



ADVANCED MINISTRY STUDIES—AMS

The Advanced Ministry Studies is a certification offered by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles Office of Religious Education. It is offered to Parish Catechetical Leaders: religious education coordinators, youth ministers, catechists, OCIA teams, baptismal formation teams, etc., Catholic School religion teachers/campus ministers, lay or religious ministers and to anyone working in any ministry or apostolate in the Church. This program will help participants to advance in their understanding of the teachings of the Catholic Church and be prepared for roles in different areas of church ministry.

FORMATION COMPONENTS

1. Catholic Spirituality
2. Catholic Theology
3. Evangelizing Catechesis
4. Pastoral Ministry
5. Pedagogy and Methodology
6. The Art of Accompaniment
7. Technology

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The certification in Advanced Ministry Studies consists in three year process, each year runs from August to June with one Saturday on site or online class.

THEOLOGY —THE PROFESSION OF FAITH YEAR

Call to the Mission of the Church, Theological Reflection and Spirituality, Principles of Catholic Theology and Revelation, Scripture Old Testament—major themes, Scripture New Testament—articulation of the Christian message, Christology and Soteriology, Pneumatology and Ecclesiology, Eschatology, Mariology and the Saints, Moral Theology, Liturgy, Sacramentality and Sacrament Theology, Catholic Social Teaching

CATECHETICAL—MINISTERIAL FORMATION YEAR

Ministry, Discernment and Charisms, Evangelizing Catechesis, Contemplative Spirituality, The Process of Catechesis and the Pedagogy of Faith, Methodology in Catechesis (Human and Faith Development, Christian Praxis, Multiple Intelligences, etc.), Catechesis in the Lives of Persons, OCIA and OCIA Catechumenal Model for Faith Formation, Intercultural Competencies - Cultural Diversity in the Church, Media Literacy, Special Needs.



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PASTORAL FORMATION AND APPLICATION YEAR

The Art of Accompaniment, Team Dynamics, Ministry and Technology, Collaboration and Communication, Participation and Facilitation of One Mission One faith and Vision and Skills for Faith Formation project for those discerning to become master catechist = Lay Ecclesial Leaders.

PARTICIPANTS WHO COMPLETE THIS PROCESS FOR CERTIFICATION WILL:

Be certified and commissioned in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles with one of the following certificates:

- ⇒ Advanced Ministry Studies or
- ⇒ Archdiocesan Master Catechist (A discernment call to form catechists)

FORMAT The program is offered in a hybrid format, giving opportunities to experience in person and online teaching experiences. Participants are accompanied by a team of professors and mentors.

FACULTY

Our faculty is drawn from excellent scholars in Religious Studies, Scripture and Pastoral Ministry areas from Saint John Seminary, Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas, the Catholic Apostolate Center from Washington DC, and Lay ministers with experience in specific areas.

2025-2026 SCHEDULE

2025: August 23, September 20, October 18, November 15, December 13.

2026: January 17, February 7, March 21, April 18, May 16, and 5 weeks of online class starting on May 25, 2026. Annual Retreat June 13

FEES

The Advanced Ministry Studies registration fee is \$20.00 and \$50.00 tuition fee per class. Formation can be taken as ongoing formation by any person interested in personal growth or for ongoing formation for \$25.00

APPLICATION

For more information or to apply visit our website <https://lacatholics.org/cmi/> or use the QR code. For more information contact Flor de Maria Luna—Coordinator of Catechist Formation at Fluna@la-archdiocese.org

