



OFFICE FOR PARISH LIFE

**DIOCESE OF SCRANTON**  
330 WYOMING AVENUE  
SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA 18503  
(570) 207-2213

## **2026-2027 Parish Based Faith Formation Grant** *Criteria and Guidelines*

**Application Deadline:** May 15, 2026

**Grant amount:** \$250-\$5,000

**Funds used for:** Family Faith Formation Initiatives, Adult Faith Formation Initiatives, Young Adult Initiatives Youth Ministry Initiatives, Child Faith Formation Initiatives, Evangelization Initiatives

**The Parish Faith Formation Grant is in service of the Mission of the Diocese of Scranton.**

*We, the Catholic community of the Diocese of Scranton, are called through Baptism to imitate the servant leadership of Jesus Christ. In union with our Holy Father, the Pope, we proclaim the Gospel faithfully, celebrate the sacraments joyfully, and boldly promote life, justice and peace in northeastern and northcentral Pennsylvania.*

To be considered for the grant, a parish must submit an initiative that demonstrates an effort to equip missionary disciples:

- To live our faith fully
- To share our faith freely with others
- To transform the world in Christ
- To call forth the baptized to assume positions of servant leadership; and,
- To foster the spirit of co-responsibility – supporting each parish in its unique journey to becoming a fully participative community of living faith.

### **Funding Priorities**

Priority of funds through the Parish Faith Formation Grant encourage:

- Faith formation initiatives that reach a wide audience
- Faith formation initiatives that are in collaboration with neighboring parishes
- New or creative faith formation initiatives
- Projects or events that align with the mission of the Diocese
- Sustainable initiatives that can continue when funding ends

### **Eligibility**

To be eligible for the Diocese of Scranton Parish Faith Formation Grant, your parish must be one of the 106 parishes within the Diocese of Scranton, with a focus on at least one of the following:

- Promoting life-long discipleship formation and activities
- Inviting and welcoming home Catholics and non-Catholics into the parish
- Providing spiritual support to families, singles, youth and young adults
- Using updated technology and media to grow faith formation events



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### **Ineligibility**

Applications will be deemed ineligible and therefore not awarded a grant:

- Initiatives that are outside the scope of the grant's priorities
- Existing staff salaries
- Capital campaigns or projects
- Already completed projects
- Initiatives that cannot prove to be self-sustaining
- Emergency funds

### **Funding Opportunities**

Parishes are encouraged to focus on initiatives that foster a sense of belonging and community, based on the current model of "Belong – Believe – Behave". Initiatives for families, adults, youth and children may be considered. Additionally, parishes are encouraged to look at ways in which to deepen the faith of active adult parishioners and equip them to reach out to inactive Catholics.

### **How to Apply**

Please review the objectives and funding priorities and prayerfully consider if your initiative aligns with these objectives. If so, you may fill out this electronic application and submit it to Marianne Guarnieri, Diocesan Director of Discipleship, at [mguarnieri@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:mguarnieri@dioceseofscranton.org), before the deadline of May 8, 2026.

### **Awarding**

The applications for the Parish Faith Formation Grant will be reviewed by a committee during the month of May 2026. Recipients of the Parish Faith Formation Grant will be notified in June 2026 and will be awarded the funds in July 2026.

**\*Please note:** *If your parish is awarded the Parish Faith Formation Grant you will be required to submit a mid-year and end of year report, detailing how the grant was used to promote life-long formation within your parish.*

*The Office for Parish Life is an integrated resource team that provides remote and on-site support. If you would like to discuss examples of initiatives that would be eligible for the Faith Formation Grant you can call or email:*

*Marianne Guarnieri  
Director of Discipleship  
570-207-2238 ext. 1100  
[mguarnieri@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:mguarnieri@dioceseofscranton.org)*



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Apply for the Parish Faith Formation Grant by filling out this electronic form:

**Parish Information**

<i>Parish Name, Pastoral Region</i>		<i>Pastor</i>
<i>Parish Address</i>		
<i>Phone</i>	<i>Email</i>	

**Contact Person Information**

<i>First Name</i>	<i>Last Name</i>	<i>Position</i>
<i>Email Address</i>		<i>Phone Number</i>

**Parish Initiative**

**Initiative Title:**

*Please select all that apply*

- Initiative Objective(s):**
- |                                                                                                  |                                                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Promoting life-long discipleship formation and activities               | <input type="checkbox"/> Providing spiritual support to families, singles, youth and young adults |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inviting and welcoming home Catholics and non-Catholics into the parish | <input type="checkbox"/> Using updated technology and media to grow faith formation events        |

**Requested Amount:** *(Please keep request within the grant amount \$250-5000)*

**Please identify the individuals involved in executing this initiative.**

**Initiative Summary:** Please describe the faith formation initiative for which your parish is applying, and explain how it will serve your parish community. May be sent as an attachment.



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**Observable Outcomes:** Please explain how you plan to observe the success of this initiative

**Projected Budget:** Please provide an estimated budget for entire initiative or send budget as an attachment.

**All grant applications must be signed by the pastor.**

*I understand that award checks will be payable to parishes only and designated for the use of the Parish Faith Formation Initiative identified on this application.*

**Pastor Signature**

Signature:

Date:

**Submit by email to:**

[mguarnieri@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:mguarnieri@dioceseofscranton.org)

**Submit by mail:**

Office for Parish Life

Attn: Marianne Guarnieri

330 Wyoming Ave

Scranton, PA 18503

**\*\*\*Attach any supporting information to your application.**



