

Searching for more??

**Accept the Challenge
To Grow in Your Faith!**



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**Lay Formation Program
Diocese of Prince George**

2013-2015

Prince George and Region

GROW IN YOUR FAITH...

Is this the year you will explore your faith more deeply? There is so much waiting to be discovered! Think about the questions you might ask:

- **"WE BELIEVE..."** There seems to be a lot of diversity in what people believe today. What are the non-negotiables? Where is there room for legitimate diversity?
- **SCRIPTURE:** Is there a Catholic way of reading the bible? What makes the bible unique? What are some of the lessons that apply to my life today?
- **FOLLOWING JESUS:** How radical do we have to be as disciples? What does our faith say about life choices? What does it mean to follow Jesus in this day and age?
- **LITURGY AND SACRAMENTS:** What is the significance of some of the things we do as Catholics? Why do we do what we do?
- **SPIRITUALITY:** Sometimes I feel dissatisfied, restless, striving for something more. Is God saying something to me in that? How do I discern God's will for me?



If these questions speak to you, consider the Lay Formation Program.

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...THE LAY FORMATION PROGRAM:

WHAT IS IT?: A two-year faith formation program. Sessions are held one weekend per month, Friday evening until Sunday afternoon, for nine months in year one and ten months in year two. (There are no sessions in July or August.)

Each month includes input and discussion on a variety of topics (scripture, theology, spirituality, moral issues, liturgy and sacraments, history, human development, prayer), time for individual and community prayer, personal reflection, liturgical preparation, and community activities. Resource personnel are drawn from inside and outside the diocese.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

- The program is open to adult Catholics who are interested in learning more about their faith.
- Those who exercise any form of service within the Catholic community, e.g. catechists, teachers, pastoral care workers, or other ministers, would benefit from the program.
- Those who strive to bring a Christian perspective and witness to the workplace and society would also benefit.

WHAT PARTICIPANTS HAVE SAID:

- **"I am increasingly more amazed at the incredible richness of our Catholic ritual, symbolism and theology."**
- **"Lay Formation has drawn me closer to the church. It was refreshing to review what it means to be a Catholic."**
- **"Each weekend I wonder how it can get any better, but it does!"**



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

- **“What does it cost?”** The cost is **\$600 per year** for each participant, plus required books. The fee can be paid in installments over the year. Financial assistance is available. Parishes are encouraged to share the cost of the program for their candidates. Fees include accommodation and meals at the Domano Renewal Centre, Prince George.
- **“Is financial assistance is available?”** Yes, there are funds available either through the parish or the diocese (Religious Education Trust Fund) for people who cannot afford the entire fee. People apply to their parish for assistance. No one is turned away because of finances.
- **“What if I have to miss a session?”** The sessions are recorded and copies made available to those who must miss. The application form says that if a person misses two sessions, his/her application will be evaluated. The idea is that people must make a commitment to the program. It is understandable, however, that work and family emergencies come first.
- **“How do I apply?”** Application forms are available through the parish or from the Diocesan Centre in Prince George. A letter of recommendation is also required from the pastor/pastoral life director.

WEEKEND DATES

YEAR 1

Sept 27-29, 2013
October 18-20
November 15-17
December 6-8
January 17-19, 2014
February 14-16
March 14-16
April 4-6
May 2-4
June 6-8

YEAR 2

Sept 19-21, 2014
October 17-19
November 14-16
December 5-7
Jan 16-18, 2015
February 13-15
March 13-15
April 17-19
May 8-10
June 5-7

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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