

NORM 23

Norm Description: Office of Parish Leadership Formation is to establish a basic certification program for lay ecclesial ministers.

Department or Office with Primary Responsibility: Office of Parish Leadership Formation, Department of Formation and Leadership

Departments or Offices with Secondary Responsibility: Department of Education, Office for Catechesis

Person Submitting Plan: Very Rev. Robert W. Medley

Goal: The Office of Parish Leadership Formation is to establish a basic certification program for lay ecclesial ministers. This program is to follow the guidelines of the 2005 statement by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, "Co-Workers in the Vineyard of the Lord" and will be required of all serving as lay ecclesial ministers in parish leadership. Formation programs may be offered locally or regionally and are to cover all areas of ministry including worship, service, education, formation, and evangelization.

Note: Lay ecclesial minister refers to professionally trained or otherwise properly prepared women and men, including vowed religious, who are in positions of service and leadership in the Church.

Objective:

1. Hire a qualified director for the Office of Parish Leadership Formation by July 1, 2010. This director will establish a basic certification program for lay ecclesial ministers by September, 2010.