

BE FORMED

PLAYBOOK





Dear friend,

I am so pleased you are interested in the *Be Formed* program. *Be Formed* is a 90-day discipleship program offered by the Diocese of Joliet, which since 2020 has served thousands of participants within the diocese and beyond. Led by one of our priests, Father Burke Masters, and including content from several other priests in our diocese, *Be Formed* answers the call to provide ongoing formation for adults by sharing our Catholic faith and helping participants to live and share it with others.

Under the patronage of Venerable Fulton Sheen, *Be Formed* utilizes modern day media such as videos and podcasts to evangelize. The program can be beneficial for anyone at any point in their faith journey, whether they are new to the faith, wanting to learn more, or have practiced for years. It is my pleasure to continue endorsing and supporting this program, and I encourage you to consider how you can start a *Be Formed* small group in your parish. This guide makes it easy and simple to do so, and there is a team who can support you on that journey.

Be assured of my prayers for you as you take one step closer to Jesus by participating in *Be Formed*, as we all aim to continue to be molded into His image.

May God bless you today and always.

As I remain –

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks
Bishop of Joliet

MISSION

Be Formed is a 90-day discipleship experience for men and women that includes weekly videos, small groups, prayer, fellowship and nights of reflection. Through Be Formed, individuals are given the opportunity to pray and listen to the spiritual, pastoral, human and intellectual commitments the Lord is calling them to focus on.

VISION

To raise up a community of Catholics who are committed to living out their faith and taking one step closer to Jesus every day.



Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you."

Matthew 28: 19-20

What does a Be Formed Small Group look like?

A Be Formed Small Group is a group of men, women, couples or a mixed group of men and women who wish to deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ through continued formation and fellowship with others. Small groups meet weekly as a group, and are invited to attend other large group gatherings throughout the year. The content includes topics such as Prayer, Scripture, the Sacraments, and the Teachings and Traditions of the Catholic Church. Be Formed is open to anyone at any point on their journey and led by trained facilitators who guide the weekly meetings either in person or virtually. Within their small group, participants discuss blessings, what struck their heart at Mass, what resonated with them from the weekly content video and are encouraged to pray Lectio Divina together. Be Formed Small Groups establish and foster fellowship and Christian friendships which seek to strengthen individual's faith and relationship with God.

What People Are Saying

“I have been leading a group for two seasons now and see the many graces flowing through our participants, most recently in deepening our knowledge and love of the Eucharist. My hope is that we can work together to continue to build and grow the Be Formed program within and beyond the Diocese of Joliet.”

*-Rich Dusatko, Be Formed Facilitator
St. Mary Immaculate, Plainfield, IL*

“God cannot be outdone in generosity! In Be Formed, you think you are helping others only to find out your faith has grown exponentially. I have met some of the holiest women I have ever known through Be Formed! They are non-judging, loving, prayerful, and love Jesus and Holy Mother Church.”

*-Karen McDonnell, Be Formed Facilitator
St. Isaac Jogues, Hinsdale, IL*



Charisms of a Small Group Facilitator

Small group facilitators have an incredible calling to walk with others who are at various points along their journey. God equips them for this by giving them particular gifts, talents and skills for this mission.

Some of the charisms of a good facilitator are Leadership, Encouragement and Service.



Sustaining the Mission: Being Sent in Pairs

Successful and sustainable Be Formed Small Groups are often led by a team of co-facilitators, whether it be a couple or pair of men or women who co-facilitate together. When facilitators have a partner to lean on, the mission is strengthened, supported and encouraged.

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others whom he sent ahead of him in pairs to every town and place he intended to visit. He said to them, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest. Luke 10:1-2

Having another participant along on the journey to be trained for facilitating the next season keeps future movement and growth in motion. It is recommended to have current facilitators guiding and training new facilitators during the duration of the season for the start-up of a new group for the following season.

Parishes Involved

ST. CHARLES BORROMEEO, BENSENVILLE
MATERNITY BVM, BOURBONNAIS
CORPUS CHRISTI, CAROL STREAM
ST. ANN, CHANNAHON
NOTRE DAME, CLARENDON HILLS
OUR LADY OF PEACE, DARIEN
ST. JOSEPH, DOWNERS GROVE
ST. MARY OF GOSTYN, DOWNERS GROVE
ST. PETRONILLE, GLEN ELLYN
ST. ISAAC JOGUES, HINSDALE
ST. PETER, ITASCA
CATHEDRAL OF ST. RAYMOND, JOLIET
ST. JOAN OF ARC, LISLE
SACRED HEART, LOMBARD
ST. JOSEPH, MANHATTAN
ST. MARY, MOKENA

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, MORRIS
ST. MARGARET MARY, NAPERVILLE
ST. ELIZABETH SETON, NAPERVILLE
ST. RAPHAEL, NAPERVILLE
ST. JUDE, NEW LENOX
ST. MARY IMMACULATE, PLAINFIELD
ST. WALTER, ROSELLE
HOLY FAMILY, SHOREWOOD
ST. LIBORIUS, STEGER
ST. IRENE, WARRENVILLE
RESURRECTION, WAYNE
ST. MICHAEL, WHEATON
ST. ROSE OF LIMA, WILMINGTON
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, WINFIELD
HOLY GHOST, WOOD DALE

Learn More About Our Mission

Want to learn more about Be Formed?

We invite you to watch our 5-minute promotional video to learn more about this unique discipleship experience!



Visit our website for more information and a Toolkit of materials to promote Be Formed at your parish:

[BE FORMED PROMOTIONAL VIDEO](#)

[BE FORMED WEBSITE](#)

Contact Us To Get Started

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