



Diocese of Scranton

# Academic Degree/National Certificate

The Diocese of Scranton is blessed to have four Catholic institutions of higher education, whose current programs can serve parish leaders who are seeking specific college credits or full academic degree paths. Members of the teaching faculty and administrators from King's College, Misericordia University, Marywood University and University of Scranton are in dialogue with the Office for Parish Life in order to provide each of their unique contributions to the Diocesan Certificate in Lay Ministry.

The [Masters Degree in Theology](#) is available through the University of Scranton, and the [Master of Religious Education](#) or [Master of Pastoral Studies](#) is now available in the Diocese of Scranton through partnership with Loyola Institute for Ministry of Loyola University, New Orleans. Students interested in either of these programs will enroll directly through each University, but begins the process by contacting the Office for Parish Life in order to participate in a community of learners with a trained facilitator for guided reflection.



*The [Loyola University New Orleans Institute for Ministry](#) and its distance learning extension program, [LIMEX](#), together received in 2014 the highest award from the [National Conference for Catechetical Leadership](#). The Catechetical Award recognizes the Loyola Institute for Ministry's outstanding contribution to religious education and the success its graduates have had in becoming leaders in the Church's catechetical ministry locally and around the globe. "What an honor for Loyola and the Loyola Institute for Ministry to receive this national recognition. It's an affirmation of the contribution that the Loyola Institute for Ministry and its graduates have made to the Church and its catechetical ministry nationally," said Tom Ryan, Ph.D., director of the Loyola Institute for Ministry.*