

St. Peter upon the Water Spiritual Director Formation Program

FORMATION WEEKEND DESCRIPTION

The St. Peter upon the Water Spiritual Direction Formation Program is a three-year program which meets on the second Friday and following Saturday of each month (except July and August). The program meets at St. Peter upon the Water in Ingram in the Beverly Marie Pevehouse Conference Center. Each Friday evening session begins with a meal at 6:00 pm and dismisses at 9:00 pm. Each Saturday session begins with breakfast at 8:00 am and dismisses at 4:00 pm. Participants coming from a distance have the option of reserving a hotel room for Friday night or requesting guest housing provided by a family in Kerrville's Notre Dame Parish. Two silent retreat weekends are scheduled for December and June of each year, and retreat hours are extended. Check in will begin on Friday at 4:00 pm, and the retreat will close Sunday at noon.

The program's usual weekend format is comprised of prayer and liturgy, along with lectures focused on the biblical, theological, and spirituality perspectives of each month's topic. Saturday afternoons offer a practicum component in which participants practice the skills needed for spiritual direction by engaging in small groups under the tutelage of team members. The three-year program is undergirded by prayer to enhance the inner growth of the participant. A variety of prayer forms are included, such as Lectio Divina, Christian Meditation, Centering Prayer, and Liturgy of the Hours. Mass is celebrated every weekend. To support the personal and spiritual growth of each individual, the participant will be invited at times to engage in journaling and small group discussions.

Each participant will be assigned a team member as mentor, who serves as liaison to the formation team. Mentoring conversations each month and an hour-long meeting with one's mentor at each of the two yearly retreats facilitate the discernment process of each participant regarding his or her continued call to the ministry of spiritual direction.

Attendance at the weekend formation meetings and at the two yearly retreats is required, except in extraordinary circumstances. A packet of teaching documents, articles of interest, and resource materials are sent each month to the participant via email attachments. Participants are responsible to print out the documents and bring them along to the formation weekend.

All applicants are urged to recognize the importance of making this formation program a priority should they be accepted. They are also encouraged to discuss this aspect of the program with their spouse, in order to seek their understanding and support of the requirements. Any team member will be happy to discuss this or any other issue for clarification. See the brochure for team names and numbers.

It is expected that the applicant is engaged in monthly spiritual direction with a formed spiritual director.