

***Refocusing on Mission:***  
**Sessions for Pastors and Preachers and Seminaries on**  
**The Role of Catholics in Public Life**

**Workshops and Formation Programs on**  
**The Social Dimensions of Ordained Ministry**

In his first encyclical, *Deus Caritas Est*, Pope Benedict XVI reminds us that “love for widows and orphans, prisoners, and the sick and needy of every kind, is as essential to [the Church] as the ministry of the sacraments and preaching of the Gospel.” A key way to reflect this teaching is by helping Catholics to understand our social teaching more fully and building parishes that can truly be the light and leaven in our communities.

This unprecedented cooperative workshop and formation program is designed to help pastors and preachers refocus on social mission, learn more about Catholic social teaching, and develop pastoral skills and strategies for bringing new life and leadership to this mission in their parishes.

**Content**

Topics for the sessions can include:

The Social Dimension of Ordained Ministry  
The Current Context for Social Mission  
Scriptural Roots  
Principles and Applications of Catholic  
Social Teaching  
Prayer, Liturgy, Eucharist and Justice

Sharing the Mission: Preaching and Justice  
Acting on the Mission: Engaging the Parish  
Resources and Strategies: Where to Go for Help  
Follow up: Translating Theory into Action

**Formats**

The content can be adapted to several formats, depending on local needs and schedules:

- a workshop format (1/2 to 1 days)
- a two- to three-day convocation format, and
- a five-day retreat format.

**Sponsors**

USCCB

Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life, and  
Vocations

Committee on International Justice and Peace

Committee on Domestic Justice, Peace and Human  
Development

Catholic Campaign for Human Development

Migration & Refugee Services

National Organization for Continuing Education of  
Roman Catholic Clergy (NOCERCC)

Preaching the Just Word

Catholic Charities USA

Catholic Relief Services

Conference of Major Superiors of Men

National Federation of Priest Councils

*For more information about hosting a workshop or formation session in your diocese, contact:*  
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