

Good morning, Priests and Deacons of the Diocese.

There is still time to register for the May trainings for the grades 6-10 process. The training begins for religious education leaders and clergy with dinner at 6:00 on Friday, May 19 followed by some small group sharing and reflection, ending the evening with Adoration. The training continues Saturday and ends late in the afternoon. All meals are provided and anyone in need of overnight accommodations is welcome to stay with us *at no cost to you* at the training venue – the University of Pittsburgh, Bradford campus.

Every parish should have leaders and facilitators at a training, whether you are doing Edge, Purpose, Small Groups, or are in the Small Parish designation. If your students are headed to another parish to join them in one of the programs, it will still benefit you to learn about the program and hopefully you will have volunteers helping at your sister parish running the program.

Each training is different and helpful in your grade level. Catechists, core team, and facilitators should be there – and pastors are encouraged and welcome to “come and see.” It is only one day per year and is vital to providing the programs in the manner they are intended. We are bringing in the Lifeteen people and a small groups expert to conduct these trainings to help you to make these program work in your parishes. I cannot emphasize enough how important these trainings are for your teams, and for you. Even those that have run programs before are returning to gather more information, learn better techniques and make connections with others doing the same program. Check in with leaders or pastors you know for their feedback on the programs and training. Judy Wolbert of St. Joseph, Lucinda had this to say: *I have been to the earlier trainings and they are very beneficial. They give you practical ideas that have helped us in setting up our Edge and Purpose program. Plus, the presenters are fun to listen to.*

Training is free for clergy, and everyone from your parish that is working with your students in grades 6-12. Here is the link to register:

<https://forms.office.com/r/YnsHLqDZHT>

Please call or email me if you have any questions. Have a great week and blessings to you.

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