

Christifideles

Ongoing formation
for lay ministers



Transform the way you serve with a Pastoral Juvenil Certificate

Christifideles Certificate in Pastoral Juvenil

This 12-month Certificate in Pastoral Juvenil, offered in Spanish, is designed for participants to acquire and develop practical skills to conduct effective youth and young adult ministry in a Hispanic/Latino context within the Archdiocese of Seattle. Building on key learning from the rich experience of Pastoral Juvenil Hispana in the U.S., this 100-hour curriculum integrates human, spiritual, intellectual and pastoral formation, as well as a practicum to prepare participants for this ministry.

This certificate is for:

Current parish staff, volunteer ministers and those who feel called to volunteer their time and talents for youth and young adult ministry in their surrounding communities. Since this certificate is part of the Christifideles program, students will also participate in a retreat, formation days, and other activities.

Application timeline:

Opens: August 15, 2026

Application deadline: November 1, 2026

Decisions announced: December 7, 2026

Program begins: January 9, 2027

Schedule and fees:

All classes are in Spanish, in-person, and are held Saturdays from 9–5pm at the Chancery (Isaac Orr Conference Room, 910 Marion Street, Seattle).

- January 9, 2027
- February 13, 2027
- March 6, 2027
- April 3, 2027
- May 1, 2027
- June 5, 2027
- July 10, 2027
- August 14, 2027
- September 18, 2027
- November 6, 2027

Christifideles program opportunities (in English):

- March 13, 2027: Intercultural Training Day
- April 21, 2027: Co-Workers in the Vineyard Convocation
- October 9, 2027: Fall Formation Day
- January 29, 2028: Graduation Mass with Archbishop Paul D. Etienne

Total program fees: \$500

- 1st tuition payment (\$250):
January 6, 2027
- 2nd tuition payment (\$250):
March 15, 2027



Archdiocese
of Seattle

Course Descriptions

AREA I: Pastoral Formation

Focused on the foundations of youth and young adult ministry in the United States, this area integrates key pastoral documents, missionary discipleship and a culture of encounter. Through reflection on lived realities, intercultural awareness and synodal practice, participants develop skills for pastoral planning and compassionate care, preparing them to serve young people ethically, responsibly, inclusively and with a renewed missionary spirit.

AREA II: Human Formation

Centered on the personal and relational growth of the minister, this area strengthens the ability to accompany young people through authentic, Christ-centered relationships. Participants build practical skills in listening and communication, while exploring the different stages of human development and identity formation. Emphasis is also placed on servant leadership, teamwork, conflict resolution and administrative competencies for effective and professional ministry.

AREA III: Intellectual Formation

Through a deeper exploration of the Church's teachings, participants are invited to strengthen the theological foundations of their ministry. This area introduces Christology, Mariology, Ecclesiology and the sacramental life of the Church, while also engaging the Theology of the Body. It equips ministers to confidently articulate the faith, integrate doctrine into pastoral practice and guide young people toward a profound relationship with Christ and the Church.

AREA IV: Spiritual Formation

Rooted in a personal encounter with Christ, this area fosters the spiritual life of the minister as the heart of all pastoral service. Participants deepen their prayer life, learn methods of discernment and engage Sacred Scripture as a source of personal and pastoral renewal. Grounded in the Church's social teaching and sacramental life, they are also equipped to design meaningful retreats and create spaces where young people can encounter God and grow in faith.

For questions, please contact **Diana Casallas-Lopez**.

Diana.CasallasLopez@seattlearch.org.

Apply by November 1, 2026, [here](#)



Archdiocese
of Seattle