

Mentor Training Program

Training seasoned pastors to serve as mentors for their diocese's newly-ordained priests, newly-named pastors and newly-arrived international priests

The Institute for Priests and Presbyterates

The Institute for Priests and Presbyterates (IPP) is the department of ongoing formation for Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology. The Institute aims to help priests sharpen their skills for more effective ministry and to keep both priests and presbyterates holy, healthy and effective in various ministry settings and stages of life. We do this through programs that implement Pope John Paul II's *Pastores Dabo Vobis* (1992) and the USCCB's document, *The Basic Plan for Ongoing Formation of Priests* (2001).

Mentor training program

The IPP trains seasoned pastors and ministers who have been chosen by their diocese, religious order or missionary society to help recently-ordained priests, newly-appointed pastors and newly-arrived international priests transition into their new ministry experiences. A well-trained mentor introduces the mentee to his new role and helps him avoid unnecessary obstacles, connecting him with those individuals and resources vital to his ministerial effectiveness and success.

Mentor training learning objectives

- 1) Understand the distinctive aspects, role and functions of mentors in comparison to other relationships such as coaching, counseling and spiritual direction
- 2) Recognize and appreciate the value and benefits of a mentor relationship
- 3) Understand the process and develop the skills involved with both effective listening and Appreciative Inquiry
- 4) Become familiar with and comfortable using the mentoring tools and resources provided

Topics covered

- 1) Empathic listening
- 2) Reflections on pastoring
- 3) Modeling proactive vs. reactive behaviors
- 4) Case studies
- 5) Role-playing

Length of training

Training typically takes 1.5 days. A follow-up training day is recommended 6-8 months following initial training to check in, clarify, share experiences and offer feedback. Follow-up training takes 1 day.

Others trained by the IPP

Since the program's inception in 2006 the IPP has provided mentor training for the Archdioceses of Atlanta, Boston, Denver, Indianapolis and Louisville and the Dioceses of Evansville, Knoxville, Lexington, Little Rock, Owensboro, Richmond, Savannah, Tulsa, Winona and Worcester.

Our trainer

Ordained in 1983, **Fr. Tom DiFolco** is a priest of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. For 20 years he served as the Director of the Office of Priestly Formation for the archdiocese. Previously he served as Pastor St. Joseph Parish, St. Martin de Porres Parish and St. St. Agnes Parish, in Cincinnati. Currently, he is Pastor of St. Michael Parish in Sharonville, OH. In 2010, we was presented with the The Pope John XXIII Award for Continuing Education of Priests by the National Organization for the Continuing Education of Priests (NOCERCC).



Cost

Initial training is \$2,450 for up to 12 mentors (minimum 6), and \$2,950 for groups over 12 (maximum 18). Materials fee is \$40 per participant, which includes training manual, printed resources and Appreciative Inquiry books. Travel expenses, including meals and accommodations, are in addition to the cost of the training.

Follow-up training is \$1,250. Travel expenses, including meals and accommodations, are in addition to the cost of the follow-up training.

Watch our video

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FmAFzUn2odk>



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