



**JANUARY 2020 • APPLY TODAY**

# **BE LEAVEN FOR THE WORLD**

Join other Catholics who seek to deepen their understanding of the faith, and participate in Jesus' mission to the world in the ordinary circumstances of daily life. Bring Scripture to life. Make the Faith relevant and life-giving for you and your family. Learn how to effectively use your gifts to influence your work, society, and your relationships for the good, and draw others to our Lord. Whether you are a young adult, middle aged, or elderly, single or married, professional, retired, or a homemaker, the Lay Mission Project offers an engaging formation that's accessible to the average busy layperson.

**LAYMISSION.NET**  
FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROJECT



ROMAN CATHOLIC  
**DIOCESE OF SACRAMENTO**  
DIÓCESIS CATÓLICA ROMANA DE SACRAMENTO

**SCD.ORG/LAYMISSION**  
TO BEGIN THE ONLINE APPLICATION PROCESS



**LAY**  
MISSION  
PROJECT

For a **free course** on spiritual practices for ordinary Christians, visit our website: [laymission.net](http://laymission.net). The course provides a hands-on look at the engaging and simple online learning environment, and the spiritual practices it teaches are fundamental to the formation curriculum.

## MEET THE CO-FOUNDERS



**MICHAEL SWEENEY, OP**  
Executive Director



**SEAN BRYAN**  
Operations Director

“ This generation must somehow see the works of God performed in order that they may come to know the one whom God has sent. The faith is not an ideology. Faith is more than simply lessons in theology.

If we are to speak the Gospel, it must not only be by speaking of Jesus and what he said, but also by manifesting his person through Jesus' manner of being: by truly being his disciples and living his gesture that others may see him, and by doing his works that others may receive his healing and the world be continually reconciled with God.

Our knowledge of the faith in this sense is a knowledge of the person of Jesus, who manifests the Father in his works. When we know our Lord well enough, in any given situation we may be able to ask ourselves, “What work of our Lord does this person seek?” or “What aspect of Revelation is this person open to receiving?” And if someone such as a friend or family member is skeptical of the institution, as well they rightfully may be, what face of our Lord must they encounter that they may be healed from scandal and cultivate trust?

“ More than ever before, the Church needs laypeople to live up to their calling, stand in the place of Christ, and boldly witness the faith in order to make him known in the world.

Saint John Paul II taught that the Church wishes to serve this single end: that every person meet Christ risen, so that Christ may walk with them the path of life. By living in a way that expresses our own encounter with the risen Lord, others come to know him.

Personally, that's what I try to accomplish on American Ninja Warrior. But, more importantly, it's why I have worked tirelessly in collaboration with Fr. Michael to develop a truly effective means of making Christ known.

The Lay Mission Project seeks to enliven lay people, to help them appreciate the relevancy and richness of the faith, and enable them, in the ordinary circumstances of daily life, to live out their role in the Church's mission: the healing, redemptive, and saving mission of Jesus himself. This doesn't just happen magically; rather, it is a fruit borne naturally of the relationship we cultivate together as disciples of Jesus, who has called us friends.



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Because of the overwhelming success, positive feedback, & good fruit borne of the first (exploratory) cohort in the Diocese of Sacramento, Bishop Soto has enthusiastically endorsed full-scale implementation of a second cohort, which begins in the Winter. Bishop is encouraging parishioners from every parish to participate in this unique and effective formation, so sign up and encourage your friends and family members to do so too!

## WHY? *Why participate in this formation project?*

The world needs you! In your Baptism you were claimed by God, who has named and chosen you to continue the work of his Son in the world: to stand in his place, to see as he sees, and to bestow his blessing upon others. This is not fantasy! It is a hidden reality made tangible through developing a close relationship with our Lord.

## WHO? *Who ought to consider participating?*

This formation process is geared toward Catholics who seek to deepen their understanding of the faith, and to become a part of the Church's mission to the world in the ordinary circumstances of daily life. Whether a young adult, middle aged, or elderly, single or married, professional, retired, or a homemaker, this formation could be perfect for you. Not the type to feel comfortable with new people? Ask a friend or loved one to discern with you!

## WHAT? *What is this project about?*

You were baptized into Christ's life and mission. In order to be fully alive in him, all members of his Body (the Church) must come to know him intimately. This project is designed to give you the fertile soil as well as the resources, tools, community, and education to actually cultivate this real relationship, which overflows into your everyday encounters with others.

Like ordained priests, we all need a formation for the sake of our specific mission. However, until now, there has been no comprehensive formation for the laity outside sacramental preparation and certification for extraordinary ministry within the Church, which is not the fundamental calling of the lay person. The Lay Mission Project is a formation designed to deepen your relationship with our Lord, and unlock the power given to you in Baptism to make known the presence of God in the world, and to shape the secular world according to what God intends it to be. This is accomplished through a formation process that involves prayer, retreats, personal and communal reflection, online education, in-person workshops, and forming local communities of disciples of our Lord.

## HOW? *How can I learn more, and how do I sign up?*

For more information on the project: [laymission.net](http://laymission.net)  
To begin the online application process: [scd.org/laymission](http://scd.org/laymission)

If you have more specific questions, contact Lauralyn Solano:  
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