

Diocese of Des Moines
Office of Chancellor

Visiting Lay Presenter Guidelines

The Diocese seeks to ensure that visiting lay presenters are in good standing with the Church and present Catholic faith and morals in line with church teaching. Prior to promoting events or speakers from outside the Diocese who come here to teach, catechize, or lead retreats, the Diocese seeks the following process:

1. Event organizers will request, secure and provide to the Diocese of Des Moines a letter of recommendation for the potential lay presenter. The letter must be from the presenter's pastor or Bishop.
2. The Bishop must approve the invitation of a visiting lay presenter. Ideally, that request comes from the pastor or institutional leader.
3. Requests to Bishop may be sent via email. For efficiency, carbon copy Angie Hemmingsen and Jason Kurth.
4. Approval – or other response -- will be received either from Bishop directly, or another he delegates
5. In order to respect this review process, it should be done early in the planning process prior to commitments.
6. No diocesan communication (such as the Catholic Mirror or In the Loop) can advertise an event/retreat unless this process has been followed and the presenter has been approved.

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