



EPISCOPAL ONGOING FORMATION AND SUPPORT



Reaching, Engaging, and Cultivating
the Next Generation for an Apostolic Age

February 10-13, 2025 | Ponte Vedra Lodge and Club | Ponte Vedra Beach, FL

THIS YEAR'S TOPIC

This next generation was a high priority among your brother bishops when they were polled this year about the topic for this year's session. The cultural and spiritual landscape of the Catholic Church continues to evolve rapidly. The challenges that we face around an aging Church are not a new reality. The lack of presence and participation from Catholic youth within the Church is an acute concern among Catholics across the world. Multiple studies in the religious and secular sectors show a steep decline in religious practice among these generations and yet there are bright spots of opportunity if we are willing to reflect and seek to answer the question "How does the Church create a space for Millennials and Gen Zers?"

In your tremendous responsibilities as a bishop to teach, govern, and sanctify, you are tasked with navigating changing times to ensure the Church is present and vital for future generations. This task requires knowledge and understanding of the next generation – their strengths, influences, behaviors, challenges, and worldview. As the demographics of the Church's leadership shifts, it becomes imperative to adapt our mindset and innovate our practices so that we can better attract and accompany younger generations into the life of the entire Church. This session serves as an opportunity to pray, reflect, and discern with your brother bishops on this important topic for our time. At this session we hope to dive into pertinent questions such as:

- **How do we help parishes, schools, and other Catholic institutions think and respond differently about these generations?**
- **How can priests be formed in ministering to these generations?**
- **How do we create spaces and opportunities within your diocesan central administration for the next generation of leaders?**

YOU ARE INVITED

Please join us at Catholic Leadership Institute for our annual Episcopal Ongoing Formation & Support Session where you and your brother bishops will receive accompaniment on this important topic – the fruit of your own selections. This session will bring clarity and focus to the responsibility before us to reach, engage, and cultivate the next generation in the Apostolic Age of our Church today.



GENERAL SCHEDULE

MONDAY

Arrive in the afternoon or evening
with optional golf.

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY

Morning prayer, Episcopal Sessions, and Mass.
Each day will conclude with cocktails and dinner.

THURSDAY

Mass and final sessions concluding at noon.

PURPOSE OF THIS SESSION

Since 2009, Catholic Leadership Institute has had the privilege to provide ongoing formation and support to you, our bishops, who govern and guide us - lead and love us - in the Church and for Jesus Christ. These annual sessions respect and honor the Episcopal Office of governance and diocesan leadership. We offer Episcopal Ongoing Formation and Support opportunities in thanksgiving for your shepherding ministry. These opportunities are supported and endorsed by Catholic Leadership Institute's Episcopal Advisory Board, its Episcopal Moderator, Bishop Robert Gruss, and more than 160 bishops who have participated in past sessions.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

This three-day session is being offered as a means of renewal for your valued role; all bishops are welcome. These days are offered to you through the philanthropic stewardship of individual donors and foundations who appreciate your Episcopal leadership and shepherding; there is no cost to you. Please return the RSVP card included in the envelope to confirm your attendance.



ABOUT THE LOCATION

Located midway between Jacksonville and St. Augustine, Florida, The Lodge & Club is situated in the lovely seaside setting of Ponte Vedra Beach. Framed by graceful palms and rolling dunes, the boutique hotel features panoramic vistas of the Atlantic Ocean. Activities include shelling along the beach, swimming, surfing, cycling, and sampling The Lodge's inventive cuisine. Nearby, guests have access to the beach and privileges that include oceanfront golf, world-class tennis, and other amenities.

REGISTER TODAY

RSVP CARD ENCLOSED

Please kindly fill out the card enclosed and place in the provided return envelope by October 1, 2024. If you have any questions, please contact:

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Catholic Leadership Institute provides bishops, priests, deacons, and lay persons in the Roman Catholic Church with world-class, pastoral leadership formation and consulting services that strengthen their confidence and competence in ministry, enabling them to articulate a vision for their local church, to call forth the gifts of those they lead, and to create more vibrant faith communities rooted in Jesus Christ.