

INFORMED

THE FORMED NEWSLETTER FOR PARISH LEADERS | ISSUE 1

YOUR PARISH HAS FORMED! NOW WHAT?

Inspire your parishioners to engage with their faith in the home and community.



4 THINGS YOU CAN DO TO GET YOUR PARISHIONERS LEARNING THEIR FAITH ON FORMED

1 Homily Mentions

It may not always seem like it, but those blank faces out in the pews are listening (at least most of the time), and hearing a recommendation on FORMED straight from Father will make your parishioners more likely to pursue learning about their faith when they go home!

2 Share Your Community's Custom Registration URL

Your parish's Custom Registration URL (for example: stmarys.formed.org) is the best and simplest way to give your parishioners access to the amazing resources you've provided through FORMED! Once you have created your Custom Registration URL on your FORMED Dashboard, share it from the pulpit, text, email, or add it to your parish website.

3 Promote a Parish-wide Study of *Presence*

Make the Mass more meaningful for your whole parish by promoting a parish-wide study of *Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist*, explores the truth and beauty of Christ's Real Presence in the Eucharist, from its origins in Sacred Scripture to its profound role in the life of the Church and its members.

4 Tug at Their Heart Strings

To love God is to know Him and His Church. Share a portion of your testimony that emphasizes the importance of learning the truth of our faith in growing closer to Jesus, or invite a parishioner to do the same. Encourage your audience to continue their own conversions by encountering Christ on FORMED.

NEW ON FORMED

ENGAGE YOUR PARISHIONERS THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

in faith-centered conversations with FORMED Community!

FORMED's new Community feature allows Administrators and Leaders to create small-group discussion boards right on FORMED. Carry the conversation outside the parish walls by inviting your parishioners to engage with faith resources and share their experiences with others in FORMED Community groups!

COMING SOON!

NEW STUDY IN TIME FOR CORPUS CHRISTI

Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist



Make the Mass more meaningful for your parish family. Through artful storytelling and beautiful theology, Augustine Institute Studios' acclaimed production, *Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist*, will awaken a love for Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament. Run a parish-wide study or recommend the three-part series for your parishioners to enjoy in their homes. This study is available in both English and Spanish!



TOP 10 MOVIES ON FORMED

to recommend for family movie night

- ▶ *Mother Teresa*
- ▶ *Pope John Paul II**
- ▶ *Life for Life**
- ▶ *Mary of Nazareth*
- ▶ *The 13th Day**
- ▶ *Padre Pio: Miracle Man*
- ▶ *Miracle of Saint Therese*
- ▶ *Brother Francis: The Bread of Life**
- ▶ *The Day the Sun Danced**
- ▶ *Maria Goretti*

**Available in both English and Spanish*

FORMED FOR YOU

You deserve spiritual formation just as much as your parishioners!

Watch *Lectio: Eucharist* with Dr. Brant Pitre

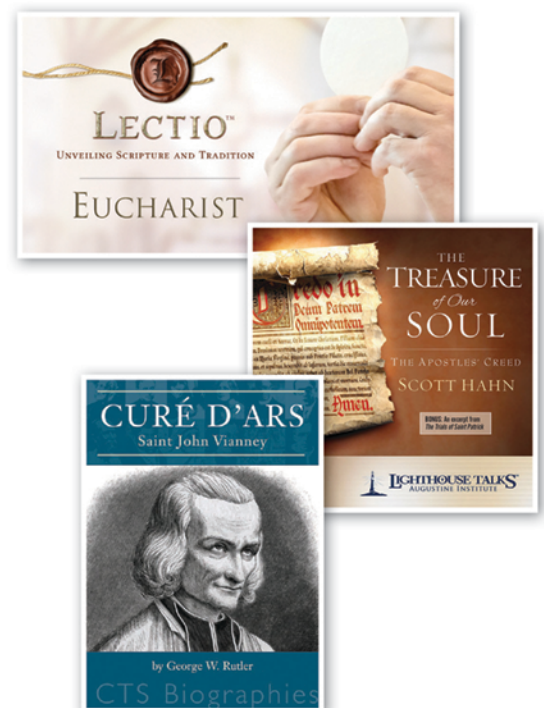
Set aside a night this week to embark on Dr. Brant Pitre's dynamic, ten-part study of the Eucharist in Scripture. Put your feet up, pour a glass of your favorite wine, and renew your relationship with Jesus in the Eucharist.

Read *The Cure d'Ars Today* by Fr. George Rutler

Recall the heart of what it is to be a priest through the life of fellow clergyman, St. John Vianney.

Listen to *The Treasure of Our Soul* by Dr. Scott Hahn

Dr. Hahn's explanation of the Apostle's Creed as an inexhaustible source of unity for the Church is the perfect soundtrack for your drive to your third parish of the day.



PARISH SPOTLIGHT

Our Lady of Lourdes in Denver, CO

Father Brian Larkin of Denver, CO shares the simple steps he took to inspire his parishioners to bring faith formation into their homes!

Our parish of 950 parishioners got a subscription to FORMED in July 2016.

We did a promotional push and had some good initial growth but plateaued at 250 users. I asked a volunteer to start creating custom content banners displayed on our FORMED Community page based upon the Mass readings and my homily each week. In just four months, we have added another 150 users.

I've seen that it is not enough to simply promote FORMED as a library of great Catholic content. Rather, I need to be recommending specific content that is relevant to my parish family on a weekly basis and help them understand that we have the responsibility as Catholics to know our faith and share it. For the most part, I recommend a study each week, an audio, something for our teens, and something for our kids both on Sundays from the pulpit and through custom content on FORMED.

I am confident that if we are studying the faith each week—individually, as families, in small groups, etc.—we will fall more deeply in love with it and more motivated to share it with others. And, what I am convinced of is this: if we are not helping families pray, study, and share faith in the home, there is little that can be done with parish programs to keep those children Catholic when they become adults. So, FORMED is helping me push faith formation where it is most effectively received and nurtured—the domestic church. I am looking forward to utilizing FORMED Community Groups to further strengthen our identity as Catholics who know, love, and share our faith.



Fr. Brian Larkin
Pastor, Our Lady
of Lourdes Parish

“FORMED is helping me push faith formation where it is most effectively received and nurtured - the domestic church.”

PROPS TO OUR PARISHES!

*Congratulations to our top 10 FORMED parishes!**

1. **Prince of Peace Church**, Houston, TX
2. **St. Faustina Catholic Church**, Fulshear, TX
3. **Ss. Peter and Paul**, Naperville, IL
4. **St. Benedict**, Halifax, Nova Scotia
5. **Prince of Peace**, Flowery Branch, GA
6. **St. Mary Catholic Church**, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
7. **St. Louis the King**, Clarksville, MD
8. **St. Laurence Church**, Sugar Land, TX
9. **Immaculate Heart of Mary**, Northglenn, CO
10. **Church of St. Ignatius**, Singapore

Special Mention: Archdiocesan Pastoral Institute, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia for high levels of faith-formation engagement on FORMED across their 70+ parishes

**Based on number of highly engaged FORMED users*

6160 S. Syracuse Way
Greenwood Village, CO 80111
AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE



Over 3600 parish subscriptions

5 Sacramental Preparation and Enrichment Programs

Reflections on the Sunday Readings with Opening the Word for every week of the liturgical year

Over 275 movies

Present in 14 countries

“FORMED IS GROWING LIKE WILDFIRE!”

– Cardinal Timothy Dolan

7 Studies in Spanish

Over 150 ebooks

Approximately 100 studies

Over 550,000 people registered

18 Augustine Institute Original Productions

Over 300 audios

5 Lectio Bible Studies

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AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE



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Orig. \$132.96
Now \$89.95

Reach your parishioners with the gift of FORMED—even when you're not around—with this life-sized retractable banner for your parish hall!

Available at lighthousecatholicmedia.org

Want to learn more about what you've read here?

Visit <https://leaders.formed.org> or get in touch with the FORMED Implementation Team by emailing parishcare@formed.org.