



Do you feel

Called to Ministry?

Would you like to play an active role in your parish/pastoral unit team?

Recruiting now for our
Lay Pastoral Ministry & Leadership Formation
Programme - Sept 2024 - Dec 2026



diocese
of limerick
our catholic community

The Call of Pope Francis

Evangelii Gaudium, 102

Pope Francis challenges us to provide the required formation for lay people to assume responsibilities in our Church: "Lay people are, put simply, the vast majority of the people of God. There has been a growing awareness of the identity and mission of the laity

in the Church. At the same time, a clear awareness of this responsibility of the laity, grounded in their baptism and confirmation, does not appear in the same way in all places. In some cases, it is because lay persons have not been given the formation needed to take on important responsibilities."

What does the Lay Pastoral Ministry Programme entail?

The Lay Pastoral Ministry Programme was designed and developed as an initiative across a number of dioceses in the Southern Province (Limerick, Killaloe, Cashel & Emly, and Kerry) in association with the Irish Institute for Pastoral Studies at MIC Thurles. It provides a grounding and training for those who are interested in volunteering as lay pastoral workers at parish and/or pastoral unit level.

The programme is practical and theoretical, and is grounded in pastoral theology and spirituality. It runs for 28 months. The programme typically runs one weekend per month (Friday evening and all-day Saturday for 8 months per annum).

After an initial four month period of discernment, the candidate can enrol in a 2-year Certificate in Pastoral Ministry delivered and accredited by Mary Immaculate College.



"Scripture has become alive for me! It has given me the confidence to trust in my faith. I feel a renewed commitment to my Church and its teaching."

Ann Mulcahy, Mungret/Raheen/Crecora.



"For me, the programme gave me confidence to engage in faith conversations."

James Connery, Kilmallock.

"A soft introduction to Theology."

Ann O'Dea, Kildimo/Pallaskenry

Formation includes:

Prayer and Spirituality:

Spiritual accompaniment and days of recollection and reflection.

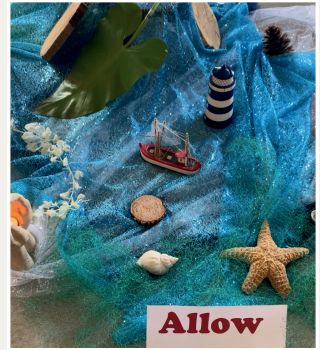
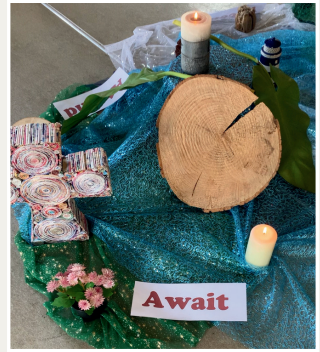
Pastoral Formation:

Ministry training & 2 practical pastoral placements.

Personal Development:

Mentoring and personal growth.

Study: Certificate in Pastoral Ministry Level 6, 36 Credits, over a 2-year period). Fees are shared 3 ways between the student, their parish / pastoral unit and the Diocese (€2.5k over 2.5 years; €833 for each party).



"Lay pastoral ministry is the embodiment of faith in action, where compassion and service meet the needs of the community, creating a bridge between the sacred and the everyday."

David Walsh, Kilfinane.



"It was a very rich experience of witnessing the Spirit of God increasing in each one of our group, as we came to a better understanding of how God moves in us, and this helped develop special friendships in our group, all enriched by the grace of God."

Kathy O'Riordan, Donoughmore/Knockea/Roxboro



I am interested, what do I need to do?

- Speak to your local Priest and Moderator to seek their support and endorsement.

Complete an online application form at:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LPM_application

- Attend an information session during our Diocesan Assembly on 21st of September, Castletroy Park Hotel, 10am to 1pm..



"My experience of the Lay Pastoral Ministry Programme was rewarding both spiritually and socially, and it enhanced my self development."

Mary O'Reilly Glynn, OLHOC Milford.



"The LPM programme equipped me with a broad exposure to both the theory and the practice of pastoral ministry, and has supported me in discerning my particular pastoral ministry calling."

Pauline Maher, St Paul's.



"The LPM programme gave me the skills, tools and confidence to carry out the definite service that God created me for."

Pat Higgins, Athea.



"I feel spiritually and emotionally revived having participated in this stimulating, supportive programme."

Con Buckley, St Munchin's/St Lelia's



"I got to know God more, and grow closer to Him through the studies and discernment the Lay Pastoral Ministry Programme provides."

Michael Burke, Askeaton.



'Sending Forth' Limerick Class of 2020-23