



DIOCESE OF SACRAMENTO

Office of Family & Faith Formation

Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry

2110 Broadway • Sacramento, CA 95818-2541 • (916) 733-0123 • Fax (916) 733-0195

11/30/2020

Dear Pastors/Parochial Administrators:

It is with great excitement I announce our partnership with the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology to offer a Master's Degree Program for lay persons in ministry within the Diocese of Sacramento. The Master's in Theology for Ecclesial Mission (MATHem) is presented by the DSPT faculty via a combination of online and live sessions. I ask your support in finding possible candidates from your parish that will be suited for this program. Properly trained ministers are essential to improving our "catechetical programs as well as expand[ing] opportunities for cradle-to-grave formation", as the diocesan strategic plan states. Candidates should desire to serve the church as a volunteer or paid staff member in a pastoral role, and must have a Bachelor's degree. The first cohort will start in August 2021.

This Master's Program will equip our Lay leadership with broad, orthodox theological foundations as well as pastoral, catechetical and leadership skills to better serve the Church of the Sacramento Diocese.

I am aware of the difficulties lay ministers have financing a Master's degree. With this in mind, we can offer a limited number of Diocesan Scholarships. The scholarship works as follows: the student, the Diocese, and the Parish each pay a third of the cost of the program and in return for this financial support, the student agrees to serve the Diocese after graduation as a Master Catechist and likewise agrees to serve the sponsoring parish for at least 4 years after graduation.

Please visit www.scd.org/graduateprograms for more information. If you have any questions, please contact Lauralyn Solano, Assistant Director for Lay Formation at 916-733-0153 or lsolano@scd.org.

Yours In Christ,

Deacon Kevin Staszko
Director