This project promises to serve as leaven in the Church’s vital mission of diocesan priestly formation. Indeed, I envision a multiplier effect transpiring that will positively impact and strengthen diocesan seminary formation. Participants will receive a high quality of on-going formation particular to the needs that seminary formators face in their apostolic labors.

Cardinal Edwin O’Brien

Mission Statement
The Seminary Formation Council serves diocesan seminary formation by providing education, practical tools, spiritual enrichment and fraternal support to seminary formators. Under the patronage of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Star of the New Evangelization, we serve the bishops who have the “responsibility for the formation of those who have been given the task of educating future priests” (PDV 56) in order to equip missionary disciples to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all nations.

Certificate in Seminary Formation for Missionary Discipleship

Who: This certificate is designed to fulfill a need to offer a comprehensive training program for those serving in diocesan seminary formation: formation advisors, teaching faculty, administrative faculty, spiritual directors and vocation directors.

What: The design and content reflect major themes in the upcoming Ratio Fundamentalis as presented by Archbishop Jorge Patrón Wong at recent gatherings of the N.C.D.V.D. and N.A.C.S. The new Ratio from Pope Francis and the Congregation for the Clergy will provide guidelines for the future of seminary formation.

Where: St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary, Boynton Beach, Florida.

Annual Tuition for Certificate .......................... $2,675.00
Cost per Module .............................................. $800.00
Includes room and board; all books and materials. Admission is granted with a priority to those desiring to make the two-year commitment for the Certificate. Participation in individual modules is encouraged as room allocation permits.

For more information and to register, please contact
Sr. Mary Roberta Connors, F.S.E.
Director of Ongoing Formation
mconnors@svdp.edu 561-732-4424, ext. 173

Certification in Seminary Formation for Missionary Discipleship

"It is necessary that those chosen for accompaniment in the Seminaries, that they first, are actively engaged in the permanent formation of the clergy. That is, educators must be the first receivers of a journey of self-formation that helps them grow in priestly spirit and offers them human and spiritual tools for the task to be carried out."

Letter to Bishops and Religious Superiors, dated April 13, 2016
signed by Cardinal Renato Raffaele Martino, Prefect of the Congregation for the Clergy, and Cardinal João José de Arns, Prefect of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life

"I am glad to encourage the important work of the Seminary Formation Council to help strengthen seminary formators through their formation program."
Archbishop Jorge Patrón Wong, Congregation for the Clergy, Rome

"I have witnessed first hand the importance of the role of seminary formators in the raising of new priests for our Church. The Seminary Formation Council will not only provide resources for the education and spiritual support of seminary formators, but it is sure to have a positive impact on the formator participants and the whole seminary community. This new initiative will bring something valuable to the entire Church.”
Mrs. Rosemary Sullivan
Executive Director
National Conference of Diocesan Vocation Directors

"This new initiative to assist in the formation of seminary personnel is most welcome. I am excited about giving the formators in our seminaries the tools that are needed to excel in a ministry that is of such importance for the life and future of our Church."
Archbishop Bernard Hebda
Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, MN

"I am encouraged greatly by the collaborative process of consultation that the Seminary Formation Council employed in designing this new program for continuing formation for seminary personnel."
Bishop Michael Burbidge
Diocese of Raleigh, NC
Chair of the Committee for Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations (C.C.L.V.) at the U.S.C.C.B.
### Module 1
**Retreat #1:** Embracing the Call to Seminary Formation: Responding to the Holy Spirit  
**Presenters:** Deacon Jim Keating, Ph.D.  
Director of Theological Formation, Institute for Priestly Formation  
Msgr. David Toups, S.T.D.  
Vicar for Religious, Archdiocese of St. Louis, MO  
Mr. Paul Ruff, M.A.  
St. Vincent De Paul Seminary, MN  
Dr. Christina Lynch, Psy.D.  
St. John Vianney Seminary, CO  
Main Points:  
- The Holy Spirit as primary formator  
- Cultural influences and formation goals  
- Cultivating spiritual fatherhood  
**Dates:** June 18 – 24, 2017  
(Sun. night to Sat. morning)

### Module 2
**The Art of Accompaniment in Formation**  
**Presenters:**  
Fr. Nicholas Cachia, S.T.D.  
Director, Office of Catholic Renewal, Archdiocese of Miami, FL  
Dr. Carol Razza, Ed.D.  
Faculty, St. Vincent De Paul Seminary, FL  
Fr. Brian Welter, M.Div.  
Vice-Rector, Mundelein Seminary, IL  
Main Points:  
- The Holy Spirit as primary formator  
- Cultural influences and formation goals  
- Cultivating spiritual fatherhood  
**Dates:** June 25 – 30, 2017  
(Sun. night to Fri. afternoon)

### Module 3
**Christian Psychology and Integration**  
**Presenters:**  
Dr. Christina Lynch, Psy.D.  
St. John Vianney Seminary, CO  
Mr. Paul Ruff, M.A.  
St. Paul Seminary, MN  
Main Points:  
- Understanding the millennial generation  
- The role of psychology in formation  
- Psychological issues and remedies (e.g., family of origin, psycho-sexual, affective maturity)  
**Dates:** November 1 – 5, 2017  
(Wed. afternoon to Sun. afternoon)

### Module 4
**The Seminary as a School of Virtue (PPF, 260)**  
**Presenters:**  
Bishop Michael Byrnes, S.T.D.  
Auxiliary Bishop, Archbishop of Detroit, MI  
Msgr. Daniel Trapp, S.T.D.  
Director of Vocations, Sacred Heart Seminary, WI  
Msgr. Todd Lajiness, S.T.D.  
Rector, Sacred Heart Seminary, MI  
Main Points:  
- Mentoring: building formative environments  
- The role of internal and external fora  
- Fostering fraternal communion  
**Dates:** June 25 – 30, 2017  
(Sun. night to Fri. afternoon)

### Module 5
**The Church as Field Hospital: Receiving and Administering Mercy**  
**Presenters:**  
Bishop Robert Gruss, D.D.  
Bishop of Rapid City, SD  
Msgr. Robert Garza, S.T.L.  
Vicar for Religious, Archdiocese of St. Louis, MO  
Msgr. David Toups, S.T.D.  
Vicar for Religious, Archdiocese of Miami, FL  
Msgr. Todd Lajiness, S.T.D.  
Rector, Sacred Heart Seminary, MI  
Main Points:  
- Receiving and Administering Mercy  
- Psychological issues and remedies (e.g., family of origin, psycho-sexual, affective maturity)  
**Dates:** June 24 – 29, 2018  
(Sun. night to Fri. afternoon)

### Module 6
**The Seminary as Culture of Encounter: Forming "Men of Communion" (PPF, 80)**  
**Presenters:**  
Bishop Joseph Hanefeldt, D.D.  
Bishop of Rapid City, SD  
Msgr. Robert Garza, S.T.L.  
Rector, St. John Vianney Seminary, CO  
Msgr. David Toups, S.T.D.  
Rector, St. Vincent De Paul Seminary, FL  
Main Points:  
- Fostering fraternal communion in the seminary and collaboration with the laity  
- Formation meetings and practical tools for writing evaluations  
- Temperance and balanced use of Internet and social media  
**Dates:** June 24 – 29, 2018  
(Sun. night to Fri. afternoon)

### Module 7
**Formation Towards a Life of Discernment: Personal, Ecclesial, Pastoral**  
**Presenters:**  
Fr. Nicholas Cachia, S.T.D.  
Faculty, St. Vincent De Paul Seminary, FL  
Fr. John Kartje, S.T.D.  
Rector, Mundelein Seminary, IL  
Fr. John Horn, S.J., D.Min.  
Faculty, St. Vincent De Paul Seminary, FL  
**Main Points:**  
- The Kerygma – Foundation of All Formation  
- Beholding the face of Christ  
- Pastoral charity and service  
- Evangelization through beauty  
**Dates:** October 31 – November 4, 2018  
(Wed. afternoon through Sun. afternoon)

### Module 8
**Evangelization and Seminary Formation**  
**Presenters:**  
Bishop Peter Baldacchino, D.D.  
Auxiliary Bishop, Archbishop of Miami, FL  
Msgr. Todd Lajiness, S.T.D.  
Rector, Sacred Heart Seminary, MI  
Mr. Paul Ruff, M.A.  
Auxiliary Bishop, Archbishop of Miami, FL  
**Main Points:**  
- The Holy Spirit as primary formator  
- Cultural influences and formation goals  
- Cultivating spiritual fatherhood  
**Dates:** February 27 – March 3, 2019  
(Wed. afternoon through Sun. afternoon)