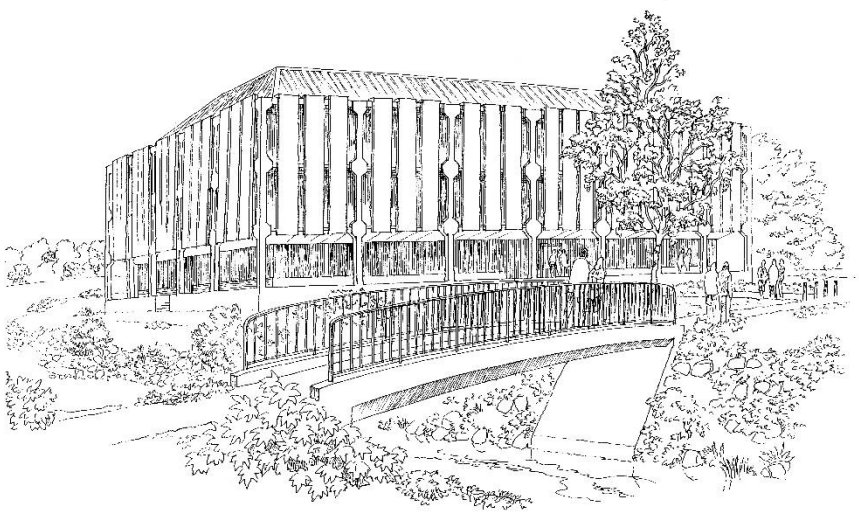
Chapter V

Centre for Mission and Ministries

Programmes

in the

Faculty of Theology



Pope John Paul II Library

The Maynooth Centre for Mission and Ministries

Director: Dr Jessie Rogers

The *Maynooth Centre for Mission and Ministries*, located within the Faculty of Theology of the Pontifical University, exists to advance the participation of the Irish Church in the *Missio Dei* for the 21st Century. It fosters the life and mission of the church by attending to its pastoral practice, liturgical celebration, and reflective heart.

The work of the Centre has a three-fold focus

- practical theology;
- integrated formation, and
- interdisciplinary research.

Its activities are rooted in ongoing scholarship and a creative responsiveness to the 'signs of the times' in an evolving landscape. It seeks to be a valuable resource to parishes, pastoral areas, dioceses, religious communities and institutes, and faith-based agencies and organisations.

Rooted in the Catholic tradition and open to the work of the Spirit of God in the world, the Centre recognizes and seeks to support and develop a wide diversity of callings and giftedness among the people of God. It is committed in the first instance to go out to the margins and engage comprehensively with contemporary culture.

The ethos of the Maynooth Centre for Mission and Ministries is transformative, praxis-orientated, co-responsible, contextual, responsive and inclusive, founded on fundamental respect for the whole of creation.

It seeks to model communities of learning, research and liturgy and to empower partner organisations. The Centre is committed to peace-building, right relationships and dialogue with the other in the church and beyond.

The programmes delivered and associated with the centre foster these attitudes and values and are characterised by attention to service, theological reflection, human lived experience and the complex realities of the contemporary church in the world.

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Certificates in Catholic Religious Education and Theological Studies

Programme Co-ordinator: Rev. Dr John-Paul Sheridan

Introduction

The Certificate and Post-Graduate Certificate in Catholic Religious Education and Theological Studies are offered alongside the Bachelor of Education and Professional Master's in Education (Primary Teaching) awarded by Maynooth University (MU). They are designed to educate teachers in foundational knowledge and equip them with the pedagogical skills necessary for communicating the Catholic faith in primary schools. Offered in collaboration with the Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education (Maynooth University), they aim to form teachers capable of responding to the many spiritual and religious opportunities and challenges facing pupils.

The Educational Writings of Friedrich Froebel (1782-1852) outline his philosophy on early childhood education, importance of play and activity, and child-centred methodologies. His writings have much in common with the philosophy at the heart of Catholic Education. From the point of view of equipping future teachers for Catholic schools, the following points are of particular relevance.

- The concept of the "unison" between nature and the human person is sprung from one and the same Creator. This is called "inner-connection";
- The recognition of truth begins in the real, visible world in the phenomena of nature, in which the laws of God are to be found, learned, and known as unchangeable.
- In all things, there lives and reigns an eternal law. This law is based on an eternal unity. This unity is God. All things have come from God, and have their origin in the Divine Unity, in God alone.

In line with the prerequisites of the Irish Catholic Bishops Conference, the programme presents the foundational disciplines of Catholic theology and models and practices of religious education that can enable teachers to teach in a child-centred, developmentally appropriate manner, while exploring the teacher's own Catholic identity, while respecting the diverse religious experience of contemporary society. Catholic schools in many jurisdictions, including Northern Ireland, the Great Britain and Australia, require an equivalent of this Certificate.

Certificate in Catholic Religious Education and Theological Studies

Subject	Theology / Religious Education	**NFQ Level**	8
Programme Duration	4 Years Part Time	**Credits (ECTS)**	30

The ***Certificate in Catholic Religious Education and Theological*** *Studies* is offered alongside and in collaboration the *Bachelor of Education (Primary)* awarded by the Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education, Maynooth University.

It is designed to educate teachers in foundational knowledge and equip them with the pedagogical skills necessary for communicating the Catholic faith in primary schools. It aims to form teachers capable of responding to the many spiritual and religious opportunities and challenges facing pupils.

In line with the prerequisites of the Irish Catholic Bishops Conference, the programme presents the foundational disciplines of Catholic theology and models and practices of religious education that can enable teachers to teach in a child-centred, developmentally appropriate manner, while exploring the teacher's own Catholic identity, while respecting the diverse religious experience of contemporary society. Catholic schools in many jurisdictions, including Northern Ireland, the Great Britain and Australia, require an equivalent of this Certificate.

Programme Components

Bachelor of Education

Within the Bachelor of Education itself, Religious Education has parity of standing and esteem with other core subjects. Acknowledging the central role of Religious Education for the benefit of the child, and in the Irish Curriculum, they consider the underpinnings, philosophies and approaches to Religious Education from different perspectives, including catechetical, pedagogical, programmatic, inter-religious and inter-denominational, and the contemporary debate on Religious Education.

Certificate in Religious Education

(A) Religious Education: The Certificate wishes to concretely equip future teachers for Catholic schools. Further modules in Religious Education are offered within the Certificate in order to deepen the faith-formative requirements of teacher education. The modules are designed to allow learners internalise the richness of Catholic traditions and theologies of education, deepen their own vocational identity as Catholic teachers, and equip them to become confident and competent religious educators in Catholic schools and communities. They will directly and comprehensively address the skills, experiences, and resources required to deliver an Irish Catholic Religious Education Programme.

(B) Theology: An additional distinctive element of the Certificate is that it draws on the experience, expertise and resources of the Faculty of Theology, St. Patrick's Pontifical University, Maynooth. Design of the theological components took into account the programme learning outcomes, the requirements of the Irish Episcopal Conference, the structure of the Bachelor of Education, the Primary School Religious Education Curriculum and the integrity of the tapestry of theology itself.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must be undertaking a *Bachelor of Education* at the Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education

Programme of Study

On successful completion of the programme, a graduate should be able to:

Knowledge	Demonstrate relevant knowledge of Catholic theology and practice.
	Exhibit an awareness of the theological and pedagogical foundations of Religious Education at primary level
	Recognise important issues in relation to contemporary education in the Catholic school sector.
	Demonstrate an awareness of the religious experience in the church community and wider culture.
Skill	Explore relevant insights of Catholic theology, practice and religious education.
	Develop lesson plans appropriate to the developmental level of children and in line with the proposed curriculum.
	Compose ritual and prayer-service for the classroom and the school community, consistent with the Catholic tradition.
	Employ practices that develop personal and professional development.
Competence	Capable of grasping the unity Catholic theology, practice, and religious education.
	Apply the knowledge and skills necessary to deliver a religious education curriculum.
	Evaluate, promote, and challenge if necessary, pedagogical and school practices, from the perspective of the Catholic tradition.
	Act as a self-motivated and reflective practitioner.

Certificate in Catholic Religious Education and Theological Studies				
Code	**Module**	**Lecturer**	**Hours**	**Year**
RE08101	Christian Belief: Faith, Creed and Trinity	Woods	20	1
RE08102	Sacred Scripture I (New Testament)	Clare	10	2
RE08103	Sacred Scripture II (The Old Testament)	Rogers	10	3
RE08104	Christian Morality I (Foundations)	Somers	10	3
RE08105	Christian Morality II (Living in Right Relationships)	TBA	10	4
RE08106	The Church at Prayer	Sheridan	20	4
RE08107	Introduction to Religious Education and Catechesis	Sheridan	12	1
RE08108	Religious Education Applied (Junior Classes)	Sheridan	10	2
RE08109	Religious Education Applied (Senior Classes)	Sheridan	10	3
RE08110/ EDF 135	Educational Foundations of Religious Education I	Froebel	20	1
RE08111/ EDF 236	Educational Foundations of Religious Education II	Froebel	20	2

Module Descriptors

RE101 - Christian Belief: Faith, Creed and Trinity
To introduce learners to foundational themes in theology and their connections. Themes include: anthropology and Christology, revelation and faith, Scripture and Tradition, and the significance of a Trinitarian understanding of God.

RE102 - Sacred Scripture (I)
Through extended engagement with the Gospel of Luke, this module will permit the student to come to a first-hand knowledge of New Testament and its core texts, motifs and contexts. This first-hand knowledge will, in turn, provide the foundation for an active engagement with key gospel passages which lie at teacher's handing on of the faith.

RE103 - Sacred Scripture (II)
Building upon the foundation of the New Testament module, this module will introduce key characters in and for the journey of faith, with a particular focus on key foundational narratives—the creation of humanity, the call of Abraham, the exodus from Egypt, and the anointing of David.

RE104 - Christian Morality (I)
To introduce learners to dynamic of Christian moral reflection and action. It aims to facilitate learners explore the specific features of Christian morality, identify the primary principles moving moral discourse, and employ a Christian perspective in

deliberation towards action. By relating morality to the mature integration of the person, the course will draw out specific connections to the moral and spiritual development of the child.

RE105 - Christian Morality (II)
The Christian life has often been described as a call to live in right relationships – with self, others and creation. This module will explore this aspect of Christian discipleship with particular reference to issues of justice [interpersonal and societal], human stewardship and Christian witness in society.

RE106 - The Church at Prayer
The aim of this module is to introduce the participants to an understanding of the role, meaning and function of sacramental and liturgical celebrations in Christianity and especially in the Catholic Church. Beginning with the core theological category of the worshipping community as the Church, the module will explore how the Church is made manifest in its liturgical activity.

RE107 - Introduction to Religious Education and Catechesis
This module is in three parts: To introduce the student to the foundation and aims of religious education in the Catholic Church as prescribed in the *General Directory for Catechesis*, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church, Catechesi Tradendae* and other pertinent documents of the Catholic Church, both universal and local. To introduce the student to an understanding of catechesis, as it is found in Church documents and as it is understood in the Catholic Church.

RE108 - Religious Education (Applied) *Junior Classes*
The emphasis of the module is a practical introduction to the programme, with an emphasis on theory application and skills training. This module will prepare the student to teach Religious Education and Catechesis in a Catholic primary school. It will introduce the learners to the *Grow in Love* programme as taught in the first four years of primary school.

RE109 - Religious Education (Applied) *Senior Classes*
The emphasis of the module is a practical introduction to the programme, with an emphasis on theory application and skills training. This module will prepare the student to teach Religious Education and Catechesis in a Catholic primary school. The module will introduce the learners to the *Alive-O* and *Grow in Love* programmes as taught in the 3rd – 6th classes in primary school.

RE110/EDF135 - Educational Foundations of Religious Education I
See *Maynooth University Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education*

RE111/EDF 2326 - Diversity and Dialogue in Religious Education II
See *Maynooth University Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education*

Post-Graduate
Certificate in Catholic Religious Education and Theological Studies

Subject	Theology / Religious Education	**NFQ Level (equivalent)**	8
Programme Duration	2 Years Part Time	**Credits (ECTS)**	10

The ***Post-Graduate Certificate in Catholic Religious Education and Theological Studies*** is offered alongside and in collaboration with the *Professional Master's in Education (Primary)* awarded by the Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education, Maynooth University.

It is designed to inform student teachers of foundational knowledge and furnish them with the pedagogical skills necessary for transmitting the Catholic tradition in primary schools of a Catholic Ethos, and aims to form teachers capable of responding to the many spiritual and religious opportunities and challenges facing pupils.

The programme meets the prerequisites of the Irish Catholic Bishops Conference in offering foundational disciplines of Catholic theology and models and practices of religious education. It is devised to enable teachers to teach in a child-centred, developmentally appropriate manner, while exploring the teacher's own Catholic identity and the diverse contemporary religious experience. Catholic schools in many jurisdictions, including Northern Ireland, Great Britain and Australia, require an equivalent of this Certificate.

Programme Components

Professional Masters of Education
Within the Professional Masters of Education itself, Religious Education has parity of standing and esteem with other core subjects. Acknowledging the central role of Religious Education for the benefit of the child, and in the Irish Curriculum, they consider the underpinnings, philosophies, and approaches to Religious Education from different perspectives, including catechetical, pedagogical, programmatic, inter-religious and inter-denominational, and the contemporary debate on Religious Education.

Certificate in Religious Education
(A) Religious Education: The Certificate wishes to concretely equip future teachers for Catholic schools. Further modules in Religious Education are offered within the Certificate in order to deepen the faith-formative requirements of teacher education. The modules are designed to allow learners internalise the richness of Catholic

traditions and theologies of education, deepen their own vocational identity as Catholic teachers, and equip them to become confident and competent religious educators in Catholic schools and communities. They will directly and comprehensively address the skills, experiences, and resources required to deliver an Irish Catholic Religious Education Programme.

(B) Theology: An additional distinctive element of the Certificate is that it draws on the experience, expertise and resources of the Faculty of Theology, St. Patrick's Pontifical University, Maynooth. Design of the theological components took into account the programme learning outcomes, the requirements of the Irish Episcopal Conference, the structure of the Master's in Education, the Primary School Religious Education Curriculum and the integrity of the tapestry of theology itself.

The grid summarises the course in terms of the module titles, the required assessment, the contact hours, credits awarded for each module and the year within which the learners will be required to undertake the modules.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must be undertaking a *Professional Masters in Education (Primary)* at the Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education

Programme of Study

On successful completion of the programme, a graduate should be able to:

Knowledge	Relate relevant knowledge of Catholic theology and practice
	Recognise the theological and pedagogical foundations of RE at primary level
	Identify significant issues in the Catholic school sector, with regard to education
	Exhibit an awareness of the religious experiences of an ecclesial community and wider culture.
Skill	Explore the insights of Catholic theology and practice.
	Compile lesson plans appropriate to the developmental level of children and in line with the proposed curriculum
	Construct classroom and school community rituals and prayer-service, consistent with the Catholic tradition
	Apply practices required for personal and professional development.
Competence	Capable of synthesising Catholic theology and religious education
	Employ the knowledge and skills necessary to deliver a religious education curriculum
	Consider, and critique if necessary, pedagogical and school practices, from the perspective of the Catholic tradition
	Act as a self-motivated and reflective practitioner.

Post-Graduate Certificate in Catholic Religious Education and Theological Studies				
Code	**Module**	**Lecturer**	Hours	**Year**
RE 08401	Introduction to Religious Education, Catechesis and Liturgy	Sheridan	20	1
RE 08402	Christian Belief	Woods	10	1
RE 08403	Christian Scripture/Morality	Maher	20	2
RE08404/ EDF607	Foundations of Religious Education	Froebel	20	1
RE08405/ EDF626	World Religions, Ecumenism, and Inter-Faith Dialogue	Froebel	20	2

Module Descriptors

RE401 - Introduction to Religious Education, Catechesis and Liturgy
To introduce the learners to the philosophy, aims and objectives of the Catholic school and to the foundation and aims of religious education and catechesis as it is understood in the Catholic Church, based on the Conciliar and post-Conciliar documents. To introduce the learners to the philosophy, aims, methodologies and content of the Irish Catechetical Programmes. To introduce the learners to an understanding of Sacramentality and liturgy, and in particular the place of liturgy and ritual in religious education and catechesis. To acquaint the learners with the sacramental preparation of pupils for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation.

RE402 - Christian Belief
To introduce learners to foundational themes in theology and their connections. Themes include: Anthropology and Christology, Revelation and Faith, Scripture and Tradition, and the significance of a Trinitarian understanding of God.

RE403 - And God saw that it was very good! *Introduction to Sacred Scripture and Christian Ethics*
This module sets out to explore the Christian vision of the human person and how a person (one) might read, interpret, and receive the Word of the Living God, within themselves, within the world and within the Bible. Therefore, it seeks to integrate a contemporary view of the human person and a contemporary narrative critical approach to the interpretation of the Bible. To achieve this, the module will explore, from within the Catholic tradition, the Christian vision of the human person, of human life and of the Bible, as the concrete expression of the Word of God.

RE404/EDF607 - Educational Foundations of Religious Education
See *Maynooth University Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education*

RE405/EDF626 - World Religions, Ecumenism, and Inter-Faith Dialogue
See *Maynooth University Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education*

Diploma in Pastoral Theology

Programme Co-ordinator: Eileen O'Connell OP, MTh, MA

Subject	Theology	**NFQ Level (eqvl)**	7
Programme Duration	1 Year Full Time/ 2 Years Part Time	**Credits (ECTS)**	60

The Diploma in Pastoral Theology (Parish/Community-Based) programme offers initial formation for ministry leadership in the Church. It prepares learners to minister effectively in a peer relationship with other pastoral ministers and for exercising the responsibilities of ministry, especially leadership in public prayer, pastoral care and spiritual accompaniment, and building and strengthening community. This includes acquiring specialised skills to teach in diverse settings, provide effective catechetical and faith formation, and exercise responsible stewardship of parish personnel and resources. This level allows learners to develop a specialised knowledge of theological principles as these relate to ministry practice.
The programme further prepares learners to:

- be reflective in their future ministry practice;
- express an internalised personal worldview, achieving self-awareness as this relates to pastoral ministry;
- interact effectively in a peer-support group setting;
- identify and analyse different ministerial approaches and pastoral responses;
- exercise appropriate ministry practice in a variety of contexts.

This Diploma follows the same academic and placement schedules as the Higher Diploma in Pastoral Theology, and is awarded on the successful completion of one year's full-time or two year's part-time engagement.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this programme, graduates will be able to:
1) minister and offer pastoral care to persons and groups in various life and crisis situations as an experienced and skilled minister within one's strengths, limitations, and competencies
2) work collaboratively with professional colleagues and exercise leadership as servants within church and society
3) reflect critically and theologically on the experience of Christian life and on pastoral care, mission, and ministry
4) explore how to further the mission of God in contemporary society and plan for the development of ministry in specific pastoral contexts
5) recognise and identify the connection between their academic study for, and practice of, ministry and relate biblical texts and ecclesial documents to human experience and to wider cultural, social, and religious contexts

6) engage in self-reflective practice, with capacity for self-understanding, as person and minister; recognise the attitudes, values, assumptions that influence ministry, and understand how ministerial approaches affect others.

Admission Requirements

In order to register for courses leading to the Diploma in Pastoral Theology, learners:

- must have sufficient and appropriate experience in parish-based or other pastoral ministry to be considered for entry. Such learners may be required to take courses in theology to qualify for admission
- learners whose first language is not English will be required to satisfy the English language requirement
- successful individual interview is an essential part of the selection process.

St Patrick's Pontifical University also accepts applications to its programmes from all prospective learners who possess the ability, knowledge and experience through its widening participation schemes. The University operates a Recognised Prior Learning (RPL)and Prior Experiential Learning (RPEL) scheme which recognises relevant prior learning and experience for admission and/or credit purposes. Full details are available on the University website.

Programme of Study*

The structure of the Diploma programme reflects an equal weighting of importance between the academic learning (50%) and pastoral practice (50%).

MODULE CODE	MODULE TITLE	LECTURER	SEM	CREDIT
PT07430	Pastoral Practice	Kelly, E.O'Connell	YL	30 ECTS
PT07431	Prayer Leadership	Connolly, Rogers TBC	YL	7.5 ECTS
PT07432	Caring and Spiritual Accompaniment in Community	Cunnane, TBC	YL	5 ECTS
PT07434	Theology and Pastoral Ministry	Cullen	YL	7.5 ECTS
PT07435	Organisational Leadership in Ministry Contexts	McGrath	YL	5 ECTS
PT07437	Healthcare Chaplaincy: Ministry of Presence and Visitation	Shortall	S1	2.5 ECTS
PT07438	Educational Chaplaincy: Ministry of Catechesis and Faith Formation	Sheridan	S2	2.5 ECTS

**This programme is subject to revision. Learners will be informed of any changes prior to beginning the programme.*

Module Descriptors

PT07430: Pastoral Practice
At the intersection of academic study of theology and placement education through the practice of ministry, this module is rooted in the conviction that the practice of ministry is best learned in and through 'doing ministry' in approved, supervised ministry settings alongside ongoing reflection on the experience so that practical and academic theology are in continual dialogue with one another in the person and ministerial activity of persons in ministry. By incorporating this way of ministering into the learning and practical experience of learners, this module is foundational in developing practitioners who engage in a reflective approach to ministry. It offers theological and professional preparation for ministry and provides a unique opportunity for learners to engage directly with pastoral practice as part of their ministerial formation. It strives to integrate the activities of thinking and acting theologically, while trusting that theology informs pastoral practice and lived practice informs theology. Weekly facilitated Pastoral Theological Reflection within peer groups is a concomitant process with pastoral practice, where learners explore and interrogate their ministry experiences in light of their academic and practice-based learning.

PT07431: Prayer Leadership
This module introduces learners to the spiritual and intellectual contours of Christian prayer and its practice in liturgical and pastoral contexts. As well as providing an overview of the various forms of Christian prayer, it provides formation in prayer leadership and enables learners to acquire the knowledge and skills that are necessary to effectively lead and guide people in prayer. Participants explore the theological foundations of public prayer and liturgy. Through a combination of prayer and reflective practice, study, reading, and leading sessions, learners deepen their awareness of prayer and develop competence in leading shared prayer in its diverse forms.

PT07432: Caring and Spiritual Accompaniment in Community
This module introduces the ethos and methodologies of accompaniment of others in pastoral settings. Learners are introduced to theories of personal development and lifecycle growth and gain insight into their own development and that of others. They learn the interpersonal skills and aptitudes required for effective accompaniment and have opportunities to practice these with other learners. The module familiarises learners with best professional practices while drawing upon the resources of the Christian tradition. It differentiates between different types of accompaniment and the settings and practices appropriate to each and pays particular attention to questions of appropriate boundaries and when and how to refer to a professional.

PT07434: Theology and Pastoral Ministry
This module introduces learners to the nature of pastoral and practical theology and the theological foundations of Christian discipleship and ministry. It explores key features of pastoral practice in varying contexts; draws out the pastoral and ministerial implications of major theological themes and the importance of theological

hermeneutics; introduces learners to the basic models of theological reflection and concepts of contextual theology, including methodological issues, providing a brief overview of Bevans' classic models of contextual theology.

PT07435: Organisational Leadership in Ministerial Contexts
This module aims to prepare learners to embody systems leadership within ministerial contexts. It endeavours to build their capacity to bring forth or foster active participation and collective leadership (also referred to as authoritative membership) in the face of complex, systemic challenges, which impact effective ministry in the contemporary world. This learning is valuable to those active in any part of a community or organisation, not only those appointed to formal positions of leadership.

PT07437: Healthcare Chaplaincy: Ministry of Presence and Visitation
This module provides a forum for learners to reflect on the Christian commitment to act in solidarity with the sick and dying. It unpacks fundamental theological assumptions and outlines, in an introductory manner, the processes of loss and acceptance, and an articulation of hope through the resources of the Christian tradition. It addresses key ethical and professional issues, facilitating the learner to consider key pastoral and professional principles and practices in a healthcare setting, and critically evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to pastoral care.

PT07438: Educational Chaplaincy: Ministry of Catechesis and Faith Formation
This module introduces learners to the foundation, aims, and concepts of religious education, catechesis, and Catholic Education in furtherance of their education in pastoral ministry. It provides learners with a knowledge of the life and work of Irish primary schools under Catholic Patronage, while assisting them in understanding the spirituality of the child. They gain understanding of the primary school religious education programme and how this integrates into the work of a chaplain, in particular the prayer-life and sacramental preparation and celebration of the class.

Learning Ethos

This Diploma programme places a strong emphasis on participative learning. At a personal level, the course addresses the integration of academic and practice-based learning, with a focus on growth in self-understanding as well as personal, relational, and spiritual development. Learning happens through course work, participation in seminars, presentations, human development, exploration of the learner's personal faith journey, and placement education. While classes are normally on Thursday and Friday of each week, learners may be required to attend courses and seminars that are only available outside these times.

Pastoral Practice

Learners engage in placement, in a parish or equivalent setting, from October to April. Typically, basic areas of ministerial practice within the placement setting include

primary-level catechesis, second-level chaplaincy and/or catechesis, and parish/community based ministry

One Year, Full-Time learners: Placement usually takes place between Sunday and Wednesday of each week, for an average of 19 hours per week, along with a number of block placements with an extended contact time of 22-25 hours per week. During the summer semester, learners complete a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education over a 10-12 week block in an accredited hospital (or equivalent). Learners are on campus for lectures during two days, Thursday and Friday, on average 12-14 hours, per week.

Two Year, Part-Time learners: Placement usually takes place between Sunday and Wednesday of each week in the two academic years, for an average of 9.5 hours per week, along with a number of block placements with an extended contact time of 11-12.5 hours per week. During the summer semester, learners complete a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education over a 10-12 week block in an accredited hospital. Typically, part-time learners take the modules timetabled on one day during the first year and take the remaining modules in the second year.

Placements are arranged by the PT430 Pastoral Practice Module Lead in collaboration with the learner. The Pastoral Practice module includes the following: mentoring support with an on-site Placement Contact Person, or Designated Alternate; pastoral supervision/one-to-one consultation with an assigned staff mentor in the Pontifical University; two visits by an assigned External Pastoral Placement Appraiser; participation in weekly small-group pastoral theological reflection group; and an end-of-year integration day. The placement is a central context for learning and growth, and is fundamental for the overall pastoral formation of learners.

Clinical Pastoral Education

Learners will undertake one unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) or its equivalent (12 weeks). CPE is a professional education for ministry conducted in the hospital setting. The course includes development of self-understanding and the foundation for the practice of pastoral care. CPE is a supervised course, which learners apply for independently and take after completion of the core modules and parish placement. CPE is a qualifying course for the completion of the Diploma programme, and the CPE placement site is arranged in collaboration with the Programme Co-ordinator.

Assessment

Each module will be assessed by class attendance, participation, presentations, and written assignments as outlined within the module descriptors. The processes of assessment for the Pastoral Practice module include: placement appraisal visits (two) and a pastoral practice portfolio. Learners need to pass all components of assessments in order to pass the respective module.

Higher Diploma in Pastoral Theology

Programme Co-ordinator: Eileen O'Connell OP, MTh, MA

Subject	Theology	**NFQ Level (eqlv)**	8
Programme Duration	1 Year Full Time/ 2 Year(s) Part Time*	**Credits (ECTS)**	60

The Higher Diploma in Pastoral Theology (Parish/Community-Based) programme offers initial formation for ministry leadership in the Church. It prepares learners to minister effectively in a peer relationship with other pastoral ministers and for exercising the responsibilities of ministry, especially leadership in public prayer, pastoral care and spiritual accompaniment, and building and strengthening community. This includes acquiring specialised skills to teach in diverse settings, provide effective catechetical and faith formation, and exercise responsible stewardship of parish personnel and resources. This level allows learners to develop a specialised knowledge of theological principles as these relate to ministry practice.
The programme further prepares learners to:

- be reflective in their future ministry practice;
- express an internalised personal worldview, achieving self-awareness as this relates to pastoral ministry;
- interact effectively in a peer-support group setting; identify and analyse different ministerial approaches and pastoral responses;
- exercise appropriate ministry practice in a variety of contexts;
- develop organisational/administrative, communication, and leadership skills.

This Higher Diploma follows the same academic and placement schedules as the Diploma in Pastoral Theology and is awarded on the successful completion of one year's full-time or two year's part-time engagement.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this programme, learners will be able to:
1) minister and offer pastoral care to persons and groups in various life and crisis situations as experienced and skilled ministers abiding by best practice and ethical standards
2) serve as competent, skilful pastoral leaders, capable of exercising initiative and independent thinking while working collaboratively with professional colleagues in ministry
3) reflect critically and theologically on the experience of Christian life and discern the presence of God in pastoral care, mission, and ministry

4) critique and differentiate ministerial approaches, and exercise judgment in planning for the development of pastoral responses appropriate to the complexity of contemporary society
5) demonstrate a critical understanding of the interface between academic learning, contextual theologies, and contemporary mission and ministry in parishes and communities
6) engage habitually in self-reflective practice, with capacity for self-understanding, as person and minister; recognise the attitudes, values, assumptions that influence ministry, and for understanding how ministerial approaches affect others
7) employ basic research methods appropriate to theological studies and pastoral ministry.

Admission Requirements

In order to register for courses leading to the Higher Diploma in Pastoral Theology, learners:

- a level 8 qualification with at least 60 ECTS credits in Theology
- learners whose first language is not English will be required to satisfy the English language requirement
- successful individual interview is an essential part of the selection process.

Candidates with a primary degree in which theology is at least a minor component and deemed to have sufficient and appropriate experience in pastoral ministry may be admitted. These learners may be required to take courses in theology to qualify for admission.
St Patrick's Pontifical University also accepts applications to its programmes from all prospective learners who possess the ability, knowledge and experience through its widening participation schemes. The University operates a Recognised Prior Learning (RPL)and Prior Experiential Learning (RPEL) scheme which recognises relevant prior learning and experience for admission and/or credit purposes. Full details are available on the University website.

Programme of Study*

The structure of the Higher Diploma programme reflects an equal weighting of importance between the academic learning (50%) and pastoral practice (50%).

MODULE CODE	MODULE TITLE	LECTURER	SEM	CREDIT
PT08430	Pastoral Practice	Kelly, E.O'Connell	YL	30 ECTS
PT08431	Prayer Leadership	Connolly, Rogers	YL	7.5 ECTS
PT08432	Caring and Spiritual Accompaniment in Community	Cunnane, TBC	YL	5 ECTS
PT08434	Theology and Pastoral Ministry	Cullen	YL	7.5 ECTS
PT08435	Organisational Leadership in Ministry Contexts	McGrath	YL	5 ECTS
PT08437	Healthcare Chaplaincy: Ministry of Presence and Visitation	Shortall	S1	2.5 ECTS
PT08438	Educational Chaplaincy: Ministry of Catechesis and Faith Formation	Sheridan	S2	2.5 ECTS

**This programme is subject to revision. Learners will be informed of any changes prior to beginning the programme.*

Module Descriptors

PT08430: Pastoral Practice

At the intersection of academic study of theology and placement education through the practice of ministry, this module is rooted in the conviction that the practice of ministry is best learned in and through 'doing ministry' in approved, supervised ministry settings alongside ongoing reflection on the experience so that practical and academic theology are in continual dialogue with one another in the person and ministerial activity of persons in ministry. By incorporating this way of ministering into the learning and practical experience of learners, this module is foundational in developing practitioners who engage in a reflective approach to ministry. It offers theological and professional preparation for ministry and provides a unique opportunity for learners to engage directly with pastoral practice as part of their ministerial formation. It strives to integrate

the activities of thinking and acting theologically, while trusting that theology informs pastoral practice and lived practice informs theology. Weekly facilitated Pastoral Theological Reflection within peer groups is a concomitant process with pastoral practice, where learners explore and interrogate their ministry experiences in light of their academic and practice-based learning.

PT08431: Prayer Leadership
This module introduces learners to the spiritual and intellectual contours of Christian prayer and its practice in liturgical and pastoral contexts. As well as providing an overview of the various forms of Christian prayer, it provides formation in prayer leadership and enables learners to acquire the knowledge and skills that are necessary to effectively lead and guide people in prayer. Participants explore the theological foundations of public prayer and liturgy. Through a combination of prayer and reflective practice, study, reading, and leading sessions, learners deepen their awareness of prayer and develop competence in leading shared prayer in its diverse forms.

PT08432: Caring and Spiritual Accompaniment in Community
This module introduces the ethos and methodologies of accompaniment of others in pastoral settings. Learners are introduced to theories of personal development and lifecycle growth and gain insight into their own development and that of others. They learn the interpersonal skills and aptitudes required for effective accompaniment and have opportunities to practice these with other learners. The module familiarises learners with best professional practices while drawing upon the resources of the Christian tradition. It differentiates between different types of accompaniment and the settings and practices appropriate to each and pays particular attention to questions of appropriate boundaries and when and how to refer to a professional.

PT08434: Theology and Pastoral Ministry
This module introduces learners to the nature of pastoral and practical theology and the theological foundations of Christian discipleship and ministry. It explores key features of pastoral practice in varying contexts; draws out the pastoral and ministerial implications of major theological themes and the importance of theological hermeneutics; introduces learners to the basic models of theological reflection and concepts of contextual theology, including methodological issues, providing a brief overview of Bevans' classic models of contextual theology.

PT08435: Organisational Leadership in Ministerial Contexts
This module aims to prepare learners to embody systems leadership within ministerial contexts. It endeavours to build their capacity to bring forth or foster active participation and collective leadership (also referred to as authoritative membership) in the face of complex, systemic challenges, which impact effective ministry in the contemporary

world. This learning is valuable to those active in any part of a community or organisation, not only those appointed to formal positions of leadership.

PT08437: Healthcare Chaplaincy: Ministry of Presence and Visitation
This module provides a forum for learners to reflect on the Christian commitment to act in solidarity with the sick and dying. It unpacks fundamental theological assumptions and outlines, in an introductory manner, the processes of loss and acceptance, and an articulation of hope through the resources of the Christian tradition. It addresses key ethical and professional issues, facilitating the learner to consider key pastoral and professional principles and practices in a healthcare setting, and critically evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to pastoral care.

PT08438: Educational Chaplaincy: Ministry of Catechesis and Faith Formation
This module introduces learners to the foundation, aims, and concepts of religious education, catechesis, and Catholic Education in furtherance of their education in pastoral ministry. It provides learners with a knowledge of the life and work of Irish primary schools under Catholic Patronage, while assisting them in understanding the spirituality of the child. They gain understanding of the primary school religious education programme and how this integrates into the work of a chaplain, in particular the prayer-life and sacramental preparation and celebration of the class.

Learning Ethos

This Higher Diploma programme places a strong emphasis on participative learning. At a personal level, the course addresses the integration of academic and practice-based learning, with a focus on growth in self-understanding as well as personal, relational, and spiritual development. Learning happens through course work, participation in seminars, presentations, human development, exploration of the learner's personal faith journey, and placement education. While classes are normally on Thursday and Friday of each week, learners may be required to attend courses and seminars that are only available outside these times.

Pastoral Practice

Learners engage in placement, in a parish or equivalent setting, from October to April. Typically, basic areas of ministerial practice within the placement setting include primary-level catechesis, second-level chaplaincy and/or catechesis, and parish/community based ministry

One Year, Full-Time learners: Placement usually takes place between Sunday and Wednesday of each week, for an average of 19 hours per week, along with a number of block placements with an extended contact time of 22-25 hours per week. During the summer semester, learners complete a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education over a 10-12

week block in an accredited hospital (or equivalent). Learners are on campus for lectures during two days, Thursday and Friday, on average 12-14 hours, per week.

Two Year, Part-Time learners: Placement usually takes place between Sunday and Wednesday of each week in the two academic years, for an average of 9.5 hours per week, along with a number of block placements with an extended contact time of 11-12.5 hours per week. During the summer semester, learners complete a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education over a 10-12 week block in an accredited hospital. Typically, part-time learners take the modules timetabled on one day during the first year and take the remaining modules in the second year.

Placements are arranged by the PT430 Pastoral Practice Module Lead in collaboration with the learner. The Pastoral Practice module includes the following: mentoring support with an on-site Placement Contact Person, or Designated Alternate; pastoral supervision/one-to-one consultation with an assigned staff mentor in the Pontifical University; two visits by an assigned External Pastoral Placement Appraiser; participation in weekly small-group pastoral theological reflection group; and an end-of-year integration day. The placement is a central context for learning and growth, and is fundamental for the overall pastoral formation of learners.

Clinical Pastoral Education

Learners will undertake one unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) or its equivalent (12 weeks). CPE is a professional education for ministry conducted in the hospital setting. The course includes development of self-understanding and the foundation for the practice of pastoral care. CPE is a supervised course, which learners apply for independently and take after completion of the core modules and parish placement. CPE is a qualifying course for the completion of the Diploma programme, and the CPE placement site is arranged in collaboration with the Programme Co-ordinator.

Assessment

Each module will be assessed by class attendance, participation, presentations, and written assignments as outlined within the module descriptors. The processes of assessment for the Pastoral Practice module include: placement appraisal visits (two) and a pastoral practice portfolio. Learners need to pass all components of assessments in order to pass the respective module.

Higher Diploma in Pastoral Theology (Healthcare Chaplaincy)

Not running in Academic year 2026/2027

Programme Co-ordinator: Maureen Kelly, MA

Subject	Theology	**NFQ Level (eqlv)**	8
Programme Duration	1 Year Full Time/ 2 Year(s) Part Time*	**Credits (ECTS)**	60

The Higher Diploma in Pastoral Theology (Healthcare Chaplaincy) programme leads to a qualification which is a recognised and direct path to certification as a Catholic Healthcare Chaplain, approved by the Healthcare Chaplaincy Board of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference. This programme forms part of initial formation for chaplaincy leadership in a healthcare setting. It prepares learners to minister effectively in collaboration with multi-disciplinary healthcare colleagues in the provision of holistic healthcare. It prepares learners to use advanced skills in professional caring ministry, especially leadership in prayer, pastoral care, and accompaniment with persons who suffer because of illness, trauma, tragedy, grief and bereavement. The course is structured to ensure the integration of academic study with placement experiences in healthcare settings, so that learners establish a sense of ministerial identity and exercise appropriate judgment in ministry.

The programme further prepares learners to:

- be reflective in their future ministry practice;
- express a comprehensive, internalised personal worldview, achieving self-awareness and critical reflection as these relate to pastoral ministry;
- interact effectively in a peer-support group setting; identify and analyse different ministerial approaches and pastoral responses;
- exercise appropriate ministry practice in a variety of contexts;
- develop organisational/administrative, communication, and leadership skills.

This Higher Diploma follows the same academic and placement schedules as the Diploma and Higher Diploma in Pastoral Theology, and is awarded on the successful completion of one year's full-time or two year's part-time engagement.

Admission Requirements

In order to register for courses leading to the Higher Diploma in Pastoral Theology (Healthcare Chaplaincy), learners:

- A level 8 qualification with at least 60 ECTS credits in Theology
- learners whose first language is not English will be required to satisfy the English language requirement

- successful individual and group interviews are an essential part of the selection process.

Candidates with a primary degree in which theology is at least a minor component and deemed to have sufficient and appropriate experience in pastoral ministry may be admitted. These learners may be required to take courses in theology to qualify for admission.

University also accepts applications to its programmes from all prospective learners who possess the ability, knowledge and experience through its widening participation schemes. The University operates a Recognised Prior Learning (RPL)and Prior Experiential Learning (RPEL) scheme which recognises relevant prior learning and experience for admission and/or credit purposes. Full details are available on the University website.

Candidates who are interested in part-time engagement must indicate this preference at application stage.

Programme of Study*

The structure of the Higher Diploma programme reflects an equal weighting of importance between the academic learning (50%) and pastoral practice (50%).

MODULE CODE	MODULE TITLE	LECTURER	SEM	CREDIT
PT08430	Pastoral Practice	Kelly, O'Connell	YL	30 ECTS
PT08431	Prayer Leadership	O'Connell, Lynch	YL	7.5 ECTS
PT08432	Caring and Spiritual Accompaniment in Community	Rogers	YL	5 ECTS
PT08434	Theology and Pastoral Ministry	Cullen	YL	7.5 ECTS
PT08435	Organisational Leadership in Ministry Contexts	McGrath	YL	5 ECTS
PT08436	Healthcare Chaplaincy: Leadership Ministry of Healing and Justice	Shortall	YL	5 ECTS

**This programme is subject to revision. Learners will be informed of any changes prior to beginning the programme.*

Module Descriptors

PT08430: Pastoral Practice

This module seeks to connect academic study of theology with placement-based education in approved, supervised youth ministry settings. In weekly facilitated Theological Reflection Groups, with peers, learners explore and interrogate their ministry experiences in light of their academic and practice-based learning.

PT08431: Prayer Leadership

This module introduces learners to the spiritual and intellectual contours of Christian prayer, and its practice in liturgical and pastoral contexts. As well as providing an overview of the various forms of Christian prayer, it provides a formation in prayer leadership, and framework to acquire the knowledge and skills that are necessary to effectively lead and guide people in prayer. Participants explore the theological foundations of public prayer and liturgy. Through a combination of prayer and reflective practice (with a particular emphasis on lectio divina), study, reading, leading sessions, and learners deepen their own prayer awareness and develop competence in leading shared prayer in its diverse forms.

PT08432: Caring and Spiritual Accompaniment in Community

This module introduces the ethos and methodologies of differing forms of accompaniment: Pastoral Counselling, Moral Guidance and Spiritual Accompaniment. Learners are introduced to interpersonal skills and aptitudes required for accompaniment. It familiarises learners with best professional practices in counselling and spiritual support while drawing upon the resources of the Christian tradition. The module differentiates between different types of accompaniment and the settings and practices appropriate to each. It pays particular attention to questions of appropriate boundaries and when and how to refer for professional counselling.

PT08434: Theology and Pastoral Ministry

This module introduces learners to the nature of pastoral and practical theology and the theological foundations of Christian discipleship and ministry. It explores key features of pastoral practice in varying contexts; draws out the pastoral and ministerial implications of major theological themes and the importance of theological hermeneutics; introduces learners to the basic models of theological reflection and concepts of contextual theology, including methodological issues, providing a brief overview of Bevans' classic models of contextual theology.

PT08435: Organisational Leadership in Ministerial Contexts

This module aims to prepare learners to embody systems leadership within ministerial contexts. It endeavours to build their capacity to bring forth or foster active participation and collective leadership (also referred to as authoritative membership) in the face of complex, systemic challenges, which impact effective ministry in the contemporary world. This learning is valuable to those active in any part of a community or organisation, not only those appointed to formal positions of leadership.

PT08437: Healthcare Chaplaincy: Leadership Ministry of Healing and Justice
This module facilitates study of professional healthcare chaplaincy in pastoral and institutional contexts. It presents and explores fundamental presuppositions on practice of healthcare ministry, through reflection on the primal experience of pain and alienation from body, self, and others, and the consequent solidarity of the community, institutionalised in the healthcare system. It teases out key ministerial, ethical and professional principles. It considers three broad areas (a) ministerial issues (b) professional issues and (c) ethical issues. It familiarises learners with codes of behaviour and ethics as they relate to Catholic healthcare in Ireland.

Learning Ethos

This Higher Diploma programme places a strong emphasis on participative learning. At a personal level, the course addresses the integration of academic and practice-based learning, with a focus on growth in self-understanding as well as personal, relational, and spiritual development. Learning happens through course work, participation in seminars, presentations, human development, exploration of the learner's own personal faith journey, and placement education. While classes are normally on Thursday and Friday of each week, learners may be required to attend courses and seminars that are only available outside these times.

Pastoral Practice

Learners engage in a placement education experience, or internship, in a 'Teaching Hospital,' from September to April. Typically, basic areas of ministerial practice within the acute general placement site include: integrated pastoral care ministry serving patients and their families, within a clinical environment including critical and emergency care; leading or participating in hospital liturgies and services in the chapel, mortuary, ward, or bedside; and, professional relationship building and pastoral care of staff, strengthening the pastoral care department.

One Year, Full-Time learners: Placement usually takes place between Sunday and Wednesday of each week, for an average of 19 hours per week, along with an extended three-week block placement in the January Semester and two further weeks of block placement in Semester 2. Block placements are 22-25 hours per week. During the summer semester, learners complete a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education over a 10-12 week block in an accredited hospital. Learners are on campus for lectures during two days, Thursday and Friday, on average 12-14 hours, per week.

Two Year, Part-Time learners: Placement usually takes place between Sunday and Wednesday of each week in the two academic years, for an average of 9.5 hours per week, along with an extended three-week block placement in the January Semester and two further weeks of block placement in Semester 2. Block placements are 11-12.5 hours per week. During the summer semester, learners complete a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education over a 10-12 week block in an accredited hospital. Learners are on

campus for lectures during one day, on average, 6-7 hours per week. Typically, part-time learners take the modules timetabled on one day during the first year and take the remaining modules in the second year.
Part-time places are limited, conditional on the availability of part-time internships at Teaching Hospitals.

Placement education sites, or 'Teaching Hospitals', are arranged in collaboration with the PT430 Pastoral Practice Module Lead. The Pastoral Practice module includes the following: mentoring support with an on-site Placement Contact Person (the Director of Pastoral Care/Head Chaplain) or his/her Designated Alternate; pastoral supervision/one-to-one consultation with an assigned staff mentor in the Pontifical University; two visits by an assigned Placement Supervisor; participation in weekly small-group, peer-support, theological reflection sessions; and, an end-of-year integration day. The placement education experience is a central context for learning and growth, and is fundamental for the overall pastoral formation of the learners.

Summer Intensive Placement in Clinical Setting

At the end of the academic year, learners will undertake a second placement in a clinical setting consisting of 350 hours of clinical practice. Assigned clinical areas may include critical care: intensive care unit, trauma care, stroke care, emergency department, oncology, and haematology care. Small-group, peer-support, theological reflection sessions will take place at the placement site, facilitating a deepening of the learner's reflective practice.

One Year, Full-Time learners: The placement will consist of 10 weeks of placement, with 35 hours of clinical practice each week. The placement will include 3 night's rostered work and 3 rostered weekends.

Two Year, Part-Time learners: The placement will consist of 17.5hours of placement over 10 weeks in each summer. This placement will include rostered night-duty and weekend work.

This Summer Intensive Placement is a qualifier for the completion of the Higher Diploma in Pastoral Theology (Healthcare Chaplaincy) programme, and is a prerequisite for satisfying the certification standards for the Catholic Healthcare Chaplaincy Board.

Assessment

Each module will be assessed by class attendance, participation, presentations, and written assignments as outlined within the module descriptors. The two primary processes of assessment for the Pastoral Practice module will be as follows: placement supervised visits (two in total) and a pastoral practice portfolio. Learners need to pass all components of assessments in order to pass the respective module.

Master's Degree in Theology
(Specialisation: Pastoral Theology)
Two Years Full-time or Three Years Part-time

Programme Co-ordinator: Dr Philomena Cullen

This level 9 programme forms part of a candidate's continuing journey of growth and development, strengthening capacity for ministry leadership in the Church, which includes taking significant responsibility for the work of individuals and groups, and for leading and initiating mission-focused activity in a wide (and sometimes unpredictable) variety of professional levels and contexts. Candidates develop new skills to a high level, including novel and emerging approaches in professional ministry, especially within the areas of leadership in public prayer, pastoral care and spiritual accompaniment, and building and strengthening community. They learn advanced skills to teach in diverse settings, provide effective catechetical and faith formation, and exercise responsible stewardship of parish personnel and resources.

This level allows candidates to develop a critical awareness of current issues of pastoral concern informed by scholarship from the forefront of pertinent fields of theological learning, and a systematic understanding of theological knowledge as it relates to his/her experiences in life and ministry practice. Each student completes a Masters dissertation that presents a rigorous, in-depth, and critical examination of a particular pastoral area or issue situated at the interface of academic theology and contemporary ministry. In doing so, the student acquires a mastery in specialised techniques of reflection and enquiry, and methods of research, forming an ability to scrutinise and reflect on the changing ministerial landscape, articulate an informed pastoral response, while seeking to contribute to transforming ministerial practice leading to growth or change.

This Masters programme further enables candidates to:

- examine existing procedural approaches and exercise appropriate judgment in complex planning, leading groups, and managing resources;
- learn to self-evaluate and take responsibility for forming a habit of reflective practice for ministry and for continuing academic and professional development;
- express a comprehensive, internalised, personal worldview, achieving self-awareness and critical reflection as these relate to pastoral ministry;
- engage in critical dialogue and face the demands of making collaborative ministry work;
- exercise initiative and independent thought, to interact intelligently, empathically, ethically, and professionally within their ministerial context;

- differentiate appropriate ministerial approaches to formulate pastoral responses to complex situations in pastoral contexts, and act to change them.

Admission Requirements

The minimum entry requirement for the programme is an honours primary degree in which Theology comprises at least an equal joint honours component. Applicants should normally have obtained at least a Second Class Honours, Grade I overall, and Second Class Honours, Grade I in Theology. Applicants should also have significant experience in ministry practice. Individual form an essential part of the selection process.

The Faculty of Theology may also accept applicants whom it deems to have achieved an equivalent standard. They may be required to take additional courses in Theology to qualify for admission. In particular, applicants who have obtained a minimum 2H1 in the Higher Diploma in Pastoral Theology (level 8) may be considered for admission to a one-year MTh (level 9) in Pastoral Theology. As part of the application process, such applicants will submit a Major Essay (5,000 words) on a topic relevant to Pastoral Ministry, written under the supervision of a member of the Faculty. The evaluation of this essay will form part of the admission interview, and its content may provide a foundation for the eventual Masters dissertation.

Applicants whose first language is not English will be required to satisfy the English language requirements of St Patrick's Pontifical University.

St Patrick's Pontifical University also accepts applications to its programmes from all prospective students who possess the ability, knowledge and experience through its widening participation schemes. The University operates a Recognised Prior Learning (RPL)and Prior Experiential Learning (RPEL) scheme which recognises relevant prior learning and experience for admission and/or credit purposes. Full details are available on the University website.

Programme of Study

The Master's Degree in Pastoral Theology is a two-year programme. The first year is taken at Level 8. At the discretion of the Faculty of Theology, and with its permission, candidates may also undertake the programme, on a part-time basis, over three years. The programme has three components:

• first year core modules	60 ECTS
• two postgraduate seminar courses and placement	30 ECTS
• a minor dissertation (15,000 words)	30 ECTS

Year One

The first year is a taught and practical programme, and consists of seven core modules, which follow the same academic and placement schedules as the Diploma and Higher Diplomas in Pastoral Theology.

The *core modules* in Year One of the programme are:

PT08430:	Pastoral Practice	30 ECTS
PT08431:	Prayer Leadership	7.5 ECTS
PT08432:	Caring and Spiritual Accompaniment	5 ECTS
PT08435:	Organisational Leadership in Ministry Contexts	5 ECTS
PT08434:	Theology and Pastoral Ministry	7.5 ECTS
PT08437:	Healthcare Chaplaincy: Ministry of Presence and Visitation	2.5ECTS
PT08438:	Educational Chaplaincy: Ministry of Catechesis and Faith Formation	2.5 ECTS

Progression to Year Two requires a 2.1 from the first year modules and the completion of a Major Essay that demonstrates capacity for research. The Major Essay (c. 5,000 words) must be on a topic relevant to Pastoral Ministry, written under the supervision of a member of the Faculty. Its content may provide a foundation for the eventual Masters dissertation. Progression in this component is on a pass/fail basis. It must be completed by 3pm on the second Thursday in August of the relevant academic year.

Year Two

In the second year of the programme, candidates take two postgraduate modules and complete a minor dissertation of 15,000 words (30 ECTS). This minor dissertation is written on a particular pastoral area or issue situated at the interface of academic theology and contemporary ministry, and under the direction of a member of the Faculty of Theology, and must be submitted by 3pm on the second Thursday in August.

The *postgraduate modules* are as follows:

PG09523:	'Emancipating' Practical Theology	10 ECTS
and		
PG09709	Resourcing: Theology and Renewal in the 20th Century 10 ECTS	
and Placement:		
PT09439:	Theological Reflection on Practice (100 hours)	10 ECTS

PT09439:Learners are required to source their own placement to a sum of 100 hours. It must be undertaken as early as possible and preferably to be completed in the first semester. It is vital that learners register to participate in Theological Reflection on their practice, at the beginning of the academic year.

Dissertation (25 + 5 credits). Candidates for the second year of the programme are required to undertake a major essay, under the direction of a member of faculty. The topic may provide a foundation for the eventual master's dissertation. The major essay is assigned 5 credits of the 30 credits of the second year.

Note: Progression to Year Two requires successful completion of the core modules in Year One. Candidates will normally be expected to register year by year on a continuous basis until they have completed their degree. Master's candidates wishing to suspend registration may do so only on the express permission of the Faculty of Theology, upon the recommendation of the Postgraduate Board.

In addition to the above programme of study, candidates must complete *Postgraduate Induction* which takes place in September.

Learning Ethos

This master's programme places a strong emphasis on participative learning. At a personal level, the course addresses the integration of academic and practice-based learning, with a focus on growth in self-understanding as well as personal, relational, and spiritual development. Course work includes group sessions, lectures, presentations, and interactive seminars. While core classes in Pastoral Theology are normally on Thursdays and Fridays, candidates may be required to attend lectures and seminars that are offered outside these times (e.g., postgraduate seminar courses which frequently take place on Wednesdays).

Pastoral Practice

In Year One, candidates commit to a placement education experience in a 'Teaching Parish', or equivalent context, from September to April. The basic areas of ministerial practice within the placement site are typically primary-level catechesis, second-level chaplaincy and/or catechesis, and parish/community-based ministry. Placement usually takes place between Sunday and Wednesday of each week, for an average of 19 hours per week, with classes in Maynooth on Thursday and Friday. Candidates may also be required to participate in a number of block placements in their placement sites, with an extended contact time of 22–25 hours per week.

Placement education sites, or 'Teaching Parishes', are arranged by the candidates in collaboration with the PT08430 Pastoral Practice Module Lead. The Pastoral Practice module includes the following: mentoring support with an on-site Placement Contact Person, or his/her Designated Alternate; one-to-one consultation with an assigned staff

mentor in the Pontifical University; two visits by an assigned Placement Supervisor; participation in weekly small-group, peer-support, theological reflection sessions; and, an end-of-year integration day. The placement education experience is a central context for learning and growth, and is fundamental for the overall pastoral formation of the candidates.

In Year Two, placement is arranged by the candidate, in collaboration with the PT430 Pastoral Practice Module Lead. The candidate must undertake 100 hours of placement, and participate in theological reflection sessions. They are encouraged to complete the placement in the first semester.

Clinical Pastoral Education

Candidates will undertake a second placement through one unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) or its equivalent (12 weeks). CPE is a professional education for ministry conducted in the hospital setting. The course includes development of self-understanding and the foundation for the practice of pastoral care. CPE is a supervised course, which candidates apply for independently and take at the completion of core modules and parish placement. CPE is a qualifying course for the completion of the programme, and the CPE placement site is arranged in collaboration with the Pastoral Theology Director.

Assessment

Each module will be assessed by class attendance, participation, presentations, and written assignments, or as outlined within the module descriptors. The two primary processes of assessment for the Pastoral Practice module will be as follows: placement supervised visits (two in total) and a pastoral practice portfolio. Candidates need to pass all components of assessments in order to pass the respective module.

Note: progression to a doctoral programme within St Patrick's Pontifical University from this programme requires the successful completion of a Doctoral Qualifying Year, the parameters of which are established by the Faculty of Theology

Master's Degree in Theology

(Specialisation: Pastoral Theology, Healthcare Chaplaincy)

Two Years Full-time or Three Years Part-time

Programme Co-ordinator*: Dr Philomena Cullen*

This level 9 programme forms part of a minister's continuing journey of growth and development, strengthening capacity for chaplaincy leadership in healthcare systems, and in various healthcare facilities. This includes taking responsibility for professional relationship building with multi-disciplinary healthcare colleagues, strengthening the provision of pastoral care in healthcare institutions, and for advancing professional, holistic, compassionate quality care for patients, families, and staff. Candidates develop new skills to a high level, especially within the areas of leadership in prayer, pastoral care, and spiritual accompaniment with persons who suffer because of illness, trauma, tragedy, grief, and bereavement.

This level allows candidates to develop a critical awareness of current issues of pastoral concern informed by theological scholarship, and a systematic understanding of theology as it relates to life experience and ministry practice. Each candidate completes a Masters dissertation that presents a rigorous, in-depth, evidence-based, critical examination of a particular pastoral area of healthcare chaplaincy practice. The candidate thus acquires a mastery in techniques of reflection and enquiry, and methods of research, while contributing to the body of chaplaincy research and to transforming ministerial practice. It will enable candidates to exercise the highest quality pastoral care in clinical practice and be effective leaders in the future development of the profession.

This Masters programme further enables candidates to:

- examine existing procedural approaches and exercise appropriate judgment in complex situations, advocate for the persons in their care, and manage crisis in the practice of pastoral care;
- learn to self-evaluate and take responsibility for forming a habit of reflective practice for ministry and for continuing academic and professional development;
- express a comprehensive, internalised, personal worldview, achieving self-awareness and critical reflection as these relate to pastoral ministry;
- engage in critical dialogue and face the demands of making collaborative ministry work and actively participate in the creation and maintenance of a healthy work environment;

- exercise initiative and independent thought, to interact intelligently, empathically, ethically, and professionally within their ministerial context;
- differentiate appropriate ministerial approaches within complex institutional cultures and systems, in response to varying group dynamics and organisational behaviour, and act to transform them according to best practice.

Admission Requirements

The minimum entry requirement for the programme is an honours primary degree in which Theology comprises at least an equal joint honours component. Applicants should normally have obtained at least a Second Class Honours, Grade I overall, and Second Class Honours, Grade I in Theology. Applicants should also have significant experience in ministry practice. Individual and group interviews form an essential part of the selection process.

The Faculty of Theology may also accept applicants whom it deems to have achieved an equivalent standard. They may be required to take additional courses in Theology to qualify for admission. In particular, applicants who have obtained a minimum 2H1 in the Higher Diploma in Pastoral Theology (Healthcare Chaplaincy) may be considered for admission to a one-year MTh (level 9) in Pastoral Theology. As part of the application process, such applicants will submit a Major Essay (5,000 words) on a topic relevant to Healthcare Chaplaincy, written under the supervision of a member of the Faculty. The evaluation of this essay will form part of the admission interview, and its content may provide a foundation for the eventual Masters dissertation.

Applicants whose first language is not English will be required to satisfy the English language requirements of St Patrick's Pontifical University.

St Patrick's Pontifical University also accepts applications to its programmes from all prospective students who possess the ability, knowledge and experience through its widening participation schemes. The University operates a Recognised Prior Learning (RPL)and Prior Experiential Learning (RPEL) scheme which recognises relevant prior learning and experience for admission and/or credit purposes. Full details are available on the University website.

Programme of Study

The Master's Degree in Pastoral Theology – Healthcare Chaplaincy is a two-year programme. The first year is taken at Level 8. (At the discretion of the Faculty of

Theology, and with its permission, candidates may also undertake the programme, on a part-time basis, over three years). The programme has three components:

• first year core modules	60 ECTS
• two postgraduate seminar courses and placement	30 ECTS
• a minor dissertation (15,000 words)	30 ECTS

Year One

The first year is a taught and practical programme, and consists of six core modules, which follow the same academic and placement schedules as the Higher Diploma in Pastoral Theology (Healthcare Chaplaincy).

The *core modules* in Year One of the programme are:

PT08430:	Pastoral Practice	30 ECTS
PT08431:	Prayer Leadership	7.5 ECTS
PT08432:	Caring and Spiritual Accompaniment	5 ECTS
PT08435:	Organisational Leadership in Ministry Contexts	5 ECTS
PT08434:	Theology and Pastoral Ministry	7.5 ECTS
PT08436:	Healthcare Chaplaincy: Leadership Ministry of Healing and Justice	5 ECTS

Progression to Year Two requires a 2.1 from the first year modules and the completion of a Major Essay that demonstrates capacity for research. The Major Essay (c. 5,000 words) must be on a topic relevant to Pastoral Ministry, written under the supervision of a member of the Faculty. Its content may provide a foundation for the eventual Masters dissertation. Progression in this component is on a pass/fail basis. It must be completed by 3pm on the second Thursday in August of the relevant academic year.

Year Two

In the second year of the programme, candidates take two postgraduate modules and complete a minor dissertation or evidence based research of 15,000 words (30 ECTS). This minor dissertation is written on a particular pastoral area in a particular pastoral area of healthcare chaplaincy practice, and under the direction of a member of the Faculty of Theology, and must be submitted by 3pm on the second Thursday in August.

The *postgraduate modules* are as follows:

PG09523:	'Emancipating' Practical Theology	10 ECTS
and		
PG09709:	Resourcing: Theology and Renewal in the 20th Century	10 ECTS
And Placement:		
PT09439:	Theological Reflection on Practice (100 hours)	10 ECTS

PG09439:The Theological Reflection on Practice module includes 100s hours of independent practice in an approved clinical setting. The candidate should be working in post as a healthcare chaplain or have independently arranged a chaplaincy placement for the duration of Year Two. The student should arrange to be supervised and mentored by an experienced, accredited Healthcare Chaplain within this placement setting. The placement site must be approved by the Faculty of Theology, upon the recommendation of the Postgraduate Board, prior to progression to Year Two. It is vital that learners register to participate in Theological Reflection on their practice, at the beginning of the academic year.

Dissertation (25 + 5 credits). Candidates for the second year of the programme are required to undertake a major essay, under the direction of a member of faculty. The topic may provide a foundation for the eventual Masters dissertation. The major essay is assigned 5 credits of the 30 credits of the second year.

Note: Progression to Year Two requires successful completion of the core modules in Year One. Candidates will normally be expected to register year by year on a continuous basis until they have completed their degree. Masters candidates wishing to suspend registration may do so only on the express permission of the Faculty of Theology, upon the recommendation of the Postgraduate Board.

In addition to the above programme of study, candidates must complete *Postgraduate Induction* which takes place in September.

Learning Ethos

This Masters programme places a strong emphasis on participative learning. At a personal level, the course addresses the integration of academic and practice-based learning, with a focus on growth in self-understanding as well as personal, relational, and spiritual development. Course work includes group sessions, lectures, presentations, and interactive seminars. While core classes in Pastoral Theology are normally on Thursdays and Fridays, candidates may be required to attend lectures and seminars that are offered outside these times (e.g., postgraduate seminar courses which frequently take place on Wednesdays).

Pastoral Practice

Candidates commit to a placement education experience in a 'Teaching Hospital,' from September to April. The basic areas of ministerial practice within the placement site are typically as follows: integrated pastoral care ministry serving patients and their families, within a clinical environment, where relevant including critical and emergency care; leading or participating in hospital liturgies and services in the chapel, mortuary, ward, or bedside; and, professional relationship building and pastoral care of staff, strengthening the pastoral care department. Placement usually takes place between Sunday and Wednesday of each week, for an average of 19 hours per week, with classes in Maynooth on Thursday and Friday. Candidates may also be required to participate in a number of block placements in their placement sites, with an extended contact time of 22–25 hours per week.

In Year One, placement education sites, or 'Teaching Hospitals', are assigned to the student by the PT08430 Pastoral Practice Module Lead. The Pastoral Practice module includes the following: mentoring support with an on-site Placement Contact Person (the Director of Pastoral Care/Head Chaplain) or his/her Designated Alternate; one-to-one consultation with an assigned staff mentor in the Pontifical University; two visits by an assigned Placement Supervisor; participation in weekly small-group, peer-support, theological reflection sessions; and, an end-of-year integration day. The placement education experience is a central context for learning and growth, and is fundamental for the overall pastoral formation of the candidates.

In Year Two, placement is arranged by the candidate, in collaboration with the PT08430 Pastoral Practice Module Lead. The candidate must undertake 100 hours of placement, and participate in theological reflection sessions. They are encouraged to complete the placement in the first semester.

Summer Intensive Placement in Clinical Setting

At the end of the academic year in Year One, students will undertake a second placement in a clinical setting consisting of 350 hours of clinical practice. Assigned clinical areas may include: intensive care unit, trauma care, stroke care, emergency department, oncology, and haematology care. Small-group, peer-support, theological reflection sessions will take place at the placement site, facilitating a deepening of the student's reflective practice. The placement will consist of 10 weeks of placement, with 35 hours of clinical practice each week. Where possible, the placement will include three nights of rostered work and three rostered weekends, or equivalent. Continual Professional Development Inputs will take place during this period.

Assessment

Each module will be assessed by class attendance, participation, presentations, and written assignments, or as outlined within the module descriptors. The two primary processes of assessment for the Pastoral Practice module will be as follows: placement supervised visits (two in total) and a pastoral practice portfolio. Candidates need to pass all components of assessments in order to pass the respective module.

Note: progression to a doctoral programme within St Patrick's Pontifical University from this programme requires the successful completion of the Doctoral Qualifying Year, the parameters of which are established by the Faculty of Theology.

Master's in Theology (MTh)
Pastoral Liturgy
Two Years / Taught Masters

Programme Co-ordinator: Dr Neil Xavier O'Donoghue

This 120-credit Level 9 programme in Pastoral Liturgy responds to the contemporary need for pastoral mission and liturgical formation in the Church. It is intended for those who wish to develop their theological understanding of the liturgy and enhance their practical skills for liturgical ministry and pastoral leadership.

While the programme is rooted in the context of parish ministry in Ireland, it addresses questions and challenges common to Catholic communities throughout the world and may also be of interest to those engaged in ministry within other liturgical traditions.

The programme combines academic study with pastoral and practical formation. The first year consists of the curriculum of the Higher Diploma in Pastoral Liturgy, delivered in a blended-learning format. Students who successfully complete the first year progress to the second year, which comprises advanced postgraduate modules in theology and liturgy together with a minor dissertation (15,000 words) completed under the supervision of a member of the Faculty of Theology.

The programme is designed both for those engaged in liturgical ministry and for those wishing to undertake further postgraduate study in liturgy and related disciplines.

The programme is comprised of the prescribed programme in first year, with a choice of postgraduate seminars (30 ECTs) and a dissertation in the second year (30 ECTs).

Admission Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is an honours primary degree in which Theology comprises at least an equal joint honours component. Candidates should have obtained at least Second Class Honours, Grade I overall, and Second Class Honours, Grade I in Theology. An interview will be part of the selection process.

The Faculty of Theology may also accept applicants whom it deems to have achieved an equivalent standard. Candidates who undertake the Higher Diploma in Pastoral Liturgy may progress to the second year of the Masters programme on achieving a 2.1 grade and demonstrating research capacity through a 5000 word written submission.

Candidates whose first language is not English will be required to satisfy the English language requirement.

Difference between our MTh in Liturgy programmes:
Note this programme is directed towards those who are interested in pastoral liturgy and ministering in a liturgical context in a diocesan, parish or community level. It is not envisioned for those who want to enter academia or continue for a Doctorate. Those students are encouraged to consider the MTh in Liturgical Theology which has a more academic focus.

Programme of Study

In addition to the following programme of study, candidates must complete *Postgraduate Induction* which takes place in September, the week before lectures begin.

Year 1
See the Programme Descriptor of the Higher Diploma in Pastoral Liturgy.

Year 2
The cross-disciplinary module

- **PG09709:** Resourcing: Theology and Renewal in the 20th Century

Two Liturgy Modules

- **PG09718:** The Ancient Norm of the Holy Fathers: A History of the Liturgy in the Patristic Era
- **PG09484:** Liturgy: Ritual, Theological and Historical Approaches

Minor Thesis

The dissertation is to be written under the direction of a member of the Faculty of Theology, and submitted by candidates in their second year by 3.00pm on the second Thursday in August.
***Note*:** This programme is intended primarily for those engaged in liturgical ministry and pastoral leadership. Students whose goal is doctoral research are encouraged to consider the MTh in Liturgical Theology. Graduates of this programme who wish subsequently to pursue doctoral studies would normally be required to complete the Doctoral Qualifying Phase and any additional requirements determined by the Faculty of Theology.

Higher Diploma in Pastoral Liturgy

Programme Co-ordinator: Rev. Dr. Neil Xavier O'Donoghue

The Higher Diploma in Pastoral Liturgy is a one-year, Level 8, 60 ECTS credit programme rooted in the rich tradition of liturgical scholarship and formation developed through the National Centre for Liturgy and now carried forward within St Patrick's Pontifical University. Delivered through a blended-learning format, it provides learners who hold a primary degree with a foundation in pastoral liturgy and equips them to take an active leadership role in the liturgical life of the Church at parish, diocesan, and other pastoral levels. The programme may also serve as a pathway to further postgraduate study in liturgical theology or pastoral ministry.

Admission Requirements

- A primary degree or its equivalent is required.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must satisfy the University's English language requirements.
- As much of the programme is delivered online, learners are required to have basic academic computer skills and access to a computer and the internet.
- Applications are welcomed from candidates who possess appropriate ability, knowledge, and experience through the University's Recognised Prior Learning (RPL) and Recognised Prior Experiential Learning (RPEL) schemes. Full details are available on the University website.

Timetable

The programme is delivered through a blended-learning format:

- Online classes take place each Wednesday evening from 6.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.
- Learners are expected to undertake approximately three hours of self-directed learning each week during teaching periods.
- Six weekend residentials (Friday/Saturday), three in each semester, provide face-to-face teaching and formation opportunities.
- Additional time should be allowed each week for reading, study, and assessment work.

Programme of Study

The HDip in Pastoral Liturgy is comprised of the following modules:

Higher Diploma in Pastoral Liturgy				
Module Code	Module title	Lecturer	ECTS	Semester
LI08393	Christian Initiation I: Order of the Christian Initiation of Adults	Clavin	5	1
LI08398	Liturgical Vocabulary: an Introduction to Liturgy	O'Donoghue	5	1
LI08392	The Church's Year: Time, Seasons and Feasts	Baxter	5	1
LI08395	Scripture and Liturgy – Ministers, Proclamation, Books	Fitzgerald	5	1
LI08399	Music in Catholic Liturgy	O'Kane	5	1
ST08403	The Church and its Sacraments	Surlis	5	1
LI08389	Scripture Heard and Proclaimed	O'Mahony	5	2
LI08391	Leading God's People in Public Prayer	Hayden	5	2
LI08394	Christian Initiation II: The Eucharist – Celebration and Theology	McGee	5	2
LI08397	Liturgical Questions – New Directions: Leadership and Implementation	Sheridan	5	2
LI08388	Technology & Catholic Liturgy	Forbes	5	2
LI08387	Journal + Portfolio: Liturgical Critique	O'Donoghue	5	Yearlong

Diploma in Pastoral Liturgy

The Diploma in Pastoral Liturgy is a one-year, Level 7, 60 ECTS credit programme delivered alongside the Higher Diploma in a common teaching structure. It provides an accredited introduction to pastoral liturgy for those who do not hold a primary degree but who wish to deepen their understanding of the liturgical life of the Church and develop their capacity for liturgical ministry.

Admission Requirements

- A basic academic qualification at second level, or its equivalent, is normally required.
- Particular consideration will be given to applicants with relevant pastoral experience in their parish or diocese.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must satisfy the University's English language requirements.
- Learners are required to have basic academic computer skills and access to a computer and the internet.
- Applications through the University's RPL and RPEL schemes are welcome.

Timetable

The programme is delivered through a blended-learning format:

- Online classes take place each Wednesday evening from 6.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.
- Learners are expected to undertake approximately three hours of self-directed learning each week during teaching periods.
- Six weekend residentials (Friday/Saturday), three in each semester, provide face-to-face teaching and formation opportunities.
- Additional time should be allowed each week for reading, study, and assessment work.

Programme of Study

Please note that learners on the Diploma and Higher Diploma follow the same programme of study and attend the same classes. Assessment, learning outcomes, and expectations are differentiated according to Level 7 and Level 8 standards respectively.

Master's in Liturgical Music (MLM)
Two Years Full-time

Programme Co-ordinators: Rev Dr Neil Xavier O'Donoghue, Dr John O'Keeffe

The Master's Degree in Liturgical Music is a joint academic and practice-based programme designed to prepare graduates for ministry and leadership as organists, cantors, and directors of music at parish and diocesan level. Each year of the programme will consist of theological and theoretical study of the Church's liturgy, with specific attention to the area of liturgical music. This academic component will be balanced by an intensive course of supervised practical training in a number of core liturgical music disciplines.

Admission Requirements

The course is especially suited to applicants who have studied Theology and Music to honours degree level. Candidates should normally have obtained at least a Second-Class Honours, Grade I overall. The Faculty of Theology may also accept candidates whom it deems to have an equivalent standard. An interview will be part of the selection process. As this Master's programme contains a significant practical component, prospective candidates will be expected to demonstrate an appropriate level of proficiency in either organ performance or vocal performance at interview. Candidates whose first language is not English will be required to satisfy the English language requirements.

Course Aims:

- To provide an academic framework appropriate to the study of Theology at Master's level.
- To provide candidates with an in-depth theological and theoretical formation in the liturgy of the Church.
- To form candidates in the historical, textual, doctrinal and technical aspects of liturgical music.
- To enhance candidates' critical awareness of music composed for and performed in the liturgy.
- To significantly enhance course participants' competency and confidence in selected practical disciplines.

Programme of Study

Year One of the programme consists of six core academic modules, together with at least two practical modules. Year Two, divided equally between academic and practical elements, focuses on the writing of a dissertation on a topic related to the area of liturgical music, and a major practicum in one of the musical disciplines listed below. Candidates must complete *Postgraduate Induction* which takes place before the commencement of the academic year (i.e. in September).

Year One

Core Academic Modules*:

		ECTS
•	PG09708: Pastoral Practice of Liturgy	10
	or	
	PG09484: Liturgy: Ritual, Theological and Historical Approaches	10
•	PG09487: Sacramental Theology	10
•	LI08151: Introduction to Liturgy & Sacraments of Initiation	5
•	LI08203: The Celebration of the Eucharist	5
•	LM09101 Music in Christian Worship	5
•	LM09403: Aspects of Liturgical Music	5

**Recognition of Prior Learning* may be considered for certain candidates in respect of these modules.

Practical Modules:

- LM09404: Liturgical Composition I (YEARLONG) 10
  (required module for ALL students)
- LM09402: Organ Skills I (YEARLONG) 10
  or
- LM09411: Plainchant Performance (semester one) 5
  Plus in semester two:
  - LM09410: Plainchant Performance - Forms and Contexts 5
    or
  - LM09420: Sacred Aria I 5

Total Credits in Year One **60**

Year Two

- LM09409: Liturgical Composition II 30

  or

- LM09407: Organ Skills II 30

  or

- LM09412: Plainchant Performance II 30

  or

- LM09421: Sacred Aria II 30

- Dissertation 30

Total Credits in Year Two 60

Dissertation

The dissertation (15,000 words) is to be written under the direction of a member of the Faculty of Theology, and submitted by candidates by 3.00pm on the last Thursday in June.

Assessment:

Academic modules are assessed by class attendance, presentations and written assignments. Practical modules are assessed in exam-style presentations and, in the case of liturgical composition, the presentation of a portfolio of work.

Note: progression to the PhD from this programme requires the successful completion of a doctoral qualifying year, the parameters of which are established by the Faculty of Theology.

Diploma in Diaconal Studies

Programme Coordinator: Sr Bernadette Duffy HCS, MED-Masters in Education, Law and Policy.

The *Diploma in Diaconal Studies* is a 90 ECT (level 7) part-time hybrid programme over three years. The aims and learning outcomes of the programme are those already agreed with the National Training Authority for the Permanent Diaconate of the Irish Episcopal Conference.

Programme Aims and Learning Outcomes

The aims of this programme are:

- To equip future permanent deacons with broad knowledge of the theological content of their faith
- To foster the development of a reflective approach to ministry thereby ensuring a fruitful meeting between faith and contemporary culture
- To deepen awareness and appreciation of the wide variety of the forms of ecclesial ministry, lay and ordained
- To enable candidates to acquire skills and resources that will sustain them throughout their ministry.

By the end of this programme successful candidates will be able to:

- exhibit a foundational knowledge of the doctrines of faith and theology
- demonstrate an ability to read and interpret biblical and ecclesiastical texts
- utilise the skill of theological reflection
- apply research methods appropriate to theology and pastoral ministry
- draw on bibliographical resources, research methods and secondary material responsibly.

Policies and Procedures of this programme are given further specification in the Student Handbook, which are aligned to those of the Pontifical University.

Admission Requirements

Admission on the programme is by way of acceptance by a Roman Catholic Bishop on to a formation programme for the Permanent Diaconate. For further details, see the website: https://sppu.ie/courses/diploma-in-diaconal-studies

Academic Programme/Curriculum

Note: Year Two is not running in the 2026/27 academic year.

Year One			
	Semester 1		
DS07101	Reason Faith and Revelation	Fleming	5 Credits
DS07136	Introduction to the Bible and its Worlds	O'Connell	5 Credits
DS07103	Introduction to Moral Theology	Klassen	2.5 Credits
	Semester 2		
DS07105	Catholic Social Teaching	Klassen	5 Credits
DS07400	Foundations of Worship	O'Donoghue	5 Credits
DS07102	Pastoral Theology for the Permanent Diaconate	Cullen	5 Credits
DS07305	Christian History	Woods	2.5 Credits
Year Two			
	Semester 1		
DS07206	Understanding Jesus Christ Today	Scerri	5 Credits
DS07204	The Catholic Moral Tradition and Bioethics	Shortall	5 Credits
DS07205	The Old Testament	De Lima	5 Credits
	Semester 2		
DS07203	The Church and its Sacraments	O'Donoghue	5 Credits
DS07207	The New Testament	Macnamara	5 Credits
DS07201	Theological Anthropology	Furnal	2.5 Credits
DS07202	Catechetics	Sheridan	2.5 Credits
Year Three			
	Semester 1		
DS07303	Spiritual Theology and Mariology	Furnal	2.5 Credits
DS07302	Canon Law: Introduction	O'Kane	2.5 Credits
DS07307	Seven Sacraments	Baxter	5 Credits
DS07304	The Christian Communities of John and Paul	Macnamara	5 Credits
	Semester Two		
DS07306	Canon Law: Applied	O'Kane	5 Credits
DS07301	Ethics of Love & Life	Fleming	2.5 Credits
DS07310	The Word Alive	O'Connell	2.5 Credits
DS07309	Human Flourishing	Mallon	2.5 Credits
DS07308	Theology of the Diaconate and the New Evangelisation	Mallon	2.5 Credits

Revision of the Calculation of Final programme Grades for the Diploma in Diaconal Studies

Currently, the final grade is calculated on the grades obtained in year three of the programme.

The revision, states that 30% of the final grade is based on the grades of the modules taken in the student's second year of the programme and that 70% of the final grade is based on the grades taken in the student's third year of the programme.

This policy applies to the incoming second year students for 2026/2027 and for all subsequent cohorts.

This policy will not apply to the incoming third year students for 2026/2027 whose final grade will be calculated exclusively on grades awarded in their final year.

Diploma in Pastoral Ministry

Programme Co-ordinator: *Maureen Kelly, MA*

Subject	Theology	**NFQ Level (eqlv)**	7
Programme Duration	2 Years Part Time	**Credits (ECTS)**	60

The Diploma in Pastoral Ministry (DPM) is awarded to students who have successfully completed a 2-year part-time programme devoted to the study of Pastoral Ministry.

Diploma in Pastoral Ministry Aims and Objectives

The programme forms adult learners for lay ministries identified by the diocese and is oriented toward the formation of skills and competencies for ministry. It provides learners with a grounding in core aspects of theology, liturgy, spirituality and reflective practice and allows specialisation for formation toward a specific ministry – pastoral care or catechesis. The programme combines an academic programme with reflective practice which includes ministry placements. It is specifically designed to prepare learners for recognised lay ministry.

The aims of this programme are:

- To equip lay pastoral ministers with a broad knowledge of the theological content of their faith.
- To foster the development of a reflective approach to ministry thereby ensuring a fruitful meeting between faith and contemporary culture.
- To deepen awareness and appreciation of the wide variety of the forms of ecclesial ministry, lay and ordained.
- To form people in collaborative approaches to pastoral ministry.
- To enable candidates to acquire skills and resources that will sustain them throughout their ministry.

Programme Learning Outcomes

On completion of the programme, graduates will be able to:

- Demonstrate a broad understanding of theology as this relates to pastoral ministry.
- Display a specific knowledge of the theory, policy and practice of a specific area of ministry e.g. pastoral care and accompaniment; liturgy and prayer leadership; leadership and administration; or catechesis and adult faith formation.

- Engage with diverse sources to acquire new insights, integrating concepts from theology, psychology, community development and pastoral practice.
- Utilise the skills of theological reflection in the development of their ministry.
- Apply creative and conceptual skills and tools in pastoral ministry contexts including the relational skills needed to work collaboratively with others.
- Respond with flexibility to a wide and often unpredictable range of pastoral needs and challenges.
- Express an internalised world view grounded in solidarity with others and exhibiting empathy and cultural sensitivity in pastoral relationships and ministry practices.

Admission Requirements

Candidates for the programme are put forward by their Diocese after completing a discernment process within the Diocese.

Courses for the Diploma in Pastoral Ministry

First Year Programme

Modules are described in full on the St Patrick's Pontifical University website.

MODULE CODE	MODULE TITLE	MODULE LEAD	SEM	CREDIT
THEOLOGICAL CORE				
PM07101	The Bible as Scripture	Rogers	1	5
PM07102	Liturgy	J Kavanagh	1	2.5
PM07103	Human Flourishing	D Coonan	1	2.5
PM07104	Sacraments	M Connolly	2	2.5
PM07105	Theological Foundations	O'Brien	2	5
SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES				
PM07106	Skills and Competencies for Pastoral Care 1	Kelly	2	2.5
OR				
PM07107	Skills and Competencies for Faith Formation 1	Sheridan	2	2.5

REFLECTIVE PRACTICE				
PM07108	Reflective Practice 1	Kelly	YL	10

Second Year Programme

MODULE CODE	MODULE TITLE	MODULE LEAD	SEM	CREDIT
THEOLOGICAL CORE				
PM07109	The Familiar Stranger: Foundations in Pastoral Theology	O'Connell	1	5
PM07110	Prayer and Spirituality	Doherty	2	2.5
PM07111	Christian Discipleship in a Changing World	Corkery	2	2.5
PM07112	Ecclesiology for Ministry	O'Brien	2	2.5
SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES				
PM07113	Skills and Competencies for Pastoral Care 2	Kelly/Doherty	YL	7.5
OR				
PM07114	Skills and Competencies for Faith Formation 2	Kelly/Doherty	YL	7.5
REFLECTIVE PRACTICE				
PM07115	Reflective Practice in Ministry 2	Kelly/Doherty	YL	10

Module Descriptors

Theological Foundations
This module equips learners to articulate core beliefs in a way that connects trinitarian and sacramental theology, faith and revelation, grace, and pneumatology with the lived experience of faith communities.

Human Flourishing
This module will enable learners to explore fundamental concepts in the area of personal development and promote learners' reflection on their own growth. It will provide a general introduction to human development over the life-span and a framework for understanding the different issues that arise at significant developmental stages. Participants will be helped to reflect on their own affective patterns and to identify their strengths, weaknesses and growing edges. Finally, this self-exploration is placed in

dialogue with the Christian understanding of the human person as made in the image and likeness of God.

The Bible as Word of God
The students are introduced to the literature of the Old and New Testaments as sacred scripture.
Indicative syllabus: key characters (Abraham, Moses, David, Jesus, Paul); foundational themes (creation, covenant, exodus, exile, kingdom of God, discipleship); the relation of Old and New Testaments; reading the Bible as story; the practice of *lectio divina* as a way of actualising biblical texts today.

Liturgy
The students are introduced to an understanding of liturgy and the core theological category of the worshipping community as the Church. Some basic ideas on symbol, ritual and language provide an opportunity to study liturgical space and time.

Sacraments
Students study the place of sacramental and liturgical celebrations in the Church and how the Church is made manifest in its liturgical activity and through the celebration of the seven sacraments. The students explore the role & responsibility of the parish as the place of sacramental preparation.

Ecclesiology
Students are introduced to the place of the parish and the diocese in a wider understanding of the universal Church. They will study various understandings of the Church in the New Testament and in church history. They will also study the vision of the Church as set down in the Second Vatican Council and what it means to understand the Church as synodal in nature.

Christian Discipleship in a Changing world
Students explore the concept of the Christian life as a call to live in right relationships – with self, others and creation. The students explore this aspect of Christian discipleship with reference to issues of justice, human stewardship, care for the Earth, and Christian witness in society.

The Familiar Stranger: Foundations in Pastoral Christology
The Many Portraits of Jesus in the Gospels; Jesus in History: Jesus as a Jew; What does it mean to say that Jesus is God?; What does it mean to say that Jesus truly human?; Jesus' Self Knowledge and his Knowledge of God; Jesus and the Cross: Limit, Violence, and Death; Jesus, the Resurrection, and Salvation; Jesus and Women: Meeting Jesus in his Time; Jesus: Prophet of Liberation.

Prayer and Spirituality
This module recognises that all pastoral activity is rooted in the human response to the action of God. The students are introduced to the tradition of prayer both in the life of the church and in terms of the personal relationship with God. Public prayer privileges the psalms and follows particular forms and patterns. Personal prayer is rooted in one's personal relationship with God and may be expressed in many different ways. How various traditions of prayer and popular devotions including Marian devotion are to be understood and integrated will be explored.

Skills and Competencies for Pastoral Care
This module provides knowledge and skills for effective pastoral visitation, funeral ministry, working collaboratively and facilitating groups.

Skills and Competencies for Faith Formation
This module equips students to work with the Grow in Love Programme, to minister with children and parents, to evaluate and implement available programmes for adult faith development, to work collaboratively and to facilitate groups.

Reflective Practice 1 and 2
These modules develop skills for ministry and for reflective practice through insertion in a pastoral placement. Learners engage in a facilitated concomitant process of Pastoral Theological Reflection within peer groups. This process offers opportunities for learners' honest appraisal and self-reflection through exploration of encounters, events and experiences in their ministry placements as well as attending to the impact of the cultural context on the ministry situation. It supports learners to discern God's presence and action in their ministry and to make sense of their ministry practice in the light of the Christian tradition.

Diploma in Youth Ministry and Spirituality

Not running in Academic year 2026/2027

Programme Co-ordinator: Eileen O'Connell OP, MTh, MA

Subject	Theology	**NFQ Level (eqlv)**	7
Programme Duration	1 Year Full Time/ 2 Year(s) Part Time*	**Credits (ECTS)**	60

The Diploma in Youth Ministry and Spirituality programme prepares learners to engage in practice as youth ministers in a professional manner. The programme design supports the academic, theological, pastoral, spiritual, personal, and professional development of learners with a further focus on growth in self-understanding. It is structured to ensure integration of academic study with practice-based learning – accompanying young people in different pastoral situations, in diverse settings, including school, parish, and youth centres (clubs and projects).

The study of fundamental pedagogical concepts and theories is complemented and enhanced by ongoing practical experience on placement where learners develop practical skills needed to minister professionally and effectively. The programme structure facilitates learners to develop both pastoral knowledge and professional skills for youth ministry in a Catholic context and provides opportunities to specialise in aspects of practice.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this programme, learners will be able to:

1) demonstrate understanding of the theological foundations of ministry and, in particular, their application to Salesian Youth Ministry and various aspects of Salesian Youth Spirituality in its pedagogical and group dimensions for young people, especially the spirituality of the Salesian Preventive System

2) recognise the complex interaction between theory and practice in youth ministry and, applying this learning, articulate the theology underpinning their ministerial identity and their practice as youth ministers

3) understand the attitudes, skills and abilities required for youth ministry and demonstrate growth in their competence in these areas

4) engage in self-reflection on their practice in ministry and in evaluation of their own suitability for effective youth ministry

5) identify and engage with the particular demands of youth ministry in a variety of contexts

6) understand how to interpret and communicate Scripture, theology and the basics of the Christian faith from a youth perspective and engage with the complexity of youth evangelisation in a secularised society

Admission Requirements

In order to register for courses leading to the Diploma in Youth Ministry and Spirituality, learners:

- require Leaving Certificate (or equivalent) from a recognised education institution with a minimum of a pass in five subjects
- sufficient working experience in youth ministry
  learners whose first language is not English will be required to satisfy the English language requirement
- successful individual interviews are an essential part of the selection process.

St Patrick's Pontifical University also accepts applications to its programmes from all prospective learners who possess the ability, knowledge and experience through its widening participation schemes. The University operates a Recognised Prior Learning (RPL)and Prior Experiential Learning (RPEL) scheme which recognises relevant prior learning and experience for admission and/or credit purposes. Full details are available on the University website.

Candidates who are interested in part-time engagement must indicate this preference at application stage.
Note: even if an applicant meets our minimum admission requirements, The University cannot guarantee a place on the course.

Programme of Study

MODULE CODE	MODULE TITLE	LECTURER	SEM	CREDIT
YM07107	Pastoral Practice	Kelly, O'Connell	YL	20 ECTS
PT07431	Prayer Leadership	O'Connell, Lynch	YL	5 ECTS
PT07432	Caring and Spiritual Accompaniment in Community	Rogers	YL	5 ECTS
PT07434	Theology and Pastoral Ministry	Cullen	YL	7.5 ECTS
PT07438	Educational Chaplaincy: Ministry of Catechesis and Faith Formation	Sheridan	S1	2.5 ECTS
YM07101	Professional Youth Ministry in Practice	Hennessy	S1	5 ECTS
YM07102	Salesian Spirituality and Young People	McDonnell	S1	5 ECTS
YM07103	Social Media and Engagement	Forbes	S2	5 ECTS

YM07104	The Word of God and the Salesian Mission in the Contemporary World	Odia	S2	5 ECTS

Module Descriptors

YM07107: Pastoral Practice
This module seeks to connect academic study of theology with placement-based learning in youth ministry settings. In weekly facilitated Pastoral Theological Reflection Groups with peers, learners explore and interrogate their ministry experiences in light of their academic and practice-based learning.

PT07431: Prayer Leadership
This module introduces learners to the spiritual and intellectual contours of Christian prayer, and its practice in liturgical and pastoral contexts. As well as providing an overview of the various forms of Christian prayer, it provides a formation in prayer leadership, and framework to acquire the knowledge and skills that are necessary to effectively lead and guide people in prayer. Participants explore the theological foundations of public prayer and liturgy. Through a combination of prayer and reflective practice, study, reading, leading sessions, and learners deepen their own prayer awareness and develop competence in leading shared prayer in its diverse forms.

PT07432: Caring and Spiritual Accompaniment in Community
This module introduces the ethos and methodologies of differing forms of accompaniment: Pastoral Counselling and Spiritual Accompaniment. Learners are introduced to interpersonal skills and aptitudes required for accompaniment. It familiarises learners with best professional practices in counselling and spiritual support while drawing upon the resources of the Christian tradition. The module differentiates between different types of accompaniment and the settings and practices appropriate to each. It pays particular attention to questions of appropriate boundaries and when and how to refer for professional counselling.

PT0734: Theology and Pastoral Ministry
This module introduces learners to the nature of pastoral and practical theology and the theological foundations of Christian discipleship and ministry. It explores key features of pastoral practice in varying contexts; draws out the pastoral and ministerial implications of major theological themes and the importance of theological hermeneutics; introduces learners to the basic models of theological reflection and concepts of contextual theology, including methodological issues, providing a brief overview of Bevans' classic models of contextual theology.

PT07438: Educational Chaplaincy: Ministry of Catechesis and Faith Formation
This module introduces learners to the foundation, aims, and concepts of religious education, catechesis, and Catholic Education in furtherance of their education in pastoral ministry. It provides learners with a knowledge of the life and work of Irish primary schools under Catholic Patronage, while assisting them in understanding the

spirituality of the child. They gain understanding of the primary school religious education programme and how this integrates into the work of a chaplain, in particular the prayer-life and sacramental preparation and celebration of the class.

YM07101: Professional Youth Ministry in Practice
The essential task of youth ministry in the Salesian and Christian tradition is to unfold and to help young people to explore and discover/accept a Life Project based on this encounter. This module aims to equip students with knowledge of social, cultural, and economic issues around youth ministry and best practice in making principled decisions and organisational policies. It recognises the multiple and overlapping communities of which youth are a part: global; family-based community; faith community including church and education settings; youth movements; and other settings in the wider community.

YM07102: Salesian Spirituality and Young People
This module enables learners to acquire the intellectual framework and theological foundation, within the Salesian tradition, to engage critically with the principles and assumptions that underpin youth ministry and distinguish it from youth work. It aims to develop awareness of personal bias and assumptions that may limit one's understanding of youth ministry and to help learners interrogate their experience so as to understand better their operative image of God. Learners are equipped to analyse and reflect critically on attitudes, skills and abilities required for youth ministry in various contexts.

YM07103: Social Media and Engagement
This module introduces learners to the critical concepts, methods and best practice in social media with respect to its use in pastoral and ecclesial settings. The primary objective is to equip learners with the knowledge and practical skills needed to create high-impact content for use on social/digital mediums. It aims to help learners foster the ability to develop and evaluate social media strategies, devise effective social campaigns, analyse relevant metrics and consider the ethical and legal implications of engaging with young people through digital mediums. Learners gain exposure to the latest techniques and tools for communicating effectively in contemporary pastoral and ecclesial settings.

YM07104: The Word of God and the Salesian Mission in the Contemporary World
This module introduces learners to a Salesian reading of Scripture, engaging with biblical scholarship, in fidelity to the Salesian mission to young people and their contemporary concerns and needs that prompt and shape Salesian pastoral activity. Learners will learn the principles and skills to begin to explore their own Salesian reading of the Gospel for life in the present day.

Learning Ethos

This Diploma programme places a strong emphasis on participative learning. At a personal level, the course addresses the integration of academic and practice-based learning, with a focus on growth in self-understanding as well as personal, relational, and spiritual development. Learning happens through course work, participation in seminars, presentations, human development, exploration of learner's own personal faith journey, and placement education. While classes are normally on Thursday and Friday of each week, learners may be required to attend courses and seminars that are only available outside these times.

Pastoral Practice

Learners engage in placement from October to April. Typically, basic areas of ministerial practice include: catechesis in school and/or community contexts, including leading faith-based youth programmes and projects; spiritual accompaniment and care of young people; relationship building and pastoral care of parents and families.

One Year, Full-Time learners: Placement usually takes place between Sunday and Wednesday of each week, for an average of 10-12 hours per week, along with a number of block placements with an extended contact time of 16-18 hours per week. Learners are on campus for lectures during two days, Thursday and Friday, on average 12-14 hours, per week.

Two Year, Part-Time learners: Placement usually takes place between Sunday and Wednesday of each week in the two academic years, for an average of 5-6 hours per week, along with a number of block placements with extended contact time of 8-9 hours per week. Learners are on campus for lectures during one day, on average, 6-7 hours per week. Typically, part-time learners take the modules timetabled on one day during the first year and take the remaining modules in the second year.

Placements are arranged by the PT430 Pastoral Practice Module Lead in collaboration with the learner. The Pastoral Practice module includes the following: mentoring support with an on-site Placement Contact Person, or Designated Alternate; pastoral supervision/one-to-one consultation with an assigned staff mentor in the Pontifical University; one/two visits by an assigned External Pastoral Placement Appraiser; participation in weekly small-group pastoral theological reflection group; and an end-of-year integration day. The placement is a central context for learning and growth, and is fundamental for the overall pastoral formation of learners.

Assessment

Each module will be assessed by class attendance, participation, presentations, and written assignments as outlined within the module descriptors. The processes of assessment for the Pastoral Practice module include: placement appraisal visits and a pastoral practice portfolio. Learners need to pass all components of assessments in order to pass the respective module.

Higher Diploma in Youth Ministry and Spirituality

Not running in Academic year 2026/2027

Programme Co-ordinator: Eileen O'Connell OP, MTh, MA

Subject	Theology	**NFQ Level (eqlv)**	8
Programme Duration	1 Year Full Time/ 2 Year(s) Part Time*	**Credits (ECTS)**	60

The Higher Diploma in Youth Ministry and Spirituality programme prepares learners to engage in their practice as youth ministers in a professional manner. The programme design supports the academic, theological, pastoral, spiritual, personal, and professional development of learners and the development of skills and competencies in leadership with a further focus on growth in self-understanding. It is structured to ensure the integration of academic study with practice-based learning – accompanying young people in different pastoral situations, in diverse settings, including school, parish, and youth centres (clubs and projects). The study of fundamental pedagogical concepts and theories is complemented and enhanced by ongoing practical experience on placement where learners develop practical skills needed to minister professionally and effectively. The programme structure facilitates learners to develop both pastoral knowledge and professional skills for youth ministry in a Catholic context and provides opportunities to specialise in aspects of practice.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this programme, learners will be able to:

1) demonstrate an understanding of the theological foundations of ministry and their application to youth ministry and spirituality in dialogue with developing thinking and contemporary ecclesial understanding

2) articulate the interplay between theory and practice in youth ministry and elaborate how this shapes their ministerial identity

3) practice as competent, skillful youth pastoral ministers, with the knowledge, attitudes and abilities required for youth ministry, with capacity for leadership, working collaboratively, and offering pastoral care appropriate to young people

4) engage in ongoing self-reflection and self-evaluation regarding their practice; recognise the attitudes, values, assumptions that influence ministry and how ministry approaches impact young people; use these insights to maximise their effectiveness in youth ministry

5) identify, reflect critically on, engage with, and respond creatively and effectively to the particular demands of youth ministry in a variety of contexts

6) analyse and critically apply methods for interpreting and communicating Scripture, theology and the basics of the Christian faith from a youth perspective and engage with the complexity of youth evangelization in a secularised society.

Admission Requirements

In order to register for courses leading to the Higher Diploma in Youth Ministry and Spirituality, learners:

- require a recognised degree qualification where theology is at least a major component
- learners whose first language is not English will be required to satisfy the English language requirement
- successful individual interviews are an essential part of the selection process.

Candidates with a primary degree in which theology is at least a minor component and deemed to have sufficient and appropriate experience in pastoral ministry may be admitted. These learners may be required to take courses in theology to qualify for admission.

Note: even if an applicant meets our minimum admission requirements, The University cannot guarantee a place on the course.

St Patrick's Pontifical University also accepts applications to its programmes from all prospective learners who possess the ability, knowledge and experience through its widening participation schemes. The University operates a Recognised Prior Learning (RPL)and Prior Experiential Learning (RPEL) scheme which recognises relevant prior learning and experience for admission and/or credit purposes. Full details are available on the University website..

Programme of Study

MODULE CODE	MODULE TITLE	LECTURER	SEM	CREDIT
YM08108	Pastoral Practice	Kelly, O'Connell	YL	20 ECTS
PT08431	Prayer Leadership	O'Connell, Lynch	YL	5 ECTS
PT08432	Caring and Spiritual Accompaniment in Community	Rogers	YL	5 ECTS
PT08434	Theology and Pastoral Ministry	Cullen	YL	7.5 ECTS
PT08438	Educational Chaplaincy: Ministry of Catechesis and Faith Formation	Sheridan	S1	2.5 ECTS

YM08101	Professional Youth Ministry in Practice	Hennessy	S1	5 ECTS
YM08102	Salesian Spirituality and Young People	McDonnell	S1	5 ECTS
YM08103	Social Media and Engagement	Forbes	S2	5 ECTS
YM08104	The Word of God and the Salesian Mission in the Contemporary World	Odia	S2	5 ECTS

Module Descriptors

This module seeks to connect academic study of theology with placement-based learning in youth ministry settings. In weekly facilitated Pastoral Theological Reflection Groups with peers, learners explore and interrogate their ministry experiences in light of their academic and practice-based learning.

PT08431: Prayer Leadership

This module introduces learners to the spiritual and intellectual contours of Christian prayer, and its practice in liturgical and pastoral contexts. As well as providing an overview of the various forms of Christian prayer, it provides a formation in prayer leadership, and framework to acquire the knowledge and skills that are necessary to effectively lead and guide people in prayer. Participants explore the theological foundations of public prayer and liturgy. Through a combination of prayer and reflective practice, study, reading, leading sessions, and learners deepen their own prayer awareness and develop competence in leading shared prayer in its diverse forms.

PT08432: Caring and Spiritual Accompaniment in Community

This module introduces the ethos and methodologies of differing forms of accompaniment: Pastoral Counselling and Spiritual Accompaniment. Learners are introduced to interpersonal skills and aptitudes required for accompaniment. It familiarises learners with best professional practices in counselling and spiritual support while drawing upon the resources of the Christian tradition. The module differentiates between different types of accompaniment and the settings and practices appropriate to each. It pays particular attention to questions of appropriate boundaries and when and how to refer for professional counselling.

PT0834: Theology and Pastoral Ministry

This module introduces learners to the nature of pastoral and practical theology and the theological foundations of Christian discipleship and ministry. It explores key features of pastoral practice in varying contexts; draws out the pastoral and ministerial implications of major theological themes and the importance of theological hermeneutics; introduces learners to the basic models of theological reflection and concepts of contextual theology, including methodological issues, providing a brief overview of Bevans' classic models of contextual theology.

PT08438: Educational Chaplaincy: Ministry of Catechesis and Faith Formation
This module introduces learners to the foundation, aims, and concepts of religious education, catechesis, and Catholic Education in furtherance of their education in pastoral ministry. It provides learners with a knowledge of the life and work of Irish primary schools under Catholic Patronage, while assisting them in understanding the spirituality of the child. They gain understanding of the primary school religious education programme and how this integrates into the work of a chaplain, in particular the prayer-life and sacramental preparation and celebration of the class.

YM08101: Professional Youth Ministry in Practice
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YM08102: Salesian Spirituality and Young People
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YM08103: Social Media and Engagement
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YM08104: The Word of God and the Salesian Mission in the Contemporary World
This module introduces learners to a Salesian reading of Scripture, engaging with biblical scholarship, in fidelity to the Salesian mission to young people and their contemporary concerns and needs that prompt and shape Salesian pastoral activity. Learners will learn the principles and skills to begin to explore their own Salesian reading of the Gospel for life in the present day.

Learning Ethos

The Higher Diploma programme places a strong emphasis on participative learning. At a personal level, the course addresses the integration of academic and practice-based learning, with a focus on growth in self-understanding as well as personal, relational, and spiritual development. Learning happens through course work, participation in seminars, presentations, human development, exploration of learner's own personal faith journey, and placement education. While classes are normally on Thursday and Friday of each week, learners may be required to attend courses and seminars that are only available outside these times.

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of-year integration day. The placement is a central context for learning and growth, and is fundamental for the overall pastoral formation of learners.

Assessment

Each module will be assessed by class attendance, participation, presentations, and written assignments as outlined within the module descriptors. The processes of assessment for the Pastoral Practice module include: placement appraisal visits and a pastoral practice portfolio. Learners need to pass all components of assessments in order to pass the respective module.

Diploma in Church Music

Programme Co-ordinator: Dr John O'Keeffe

Subject	Theology / Music	**NFQ Level (eqlv)**	**7**
Programme Duration	2 Years Part Time	**Credits (ECTS)**	30

The Diploma in Church Music is a Special Purpose Award, awarded to students who have successfully completed a 2-year part-time programme devoted to the study of Liturgical Music.
The Diploma in Church Music provides students with a unique opportunity to develop relevant musical skills and deepen their liturgical knowledge. This two-year, weekend-based, Level 7, 30 ECTS credits programme gives participants a foundation in church music in the Christian tradition.

Programme Learning Outcomes

On completion of the programme, graduates will be able to:

- Demonstrate a foundational knowledge of the liturgy of the Roman Rite, together with the music that operates within it
- Demonstrate competence in a range of specialized practical skills relevant to the discipline
- Exercise appropriate judgement in relation to the creation, selection and performance of liturgical music
- Successfully prepare and deliver individual and group performances of liturgical music repertoire

Admission Requirements

Applicants must already be involved in the ministry of church music in the Christian tradition, e.g. as organists, singers or choir directors, and have an ability to read music

First Year Programme

The following list of modules will be offered for the First Year ACRO Programme in the current year. Modules are described in full on the St Patrick's Pontifical University website.

MODULE CODE	MODULE TITLE	LECTURER	SEM	CREDIT
Year 1				
LM07130	Cantor Skills 1	Lyons	YL	5
LM07131	Choral Conducting 1	Conlon	YL	5
LM07132	Introduction to Liturgy	O'Kane	1	5
LM07133	Liturgical Composition	O'Donnell	YL	5
LM07134	Organ Studies 1	O'Donnell	YL	5
LM07135	The Liturgical Assembly and Ministry	Connolly	2	5
Year 2				
LM07140	Liturgy and Time	Connolly	1	5
LM07141	The Eucharist	O'Kane	2	5
And any two of the modules below				
LM07136	Cantor Skills 2	Lyons	YL	10
LM07137	Choral Conducting 2	Conlon	YL	10
LM07138	Liturgical Composition 2	Holden	YL	10
LM07139	Organ Studies 2	O'Donnell	YL	10

Collaborative Programmes

Collaborative Programmes Co-ordinator: Dr Jessie Rogers

1. Certificate in Person Centred Counselling (Marriage & Relationships)
Dr Mary Goss
ACCORD Central Office,
Columba Centre,
Maynooth, Co Kildare
TEL: 01-5053112
Website: www.accord.ie

2. Certificate in Marriage Education
Dr Mary Goss
ACCORD Central Office,
Columba Centre,
Maynooth, Co Kildare
TEL: 01-5053112
Website: www.accord.ie

3. **Certificate in Christian Studies**
United Dioceses of Tuam, Limerick and Killaloe
Diocese of Cashel Ferns and Ossory
Very Rev'd Dr Richard Marsh
Email: dean@stflannanscathedral.com

Diocese of Cork, Cloyne and Ross (Church of Ireland**)**
Rev Terry Mitchell, Diocesan Further Education and Training Officer
Email: furthereducation@corkchurchofireland.com
Phone: 087 2767562

4. Diploma in Spirituality (Spiritual Direction)
Eileen O'Brien
Manresa Jesuit Centre of Spirituality
426 Clontarf Road, Dollymount, Dublin 3.
Website: www.manresa.ie
Tel: +353 1 8331352

5. Certificate / Diploma / Degree in Theology (Adult Education and Pastoral Ministry)
Dr Maire Byrne
Armagh Diocesan Pastoral Office
Holy Family Parochial House
Hoey's Lane
Dundalk
Co. Louth
A91 K761
Tel: 00353 429351316
Email: milanda@parishandfamily,com

6. Carmelite Studies (Suite of Awards)
Certificate / Diploma in Spirituality (Carmelite Studies)
Certificate / Diploma in Theology (Carmelite Studies)
B.Th. (Carmelite Studies)
M.Th. (Carmelite Studies)
Fr. Remigius Ikpe, O.C.D
Carmelite Institute of Britain and Ireland
Email: admin@cibi.ie
Website: http://www.cibi.ie