



INSTITUTE OF LAY FORMATION

Diocese of Winona-Rochester

Forming lay women and men for discipleship and Gospel witness



WINTER-SPRING SEMESTER 2021

Planning Overview...

▶ **Given the current situation relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, online formation sessions will be offered for the winter-spring semester.** (At this point, it is not planned for “Year III” of the Institute to begin until formation can resume on an “in person” basis.)

▶ **These optional online sessions, delivered via Zoom, will serve as an interim way to provide formation and connection for the current class** until it’s possible to resume our being physically together again.

▶ **Here are some details of what the winter-spring semester will look like:**

- **Four Saturday sessions will be held from mid January through late March** (for members of our current class only). They will be held on: **January 16th, February 6th, March 6th, and March 27th.** A tentative concluding session may also be held on Saturday, **April 17th.**

(In addition, online sessions open both to current students and alumni will be offered during the Lenten season. More information on these sessions will be forthcoming.)

- **Each session will be planned for 2¼ hours**, from 9:00-11:15 am. The format will follow that of our fall online sessions. We will begin with a short opening prayer, and then spend our first hour with a catechetical/theological focus. We will take a brief “stand-up” break, and then move into our second hour with a discipleship focus. We will close each session with a short prayer.
- The sessions will incorporate **PowerPoint presentations and video** (via the “Share Screen” feature of Zoom), and will break participants into **small groups for discussion.** And, we will provide time for conversation and Q&A in the large group as well.
- **Participation in these online sessions will be optional and flexible.** A student may participate in any, or all, of the sessions. And, they may participate in one or both parts for any of the sessions. *These online sessions are not a required part of a student’s formation through the Institute.* It is additional formation available to students due to the circumstances brought about by COVID-19.
- **The sessions will be provided at no charge.**

Session Content...

- ▶ **For the catechetical/theological focus during the first part of each session...** (led by Deacon Chris Walchuk)

The class will spend the fall sessions working through Chapter VI (“The Sixth Age of the Church (1789-Present): The Modern Age”) of our church history text – i.e., The Catholic Church through the Ages, by (Fr.) John Vidmar, OP. There will also be additional assigned readings, which are available online.

- ▶ **For the discipleship focus during the second part of each session...** (led by Todd)

The class will view, reflect on, and discuss the remaining four video segments from the series, “The Wild Goose”.

Session by Session Overview...

Winter-Spring Session I (January 16, 2021)

- ▶ **PART ONE**
 - The Catholic Church through the Ages: A History (Chapter 6, pp. 287-313)
- ▶ **PART TWO**
 - *The Wild Goose* (Segment 11 ~ “The Spirit Convicts”)

Winter-Spring Session II (February 6, 2021)

- ▶ **PART ONE**
 - The Catholic Church through the Ages: A History (Chapter 6, pp. 314-328)
 - Pope Leo XIII, *Rerum Novarum* (Paragraphs 1-25, 34-36, 43-45, & 60) [[Click here.](#)]
- ▶ **PART TWO**
 - *The Wild Goose* (Segment 12 ~ “The Spirit’s Freedom”)

Winter-Spring Session III (March 6, 2021)

- ▶ **PART ONE**
 - “An Introduction to the Life and Spirituality of Dorothy Day,” by James Allaire and Rosemary Broughton” [[Click here.](#)]
 - “Peter Maurin: Co-Founder of the Catholic Worker Movement,” by Jim Forest [[Click here.](#)]
- ▶ **PART TWO**
 - *The Wild Goose* (Segment 13 ~ “The Spirit Gives Witness”)

Winter-Spring Session IV (March 27, 2021)

- ▶ **PART ONE**
 - The Catholic Church through the Ages: A History (Chapter 6, pp. 328-358)
- ▶ **PART TWO**
 - *The Wild Goose* (Segment 14 ~ “The Spirit Remembers”)

[**Winter-Spring Session V** (April 17, 2021) {Tentative}]

Keeping Connected...

Todd Graff (Director of Lay Formation and RCIA)

Diocese of Winona-Rochester (www.dowr.org) • P.O. Box 588 (55 West Sanborn Street) •
Winona, MN 55987 • (507) 858-1270, office / (507) 429-2808, cell • tgraff@dowr.org