

# iTHIRST

## Will you answer the call?



**The Archdiocese of Boston invites you to answer the Church's call to be a beacon of hope to those suffering from addiction. Please consider becoming an I THIRST Spiritual Companion.**



As a Spiritual Companion, you will provide spiritual consolation and recovery resource information to the afflicted and their families, and you will work with your pastor to develop (or supplement) a recovery ministry that fits the needs of your parish.

I THIRST's Spiritual Companionship training is a 48-hour interactive and engaging program that will be offered remotely, so that you may participate from the comfort of your

home. Participants will be academically certified through both I THIRST and Seton Hall University and will receive 4.8 Continuing Education Units.

**All sessions are VIRTUAL and will be scheduled every Monday and Wednesday from 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm (excluding the Wednesday of Thanksgiving Week).**

**Start date: October 14, 2020. End date: December 9, 2020.**

Cost is \$250 per person and includes certification, 4.8 CEU credits, and a printed copy of the I THIRST Spiritual Companionship manual. All participants must submit a letter of endorsement from their pastor that addresses their commitment to completing the training and being a resource to their parish.

To see a brief video message from the I THIRST Initiative's Executive Director and Instructor, Keaton Douglas, go to [www.masscatholicotf.org](http://www.masscatholicotf.org)

**For more information or to register, contact Madeline Ostdick at 617-866-9942, or email [jfm@rcab.org](mailto:jfm@rcab.org).**

### **Why Become Involved in this Ministry, and Why Now?**

- Overdose rates nationally are up 30 – 40% this year
- Funds earmarked for recovery programs have been diverted to COVID-19 related needs
- We as a church have an opportunity and responsibility to help fill in the gaps

*"The Church...is concretely engaged in every part of the world in combating the spread of addictions, devoting her resources to prevention, care, rehabilitation and reinsertion, in order to restore dignity to those who have lost it."*

— Pope Francis

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The I THIRST Initiative Seeks to Empower the Church to Become a Resource for those Suffering from Addictions and Their Families