limited to ecclesiology, church history, liturgy, prayer, sacraments, scripture, morality, various church documents, marianist studies, and leadership roles and skills for adult learning.
- Check out the website for all class offerings and future course cycles.
- The link is <http://vlc.udayton.edu/>.

To register first create a user profile at the VLCFF website. After creating your profile, you will be ready to register for a course!

# UNDERGRADUATE and GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS



Those who volunteer in the parish or work as a paid employee will find continuing education to be beneficial for fulfilling current responsibilities and embracing future endeavors. Through human, pastoral, spiritual and intellectual formation the lay leader is led to a deeper understanding of oneself and the church in which they serve.

## Undergraduate Programs Available

- Bachelor's degrees in Youth Ministry & Religious Education – a rarity among universities!

## Graduate Programs Available

- Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry
- Master of Arts in Pastoral Administration
- Professional Certificate in Pastoral Ministry
- Professional Certificate in Pastoral Administration
- Graduate Certificate in Canon Law

## For more information contact:

Judith K Schaefer, OP, Ph.D., Chair

(800) 635-5987, Ext. 1424 email: [jschaefe@smumn.edu](mailto:jschaefe@smumn.edu)



## *The School of Divinity with St. Paul Seminary Graduate Program*

Offers graduate programs in theology to prepare women and men, lay and ordained, to provided leadership and service to the church and society.

Each program has a distinctive focus.

- Master of Arts in Theology
- Master of Arts in Religious Education
- Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry
- Ministry of Divinity

## For more information contact:

The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity, University of St. Thomas

2260 Summit Avenue

St. Paul, MN 55105-5050

(800) 328-6819, Ext. 2-5050 Fax: (651) 962-5790

email: [spssod@stthomas.edu](mailto:spssod@stthomas.edu) website: <http://www.stthomas.edu/spssod/sod/default.html>

# **LAY ECCLESIAL MINISTRY CERTIFICATION**

Lay ecclesial ministers are women and men whose ecclesial service is characterized by:

*Recognition* of the hierarchy to serve publicly in the local church

*Leadership* in a particular area of ministry

*Close mutual collaboration* with the pastoral ministry of bishops, priests, and deacons

*Preparation and formation* appropriate to the level of responsibilities that are assigned to them

Certification is a process that documents the attainment of specific standards and competencies required for the fulfillment of a specialized ecclesial ministry. It requires a process for assessing that a given candidate has the education, formation, and professional skills necessary to serve in a particular role.

One resource for establishing and approving certification standards and procedures is the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Commission on Certification and Accreditation (USCCB/CCA).

For more information, contact Karla Cross at [kcross@dnu.org](mailto:kcross@dnu.org)

## **FUNDING and FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

The Diocese of New Ulm is committed to providing continuing formation and education for the laity. This involves the assistance of highly qualified professors, available books and resources, staff assistance, refreshments and comfortable meeting spaces for our programs. All of the Lay Ministry programs of the Diocese of New Ulm are funded in part by the generous contributions toward the annual Diocesan Ministries Appeal. Programs are also subsidized by the Catholic Home Missions Grant. Participants are asked to invest just a small portion of the overall cost of each session, but sometimes this can create a financial hardship to those who serve in parish ministry. To assist participants, we offer the following options:

# Hilary and Elizabeth Mohr Catechist Formation Fund

This fund covers four major areas:

**Area 1-** Catechist Faith Formation Days or comparable special days offered to broaden faith experiences.

**Area 2** – Scholarships for workshops and/or seminars related to teaching religious education.

**Area 3** – Online college courses – University of Dayton or other colleges for faith formation.

**Area 4** – Catholic college scholarship toward a degree in church ministry/leadership.

- For more information, go to <http://dnu.org/word/reducation.html>

## Lay Ministry Scholarship Fund

Upon demonstrating financial need this fund is for Catholic school administrators and teachers, religious education directors, catechists, youth ministers, liturgists, and pastoral care providers who are working toward an undergraduate degree, certification, or qualification in a theological field, Catholic school administration or a ministry formation program.

- For more information, go to <http://dnu.org/word/reducation.html>

## Lay Ministry Grant

Available to lay individuals from the Diocese of New Ulm who are pursuing a Master Degree in Theology, Pastoral Ministry, Pastoral Administration, Liturgy, or Canon Law. Other degree programs may be eligible. Available to applicants enrolled in intensive studies that include Roman Catholic traditions as central to the graduate program.

- For more information, contact Ann Przybilla at [przybilla@dnu.org](mailto:przybilla@dnu.org)



**DIOCESE  
of NEW ULM  
1400 6<sup>th</sup> St. North  
New Ulm, MN 56073**

**1-507-359-2966**

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