



The Roman Catholic
Diocese of Phoenix

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Commitment to Christian education and formation for adults is an integral part of our vision to serve faith-filled families and parishes. The Church needs well-trained lay people to join with the clergy in promoting the New Evangelization. As Pope John Paul II says in *Ecclesia in America*, these lay works "should be undertaken only by men and women who have received the necessary training in accordance with clearly defined criteria: a stable presence, a real readiness to serve a determined group of persons, and the duty of accountability to their Pastor" (44).

With this letter, I wish to commend to you the programs of catechetical and leadership formation offered by the Kino Institute. The curriculum, content and material presented in these programs will provide the foundation for a comprehensive overview of our Catholic Faith. I am confident that participation in our offerings will deepen your love for Christ and that it will greatly benefit all areas of your life, including your marriage, family, and parish life.

Since 1972 Kino Institute has served the Diocese of Phoenix as the primary educator of lay leaders and diaconate candidates. I invite you to discern if Christ, through the grace of your baptism, is calling you to a deeper understanding of your faith through leadership formation, catechetical study and prayerful discernment in order to serve His Church and the world.

With gratitude and best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Thomas J. Olmsted
Bishop of Phoenix