



# Fortmission

PROGRAM



# the program

*ForMission* is a two-year program intended for women and men:

- formation ministers currently accompanying new members at any stage of initial formation;
- preparing to become a formation minister;
- in elected and informal leadership who actively support and oversee the effectiveness and quality of the congregation/province initial formation program.



The goal of the program is personal and communal transformation for the sake of communal life and mission in the context of religious life, the church, and world in the 21st century.

The two-year program is designed to:

- assist participants to strive toward personal and communal transformation;
- assist women and men responsible for any stage of initial or ongoing formation to be agents of personal and communal transformation;
- assist participants to develop and articulate the vision, aptitudes and skills necessary for the formation of persons for a prophetic way of religious life in the 21st century;
- assist participants to transfer learnings, skills and processes to the lived reality of their respective congregation/province and local communities

“Always ask the Spirit what Jesus expects from you at every moment of your life and in every decision you must make, so as to discern its place in the mission you have received. Allow the Spirit to forge in you the personal mystery that can reflect Jesus Christ in today’s world (23). May you come to realize what that word is, the message of Jesus that God wants to speak to the world by your life. Let yourself be transformed. Let yourself be renewed by the Spirit, so that this can happen... (24)”

– Pope Francis, Apostolic Exhortation, *Gaudete et Exsultate*, April 9, 2018



# activities and content

Participants are admitted to the program annually during the May-June residential session. Over the course of the two (2) years, participants attend four (4), week-long, residential sessions – two (2) in January and two (2) in May-June. Generally, the venue for the sessions rotates between Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, IL and Oblate School of Theology, San Antonio, TX (unless scheduling requires an alternative site). Credentialed program presenters are drawn from these institutions and beyond.



Between residential sessions, participants engage in various program requirements at home. Some responsibilities call for personal reflection and writing, others engage participants in study with members of their own communities or with religious from other congregations, and participation in a peer supervision group. A final project connected to one's ministry and of relevance to one's religious community is submitted at the conclusion of the program. Upon successful fulfillment of all *ForMission* requirements, a certificate of completion is issued.

The residential intensives focus on the themes of:

- Mission and Religious Life in the 21st Century
- Communion and Community
- Spirituality for Apostolic Religious Life
- Formation for Religious Life

**Dates and locations for these sessions are posted on the Religious Formation Conference's website along with additional information and application form.**



# ReligiousFormation CONFERENCE

The Religious Formation Conference (RFC) is a national Roman Catholic organization serving religious institutes of women and men with programs and services for those in the ministry of initial and lifelong formation, and general congregational membership.

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