



EMPOWERING LAY LEADERS TO RENEW PARISH LIFE

ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

WHAT IS MISSIONARIES OF JOY?

Missionaries of Joy is a new evangelization initiative forming lay leaders across the Archdiocese to help cultivate a vibrant culture of evangelization in every parish. Inspired by “Evangelii Gaudium” (The Joy of the Gospel) and aligned with Archbishop Rozanski’s vision document “Disciples Make Disciples,” this initiative equips parishioners to share their faith with joy, clarity, and confidence.

WHY IT MATTERS?

In a time of spiritual hunger and cultural confusion, Missionaries of Joy raises up parishioners who can walk with others, speak the truth in love, and support their pastors in renewing parish life from within. These lay leaders become trusted collaborators in outreach, discipleship, and mission.

WHAT DOES IT INCLUDE?

- Two Semesters of Formation (July 2025–July 2026):
 - Semester 1: Deepening personal faith (Jesus, discipleship, sacraments, prayer, etc).
 - Semester 2: Understanding and sharing the faith (Scripture, Kerygma, social teaching, catechesis).
- Online Learning through Augustine Institute Short Courses and FORMED.org and parish discernment/discussion group meetings.
- Quarterly In-Person Trainings across vicariates focused on:
 - MOMENT - Our missionary context
 - MESSAGE – The Gospels and personal testimony
 - MODEL – Pathways of discipleship
 - METHOD – Creative evangelization approaches
- Specialized Ministry Tracks (based on the pastor’s recommendation) in:
 1. Small Group Leadership
 2. Sacramental Preparation
 3. Social Outreach
 4. Kerygmatic Parish Development

WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE?

Pastors are encouraged to personally invite key parishioners who show:

- a desire for holiness
- a heart for service
- openness to formation
- a collaborative spirit
- a readiness to grow in missionary discipleship
- have potential or experience in leadership, outreach, catechesis, or strategic planning
- represent diverse demographics and ministries within the parish

COST & COMMITMENT:

- Participation cost: \$150 per participant, matched by the parish. (\$300 total)
- Remaining costs are covered by the Archdiocese and Augustine Institute support.
- Participants commit to one year of formation.
- From there, participants will be called into active service in their parish. They will be part of a growing network of missionary disciples who carry the flame of faith into the next 200 years of the Church in St. Louis.



PLEASE VISIT

archstl.missionaries-of-joy



FOR QUESTIONS, CONTACT THE OFFICE OF EVANGELIZATION & DISCIPLESHP:
missionariesofjoy@archstl.org