



2025-26 Lumen Christi Award Frequently Asked Questions

What kind of candidate would be a great nominee for the 2025-26 Lumen Christi Award?

The mission of Catholic Extension Society is based in growing and strengthening the Catholic faith by investing in people, ministries, and infrastructure throughout the United States. A great nominee for the Lumen Christi Award is a person or ministry who demonstrates a strong connection with Catholic Extension Society's mission and our [six funding categories](#). A historical connection with Catholic Extension Society is a plus, although not required for a nomination. For examples of previous Lumen Christi Award recipients, [click here](#).

Can a previous finalist be re-nominated for the 2025-26 Lumen Christi Award?

Yes. A prior nomination, or even selection as a finalist in a previous year, does not prevent a person or group from being re-nominated for the 2025-26 Lumen Christi Award. Some previous Lumen Christi Award recipients had been finalists in earlier years, while others have been first-time nominees. Only prior award recipients are no longer eligible. However, if a nominee has not been selected as a finalist after a few consecutive years, we do encourage you to consider the opportunity to recognize a different outstanding person in your diocese as a potential nominee this year instead.

Can a diocese nominate more than one person/ministry for the 2025-26 Lumen Christi Award?

While there certainly may be many outstanding potential candidates in each diocese, we encourage the diocese to work with your bishop to select the single best nomination for the Lumen Christi Award.

Who should fill out the Lumen Christi Award nomination form?

We recommend that Lumen Christi Award nominations be coordinated through each diocese's primary diocesan contact. This person will be familiar with the nomination form and online application system, and already has a login to our online nomination system. He or she also will be able to collect all potential nominations from within the diocese and work with the bishop to select the best candidate for nomination. For a list of primary diocesan contacts, please [click here](#) and scroll to the bottom of the page.

Can a person or group doing ministry in a non-Extension diocese be nominated?

Lumen Christi Award nominations may only be considered from individuals or groups who are performing their work and ministry in one of Catholic Extension's 87 Extension Dioceses. For a full list of current Extension Dioceses, please visit our [website](#).

Who reviews Lumen Christi Award nominations?

Lumen Christi Award nominees are reviewed by a group of Catholic Extension donors and former Lumen Christi Award recipients. Last year, approximately 200 people made up this group. Nominees will also be posted on our website for the public to view.