

TRAINING WORKSHOPS

Workshops of varying lengths and topics are designed to help prepare priests for new ministry opportunities. Training topics may include:

- a short course in spiritual direction
- developing and delivering retreats, convocations and workshops
- authoring and publishing your book
- organizing senior adult ministry in parishes
- skills of mentoring and designing diocesan mentor programs
- training dioceses, presbyterates and parishes to welcome and orient international mission priests and religious
- prison ministry
- serving in mission territory.



ACCOMMODATIONS

The Institute's workshops and sabbaticals are conducted in the newly renovated St. Bede Hall. Enjoy the comfort of private accommodations in our St. Simeon residences. Renovated classrooms, Wi-Fi access, laundry facilities, St. Bede Chapel and the St. John Vianney Center offer participants an ideal environment to learn and renew. Saint Meinrad's new fitness center and dining room are only steps away.

MORE INFO AND REGISTRATION

Contact the Institute for Priests and Presbyterates for workshop dates and other information:

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Saint Meinrad
Seminary &
School of Theology

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ENCORE PRIESTS:

Finding New Purpose, New Meaning
and New Direction in Retirement





THE WORKSHOP SERIES

Encore Priests workshops assist the priest through the stages of transition and help him discern and prepare for new ministry possibilities.

PRE-RETIREMENT PREPARATION

Redefining Retirement as a Spiritual Journey

Recommended for priests in their last 10 years of active ministry, this workshop is designed to help:

- plan for the transition into retirement
- make your retirement meaningful and purposeful
- discover how to best engage both your strengths and likely challenges
- discover the 15 spiritual growth factors that can transform retirement into an energizing time of personal and spiritual development.

DISCERNMENT WORKSHOP

Seeking the One Necessary Thing

Either prior to or following retirement, this workshop will help the priest discern what new “Encore Ministry” awaits him. Recommended for priests who want to pay attention to the longings they have to serve others in new ways. The workshop topics include:

- the experience of transition into retirement
- attitudes, beliefs and feelings
- values, interests and skills
- healthy leisure
- success perception
- goals and decision-making
- spiritual tasks of the illumination years.

The Discernment Workshop, “Seeking the One Necessary Thing,” is a prerequisite to the training workshops.

INTRODUCTION

By the very nature of the sacrament of Holy Orders, priests always have some form of priestly ministry. But how can a mature priest transition into a retirement that is meaningful and vital?

Encore Priests is a series of workshops for senior clergy, assisting them through the transition into retirement, helping them discern their call to priestly ministry in retirement, and training them for new ministries that will be life-giving for both the priest personally and for the Church in general.

FROM THE CHURCH’S DOCUMENTS

Pastores Dabo Vobis (no. 77) and the *Directory on the Ministry and Life of Priests* (no. 95) strongly urge ongoing formation for senior priests,

noting that such formation must be both supportive in the face of challenges at this stage of life and encouraging in helping priests continue to make their unique and irreplaceable contribution to the Church on the basis of their experience and season of life.

THE CURRENT SITUATION

- 50% of U.S. priests will have reached retirement age by 2020.
- Priests are living longer since the original retirement ages were established.
- A growing body of literature says “Baby Boomers” are wanting to re-invent themselves, combining personal meaning and social purpose.
- Many retired priests hunger for more than weekend fill-in ministry.