



INTRODUCTION TO CMFP

Program Directors

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BEGINNING MAY, 2026!



INTRODUCTION TO CMFP

Introduction to Continuing Ministry Formation Program (CMFP) is an intensive, five-session intermediate course that includes the following introductory classes:

- Philosophy
- Theology
- Christian Anthropology
- Theological Reflection & Discernment

Each class will also help develop skills in reading, writing, critical thinking, research, and use of technology that are necessary for successful participation in CMFP.

WHO CAN ATTEND?

Applicants must have:

- Completed PMFP
- Completed the online Intro to CMFP Application by the specified deadline.

WHEN ARE CLASSES OFFERED?

All classes will be conducted virtually through Zoom with the exception of Saturday, which will be held at the Diocesan Pastoral Center

- Saturday May 2, (8:30am-4:00pm) - Diocesan Pastoral Center
- Tuesday May 12, 19, 26, & June 2 (7:00pm-9:30pm) - Zoom

WHAT DO YOU NEED FOR THE COURSE?

You will need a computer with internet access.

WHAT IS THE COST?

The cost of the program is \$150, plus the cost of books and other items.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Speak with your pastor, or organization's leaders about your interest in the program and discern with them how this formation might help you better serve and minister in your parish or in your organization/movement. Complete the online application accessible on the MFI website, www.mfisbdiocese.org. Submit all of the required materials by April 15, 2026 to:

Ministry Formation Institute-CMFP
Diocese of San Bernardino
1201 E. Highland Avenue
San Bernardino, CA 92404
or email to cmfp@sbdioocese.org.

Revised 10/2025



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Continuing Ministry Formation Program (CMFP) is an advanced formation & credential program for adults seeking faith enrichment, for those who desire to serve in ministerial leadership, and those considering the diaconate. CMFP prepares lay leaders to serve the Church and to support the Pastor in implementing the parish and diocesan vision. Students enroll in either the Adult Faith Enrichment track or the Ministerial Leadership Track.

Based on national certification standards, the program consists of three years of formation covering human, spiritual, intellectual and pastoral dimensions of ministry. The theological formation follows the pattern described below. Monthly Saturday workshops help integrate the human, spiritual, and pastoral formation with the intellectual.

Year 1:

God's Revelation

This year of study explores the themes of God's Revelation as described in the Second Vatican Council's document, the *Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation (Dei Verbum)* and serves as an introduction to the Hebrew Scriptures and to the New Testament.

Year 2:

The Church History

Beginning with Pentecost, the course surveys the history of the Church through the post-Vatican II era. By exploring significant theological, cultural, and social issues, this year of study will deepen students' understanding of how the Church, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, has grown, evolved and continues the mission of Jesus today.

Year 3:

Systematic Theology

This course serves as an introductory study of the main branches of theology including Christology, ecclesiology, moral theology, sacramental theology and trinitarian theology. Students will study both the historical development and contemporary focus of each branch of theology. While the course focuses on the teachings of the past and present, the purpose is to reflect on how theology impacts an individual's spirituality and ministry today.

CONTINUING MINISTRY FORMATION PROGRAM (CMFP)

ADVANCED MINISTRY SPECIALIZATION

At the end of three years of theological study, participants begin 1-2 years of specialized ministry formation. They may choose to specialize in one of the areas below:

- Catechetical Ministry (Master Catechist)
- Youth and Young Adult Ministries
- Liturgical Ministry
- Charity and Justice Ministries
- Catholic Bible Institute
- Pastoral Care Ministry

WHO CAN ATTEND?

Applicants for CMFP must have:

- Completed PFMP.
- Completed the five session intermediate course "Intro to CMFP".
- Demonstrated the ability to read and write at the High School graduate level.
- Submitted the CMFP Application by the appropriate due date.
- Submitted a statement of financial commitment from the pastor of the parish at which they serve or from the representative of the Catholic organization/movement to which they belong if the institution is to financially support the student.
- A personal interview with the CMFP Program Director.

WHEN ARE CLASSES OFFERED?

Each year of study consists of:

- A retreat and orientation day for all students in August.
- 24 evening classes held from September through May (Monday nights in English, Tuesday nights in Spanish).
- Monthly Saturday workshops.

WHERE ARE CLASSES HELD?

Classes, held in Zoom, are Monday night in English and Tuesday night in Spanish. The monthly Formation Saturdays are held in person at the Diocesan Pastoral Center.

WHAT IS THE COST?

The total cost of tuition for each person enrolled in the Ministerial Leadership track is \$1,000 per year. Students enrolled in this track are required to pay the total amount each year unless supported by their parish. The student's parish is encouraged, but not required, to contribute up to \$500 each year. The cost of the Adult Faith Enrichment Track is \$500 and paid exclusively by the student.

HOW CAN I APPLY?

Speak with your pastor, or organization's leaders about your interest in the program and discern with them how this formation might help you better serve and minister in your parish or in your organization/movement. Complete the online application accessible on the MFI website, www.mfisbdiocese.org, and submit all of the required materials by the specified deadline.

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