



ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK
ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Dear Pastor,

As you know, this October will commence the fourth year of our FORMED parish subscriptions. In the effort to continue stewardship of the funds from our very generous benefactor and from the Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal the Adult Faith Formation office performed research and outreach on how to best continue our partnership with the Augustine Institute and their FORMED platform.

We consulted seven other dioceses that have a partnership with FORMED to learn of their implementation and promotion strategy. As you could predict the dioceses that had success using FORMED in the parishes included involvement with pastors and ministry leaders at the parish level. We also learned that we are the only diocese that has offered a full subsidy for parishes after the first year of partnership. As no doubt you are aware, His Eminence Cardinal Dolan is very dedicated to providing our parishes the tools they need to serve our people. This year's renewal is not excluded from this sentiment. Yet we are mindful of the stewardship needed for such a valuable tool that relates to all ministries such as FORMED.

This year's renewal process will include an online application similar to last year, with the option to renew in two ways. A parish may obtain 100 or more users and apply for a renewal or a parish may apply for an 80% grant of the current parish subscription price of \$2000. In the second case the parish would pay 20% of the cost, which would be a \$400 payment and the Archdiocese would cover the remainder of the cost of the subscription.

As you consider this purchase, I would like to inform you of the new improvements to the platform:

- Increased reliability with estimated uptime rate at 99.9%
- Passwords will no longer be required, allowing new users to access content immediately
- After registration, a user will not need to sign in again to access FORMED
- FORMED will be available on Android and Apple TV, Roku, Amazon Fire, and Xbox in addition to the previously released phone applications on Android and Apple devices
- All FORMED content will be downloadable to a smartphone or tablet allowing for offline playback**
- Users will be able to create a favorites list
- An improved search feature

We are optimistic that these improvements will immensely enhance the ministry use of this great tool. Yet the biggest factor to the use of a tool like FORMED is the leader who promotes and shares the resource at the parish. Our office is here to assist in any way we can. We created an online webinar that we can share with your parish leaders to help them get started with FORMED. If you have any questions about the renewal process or would like the webinar link, please contact me at 646-794-2579.

To start your application process, go to: <https://nycatholicfaith.org/formed>

God's peace and blessings,

Elizabeth Guevara de Gonzalez
Interim Director of Adult Faith Formation

T: 212.371.1000
www.archny.org
adultfaithformation@archny.org

1011 First Avenue, 13th Floor, New York, NY 10022