

## Certificate in Pastoral Ministry Program Overview

The Certificate in Pastoral Ministry Program is a three year program designed to educate and form the laity in ways that will foster and enrich their service in the Roman Catholic Church. The program is based on the four dimensions of formation: intellectual, human, pastoral, and spiritual.

Participants benefit from an extended learning community by studying with the candidates for the Permanent Diaconate(PD) program and their spouses. Gathering once a month on a Saturday(9:00am-7:30pm), from September to May, participants join the PD candidates in a day long intellectual learning session, celebrate liturgy, and build community.

Each year the program consists of the following components:

Nine full-day Saturday Intellectual Formation Sessions

Monthly reflection papers on the day's learning and growth

Parish Placement(Yr. I-Sacraments, Yr. II-Outreach, Yr. III-R.C.I.A)

Two Super Saturday Formation Days(related to Placement Themes above)

Spiritual Direction(arranged on your own)

Year-end Day of Reflection

Year-end student assessment/evaluation

The next Admission cycle will begin in 2025. The Program begins in September, 2025. The yearly tuition is \$2500(subject to change) which includes all books, course materials, and meals. For more information please contact Cathryn Hall, Program Coordinator at chall@dol.ca or 519-433-6689, ext 226.

## **Intellectual Formation Sessions:**

YEAR I-	YEAR II-	YEAR III-
Theological Foundations	Sacred Scripture	Foundations for Ministry
Fundamental Theology	Genesis	Sacraments of Initiation I-
Spirituality & Discernment	Exodus	Baptism & Confirmation
The Mystery of God	Historical Books & Prophets	Sacraments of Initiation II-
The Mystery of Christ	Wisdom & Psalms	Eucharist
The Mystery of the Church	Apocalyptic Literature &	Principles of Liturgy II
Introduction to Scripture	Eschatology	Sacraments of Healing-
Principles of Liturgy I	Matthew & Mark	Reconciliation & the Sick
Social Justice	Luke & Acts	Sacraments of Service-
Principles of Moral Theology	Gospel of John	Marriage & Holy Orders
	Letters of St. Paul	Mission & Ministry
		Introduction to Canon Law
		Church History
		Ecumenism & Interreligious
		Dialogue

Parish Placements (Yr. I-Sacraments, Yr. II-Outreach, Yr. III-R.C.I.A)

As part of the formation experience, students will be required to do parish placements each year. These placements allow the student to experience pastoral formation in the reality of parish life. These placements can take place at their own parish or a neighboring parish. To enhance the experience, it is encouraged that the students engage in ministries they have not already had experience in. Since the focus of the placement is to gain pastoral experience, the student is expected to participate fully in and exercise a leadership position in the various parish placements. Depending on the scope of the placement, this may be a gradual transition or may start from the beginning of the placement. The expectation would be that the student would learn about the particular ministry, experience and gain the tools and learning to be able to lead the particular ministry.

## **Super Saturday Formation Days**

The Super Saturdays are designed to compliment and enhance the parish placement component. Gathering twice a year as a group we discuss the practical aspects of the placements including theological aspects, current parish programs, tools to begin a program, and resources available.