Year-Round Mentoring on Engaging Roman Catholicism

*With Leonardo De Chirico*

**Leader**

Leonardo De Chirico (PhD, King’s College, London) is pastor of the Church Breccia di Roma and lecturer in historical theology at the Istituto di Formazione Evangelica e Documentazione IFED in Padova. He blogs on Vatican and Roman Catholic issues from an evangelical perspective at Vatican Files. He is also director of the Reformanda Initiative and cohost of the Reformanda Initiative podcast, and is author of several books, including *Evangelical Theological Perspectives on post-Vatican II Roman Catholicism*, *A Christian’s Pocket Guide to the Papacy* and *A Christian’s Pocket Guide to Mary*.

**Overview**

**GOAL:**
To support, equip, and mentor:

- emerging evangelical academics who are seeking to study Roman Catholicism.
- evangelical leaders and laity to better understand Roman Catholicism, including the similarities and differences between evangelicalism and Roman Catholicism.
- evangelical leaders and laity in how to understand, love, and communicate the Gospel to their Roman Catholic family and friends.

**PLAN:**
Leonardo De Chirico will mentor a group of 10-12 leaders.

- Pre-Forum Seminar at the 2021 ELF Online on Thursday, May 13, 2021: 15:00-18:00 CEST
- Five two-hour webinars and webinar assignments
- Three-day retreat near Barcelona in December 2021 (November 30 - December 2)
- Pre-Forum Conference at the 2022 Forum (20-21 May 2022).

**QUALIFICATIONS:**
All participants should be mature Christians involved in ministry (e.g. student ministry, pastoral ministry, media, theological training, relevant research) related to Roman Catholic contexts and/or Roman Catholic issues.

**COMMITMENT:**
In order to be part of the group, you need to commit to:
1. Attending all sessions including the Pre-Forum Seminar on Thursday, May 13, 2021: 
   15:00-18:00 CEST, the five two-hour webinars, the three-day retreat near Barcelona in 
   December 2021 and the Pre-Forum Conference at the 2022 Forum (20-21 May 2022).
2. Accessing all webinars on a computer with a good broadband internet connection.
3. Thoroughly reviewing the pre-assigned materials before and after each webinar.
4. Doing writing and reading assignments in the time frame you are given.

**2021 Online Seminar**: All participants will attend the Online Seminar with Leonardo on 13 May 
2021 (15:00-18:00 CEST).

**2021 Retreat**: All participants will meet with Leonardo De Chirico and Reid Karr (Reformanda 
Initiative Associate Director) near Barcelona for a three-day retreat from 30 November to 2
December 2021 (from noon to noon). Please schedule your travel so that you arrive on time 
and depart after all sessions are over.

*Participant fees for the retreat are 150 Euros, or 100 Euros for scholarship recipients. For the 
retreat, non-scholarship recipients also have the option, which must be chosen in the application 
form, of paying 190 Euros in order to stay in a single room. Participants are also responsible for 
their own travel expenses.*

**2022 Pre-Forum Conference**: All participants will attend a pre-forum conference before the 
2022 ELF in Wisla, Poland, on May 20 and 21, 2022. Participants will still need to apply for the 
European Leadership Forum and will be responsible for paying Forum fees in order to 
participate in the 2022 Forum.

*For the 2022 Pre-Forum Conference the fees are 70 Euros for a Double Room and 90 Euros for a 
Single Room, or 40 Euros for scholarship recipients. Participants must also pay for their own 
travel expenses.*

**Webinars**

**Webinar One: “Hapax and Mallon: The Crux of the Problem with Roman Catholicism”**

27th September 2021 @ 18:00 – 20:00 CET

Pre-reading:

➢ Leonardo De Chirico, “The Blurring of Time Distinctions in Roman Catholicism”; 
   “Roman Catholic Theology After Vatican II”

Pre-assignment:

➢ Write one page explaining why you are NOT a Roman Catholic

You can send your written assignment ONE week before the webinar to: 
leonardo.dechirico@yahoo.it
Webinar Two: “Deciphering Vatican II and Beyond”
25th October 2021 @ 18:00 – 20:00 CET

Pre-reading:

Pre-assignment:
- Write one page explaining what is the attitude of the Roman Catholics you interact with towards evangelicals.

You can send your written assignment ONE week before the webinar to: leonardo.dechirico@yahoo.it

Webinar Three: “Why Do They Cross the Tiber?” (Guest leader: Clay Kannard, Reformanda Initiative Communication Director)
25th January 2022 @ 18:00 – 20:00 CET

Pre-reading:
- Clay Kannard, “Why Do They Cross the Tiber?”
- Leonardo De Chirico, “Why Do People Leave the Catholic Church?”; “Why Are Younger Evangelicals Fascinated with Roman Catholicism?”

Pre-assignment:
- Write two stories of people you know who converted to Roman Catholicism and explain the reasons why they did so. Write two stories of people who converted from RC and explain the reasons why.

You can send your written assignment ONE week before the webinar to: leonardo.dechirico@yahoo.it

Webinar Four: “Mission: Did You Say Mission?” (Guest Leader: Reid Karr, Reformanda Initiative Associate Director)
22th February 2022 @ 18:00 – 20:00 CET

Pre-reading:
- Leonardo De Chirico, “Mission: Did Pope Francis Say Mission?”
Webinar Five: “Cooperating and Working Together With Roman Catholics?”
29th March 2022 @ 18:00 – 20:00 CET

Pre-reading:
➢ Leonardo De Chirico, “Cooperating With the Roman Catholic Church?”

Pre-assignment:
➢ List the current initiatives involving evangelicals and Catholics in your area. What are the critical points?

You can send your written assignment ONE week before the webinar to: leonardo.dechirico@yahoo.it

Pre-Forum Conference on 20-21 May 2022

The Pre-Forum Conference will focus on how to reach Roman Catholic people with the gospel. We will talk about strategies, best practices, tools, and methods for evangelism among Roman Catholics and discipleship among former Roman Catholics.

Pre-reading:
➢ Leonardo De Chirico, “Talking With Catholics About the Gospel”

Pre-assignment:
➢ List your best practices in evangelizing Roman Catholics and in discipling former Roman Catholics.

You can send your written assignment ONE week before the webinar to: leonardo.dechirico@yahoo.it

Application Process

To apply:

1. Fill out an online application here.

1. Once we receive your application form, your application will be considered complete. We will review your completed application and let you know if you are accepted into the program within two weeks.

If you have questions, contact us at initiatives@euroleadership.org