



DIOCESE OF
BRIDGEPORT

AMBASSADOR MINISTRY

The goal of this invitational ministry will be to introduce Catholics to a deeper understanding of their faith and greater involvement in their parish. It will serve as a means of welcoming the faithful back to more frequent attendance at Sunday Mass and, if needed, a personal accompaniment to address those issues that are stumbling blocks to active participation in the life of the Church.

The term “ambassador” is taken from 2 Cor. 5:20 where Saint Paul states,

*“So we are ambassadors for Christ,
as if God were appealing through us.”*

In its simplest terms, to serve as an “ambassador” of Christ is to serve the evangelical mandate to bring the core message of the Gospel, which is the word of salvation in Jesus Christ, in an effective and personal manner, to every believer and non-believer alike. It is realized in word, invitation, witness and accompaniment — one person at a time.

Requirements for participation:

1. To be 18 years of age or older;
2. Commit to complete the full requirement of the first part of the formation program, including the two sessions for communal prayer to be held in person;
3. Be open to work with a spiritual director;
4. Be receptive to discern, at the end of the basic formation program, whether they wish to continue to be trained to participate in a form of invitational ministry.

Part One: Basic Formation – “The Search”

1. **Orientation in-person session:** March 1st through March 4th, 7-8pm.
Choose only one of these sessions.
2. **Online formation** will begin with seven one-hour Zoom sessions, from 7-8pm. In some parishes, formation will be conducted on the parish level. Please check with your parish for more details.
 - + March 11th - “What Do You Seek?”
 - + March 18th - “Who Are You?”
 - + March 25th - “Why A God?”
 - + April 8th - “What’s Our Story?”
 - + April 15th - “Who is Jesus?”
 - + April 22nd - “Am I Saved?”
 - + April 29th - “Why a Church?”

Midway through basic formation, all participants are invited to attend an optional evening of **Prayer and Reconciliation** to be held on Tuesday, March 30th at 7pm at Saint Augustine Cathedral.

3. **Concluding in-person session for Basic Formation:** the first week of May (dates TBD).
The purpose of these sessions is to share feedback and discuss plans for Part Two.

Part Two: Custom Tracks *(for those who wish to continue)*

Participants will have their choice to attend one of two Formed programs - “Forgiven” or “Presence.” The tentative dates for this formation will be on May 13, 20, 27, via Zoom, from 7-8pm.

Commissioning Mass: June 5, 2021 (The Vigil of Corpus Christi) – more information to come

Part Three: Tools for Evangelization *(for those who wish to continue)*

A series of formational sessions, held both online and in person, to explore both the human and ministerial tools needed to effectively undertake this ministry.