

# Parish Health and Pastoral Care Certification

---



Building Faith | Inspiring Hope | Igniting Change

## Executive Summary

### **Overview:**

In addition to being a place of faith and spirit, many parishes provide services or referrals that contribute to their communities' health and pastoral wellness needs. Holistically, today's parish seeks to be a place of wellness of mind, body and spirit, and to serve its parishioners accordingly.

This scholarship program offers an enriching educational opportunity for pastoral workers who are involved in ministries which call upon them to respond to the physical, psychological, and spiritual health needs of their communities. For example, parish leaders often recognize a need in providing support for serving those with addictions, assisting people suffering from domestic violence, working with populations that have poor nutrition and physical health, and tending to the needs of parishioners who are sick or dying.

This program is open to any priest, religious, deacon, or lay person who is interested in enhancing his/her knowledge in health, wellness, pastoral care, and ministries which address these issues. The program is primarily (but not exclusively) intended for parish-based workers who serve impoverished populations. Special consideration will be given to parish-based workers who serve minority populations.

### **Timeline:**

Catholic Extension and Loyola University Chicago have agreed to provide one week of intensive study and 12 additional months of online access and faculty support that will be available to each student as they continue their ministries. The 2017 courses will occur Oct 22-27, at the Loyola campus in Woodstock, Illinois—90 minutes northwest of downtown Chicago.

### **Purpose:**

The purpose of this scholarship is to provide practical education to pastoral workers in parishes to increase their competence and confidence in responding to various health-related ministerial needs in their communities. The program is designed for those who have significant pastoral experience, but may have no formal health training. Those with formal health training are also welcome.

### **Our Contribution:**

Catholic Extension's partnership with the Institute of Pastoral Studies at Loyola University Chicago will offer educational courses on health-related ministry to **40 students** per year.

Participating dioceses will receive funding to cover the following:

- 100% of tuition, any textbooks, online faculty support.
- 100% Room and Board (all rooms are single occupancy, with private bathroom)
- Travel stipend for the trip to Chicago.

**Total value of this Initiative for the Diocese per student: \$4,725**

**Course overview** (see full curriculum on separate document)

## OCTOBER 22 – 27, 2017

**1-week Intensive – topics include:**

*Baptismal Vocation; Active Listening and Issue Diagnosis; Nutrition and Health; Theology of the Human Person Fully Alive; Ministering to Mind, Body and Spirit as Mental Health First Responders; Theology of Service; Nonviolence, Nonviolent Conflict Resolution & Peace Circles; Domestic Violence Ministry; Death, Dying, Loss and Transition; Physical and Spiritual Accompaniment; Parish Social Justice*

**12 month faculty coaching and support**

Through an anonymous gift from a Chicago-based foundation, Catholic Extension is pleased to be able to partner with the Institute of Pastoral Studies at Loyola University Chicago to offer this scholarship.

Loyola University Chicago is one of the largest Jesuit universities in the United States. The Institute of Pastoral Studies (IPS) at Loyola University Chicago specializes in providing education to a broad spectrum of pastoral workers, including those in health-related ministries. IPS features a diverse and international faculty and a rich, multicultural student body. The Institute of Pastoral Studies offers an experience-based adult model of education valuing students' personal and professional backgrounds as an essential dimension of the curriculum. The faculty of the Institute of Pastoral Studies has custom-built this curriculum specifically for participants from mission dioceses. The faculty intends to draw upon the rich and varied real-life experiences of the participants to enhance the learning experience.

**Classes will be taught in English. However, Spanish-language discussion groups will be available.**

Upon completion of the one-week intensive, participants will receive a Certificate in Parish Health and Pastoral Care from IPS. Students are also entitled to ongoing faculty support upon completing the course. These courses are intended for first-time applicants only.

### Educational support financial overview for one participant

Organization	Commitment/per student	2017 Cohort
Catholic Extension & Partners	<b>Travel Subsidy to Chicago</b>	\$200
	<b>Transportation from airport to campus in Woodstock, IL</b>	Up to \$100
	<b>Tuition</b>	\$3,000
Loyola University Chicago	<b>Contribution towards tuition</b>	\$1,200
Student/diocese	<b>Refundable registration deposit*</b>	\$225
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$4,725</b>

\*Registration deposit is immediately refundable after completion of the one week course

### **Expected Outcomes**

- Give pastoral workers greater competence and confidence in responding to their community's various health-related ministry needs.
- Allow pastoral workers to network with peers from around the country, and create a community of learning.
- Provide pastoral workers with the ability to practically apply what they have learned in class to their ministries—creating new ministries to respond to unmet needs, and taking existing ministries to the next level.

### **What steps should you take for your diocese to participate?**

- Please review the full program details, and the required expectations of the local diocese, both financial and administrative.
- Your diocese and bishop can apply for selection into this program by formally requesting the funding.
- Your diocese may contact Erika Cedrone, Senior Director of Mission at Catholic Extension, ([ecedrone@catholicextension.org](mailto:ecedrone@catholicextension.org), 617-817-2907) if there are any questions.

***Deadline for applications for the 2017 cohort is Friday, June 23<sup>th</sup> 2017***