

## TO ALL THE FAITHFUL OF THE DIOCESE OF FARGO

Upon my coming to the Diocese of Fargo, I was pleased to learn that the Education for Parish Service (EPS) program was up and running and attracting students from all over the diocese. All of us are called to grow in our faith every day. We are called to grow because we are all called to be holy. The documents of Vatican II tell us,



***It is therefore quite clear that all Christians in any state or walk of life are called to the fullness of Christian life and to the perfection of love, and by this holiness a more human manner of life is fostered also in earthly society. (Lumen Gentium, 40)***

The call to holiness is for everyone: the clergy, the religious, and the laity. We are called to be holy in all the circumstances of our daily lives: in our marriages, in our families, in our place of work, and society in general. As we individually take on the challenge of living our faith day to day, we need to develop a mature understanding of what the faith is and how it applies to everyday circumstances. In order to have this mature understanding, we need to make an attempt to learn.

The EPS program is designed to help people learn about their faith in their spare time. The program covers all the essentials of Catholic doctrine in a thorough and orthodox manner. We have a great teaching staff in the talented priests and laity who give instruction in all the classes. I heartily recommend this program and encourage every person to participate in the EPS program.

Most Rev. Samuel J. Aquila, Bishop of Fargo

"I want a laity...who know their religion and who enter into it, who know just where they stand, who know what they hold, and what they do not, who know their creed so well that they can give an account of it, who know so much of history that they can defend it. I want an intelligent well-instructed laity. I wish you to enlarge your knowledge, to cultivate your reason, to get an insight into the relation of truth, to learn to view things as they are, to understand how faith and reason stand to each other, what are the bases and principles of Catholicism."

John Henry  
Cardinal Newman

Mail information  
request to:

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RUGBY VALLEY CITY FARGO GRAND FORKS



EDUCATION FOR  
PARISH SERVICE



A 2 year adult formation program offering lay Catholics excellent courses in scripture and theology, together with practical instruction for communicating the faith, building community, and serving others at home, in the parish, on the job, and in the civic community.



**DIOCESE OF FARGO**  
Catholic Education & Formation  
EPS Program

**What is the purpose of the EPS Program?**

To enable lay women and men to contribute more effectively to the work of evangelization by providing opportunities for spiritual development and high level instruction in Theology, Scripture, Methodology, Church History, and Evangelization. With that background, graduates will be better prepared to teach the faith, perform ministries within their parish, and serve the community.

**When and where are the classes held?**

Four courses are taught in **Rugby and Valley City** from September through May each year. There will be 10 monthly classes with 12 hours of instruction per weekend. Five weekends in the fall and five weekends in the spring each constitute a semester. Classes begin Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. and conclude at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday.

**In Fargo and Grand Forks**, two courses are taught September through March each year. There are 12 weekly classes per semester. Each class is 2 1/2 hours long. They are held at the University of Mary campus in Fargo, and at the Holy Family Parish in Grand Forks.

**What subjects are offered?**

Eight courses in Scripture and theology, each utilizing 30 hours of class time:

- Philosophy
- Dogmatic Theology
- Church History
- Moral and Sacramental Theology
- Old Testament
- New Testament
- Vatican II

**Personal Spiritual Development**

There are opportunities for mass and prayer at the weekend program and prayer at the weekly class as well.

**Must one have a degree to be eligible?**

No, but the candidates should be able to profit by high-level instruction and have a high school education.

**What type of certificate will be given for these courses?**

An EPS certificate will be given after completing all the courses, meeting attendance requirements, and by giving best effort.

**What will be the caliber of the faculty?**

Excellent - the best available drawn from the priests of our Diocese and other qualified instructors.

**Are college credits available for EPS classes?**

Yes, for those needing or wanting undergraduate or graduate college credits, they are available through a working arrangement with University of Mary, Bismarck.

**What does the EPS program cost?**

The cost of each course at Rugby and Valley City is \$250. The cost of each course in Fargo or Grand Forks is \$150. Scholarships and payment plans are available upon a demonstration of need. No one should hesitate to enroll in the EPS program because of financial difficulty.

**Are parishes charged for attending parishoners?**

No, but some parishes contribute to the expenses of the program voluntarily, according to their means.

**When can a person begin the classes?**

One can begin the classes at the beginning of any fall or spring semester. (The classes do not have to be taken in sequence.)



**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

I am interested in receiving more information about the program at:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Rugby, St. Therese Little Flower
- \_\_\_\_\_ Valley City, Maryvale Convent
- \_\_\_\_\_ Fargo, University of Mary
- \_\_\_\_\_ Grand Forks, Holy Family Parish

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

FULL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

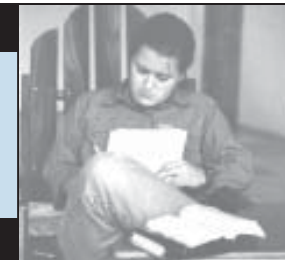
HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

WORK PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

PARISH \_\_\_\_\_

We look forward to hearing from you!



*Study Inspire Lead*

**WEEKEND PROGRAM**

Friday 7 - 10 pm  
 Saturday 7:15 am -- Mass  
 8:30 am - 6:30 pm

**WEEKLY PROGRAMS**

Tuesday Evenings 7:00-9:30 p.m. in Fargo  
 Monday Evenings 7:00-9:30 p.m. in Grand Forks