

## Course Information:

### Scheduling

- This residential course takes place in 2 blocks of 5 days over two consecutive weeks:  
**Feb 10th-14th and Feb 17th- 21st**

### Class Size

- The group will have a maximum of 15 participants per facilitator. This is considered best practice and most conducive to participative learning.

### Teaching Style

- The course uses an Adult Education methodology. Participants are encouraged to critically reflect on and engage with the course content through group, plenary and individual exercises and methods.

### Further supports

- It is strongly encouraged that all participants are paired with a mentor from their sponsor or host community to support their learning throughout the course and beyond. It is expected that the mentor would attend the last day of the programme on February 21st. The course provides clear signposting to additional resources relevant to each area of content as required throughout the course (for example support agencies for mental health issues, social welfare issues, housing, health and employment supports and Catholic Education).

### Course Location

- The course takes place in **An Tobar Spiritan Retreat Centre, Ardbracan, Navan, Co. Meath.**
- This attractive venue offers the participants an opportunity to engage fully with the programme in a reflective and peaceful context. (see [www.antobar.ie](http://www.antobar.ie))

### Course Fees

- The course fee is €1,500 per participant. This covers full tuition, full board, NBSCCCI certification, and course materials. Participants are responsible for their own transport arrangements. All participants must be approved by their sponsoring bishop or host congregation in Ireland.
- Please Note: A working knowledge of both written and spoken English is required in order to benefit from and participate fully in the course.

### Apply before 13th January 2020

- The course requires a minimum of 10 participants. In the event that fewer than 10 people apply the course will not proceed.
- For an on-Line Application Form or further information please contact:

**Course Co-ordinator:**  
**Sean Goan, Kimmage Manor,**  
**Whitehall Road, Dublin D12P5YP**

Email: [smi@spiritan.ie](mailto:smi@spiritan.ie)

Tel: +353 (01) 499 7622

## Course Facilitators:

### Frank Naughton

Facilitator with Partners in Training for Transformation. Frank facilitates the input on acculturation, communication and collaboration.

### Fr Willie Purcell

National Co-ordinator of Vocations Ireland, he is a member of the Immigrant Council of the Bishops Conference. Fr Willie facilitates the input on ministry in Ireland.

### Audry Deane

Consultant and Policy Analyst. Audry facilitates the input on the historical, economic and social introduction to Ireland.

### Rosemary Lavelle

Pastoral Co-ordinator, The Office for Evangelisation and Ecumenism, Dublin Diocese. Rosemary facilitates the input on ministry in action.

### Jane Ferguson

Safeguarding Co-ordinator, Jane facilitates the certified two day training programme from the National Board of Safeguarding of Children in the Catholic Church.

*Other support will be offered by the Spiritan Community at An Tobar.*



*Spiritan Mission Ireland*

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Sean Goan, Co-ordinator

Spiritan Mission Ireland is an initiative of the Irish Province of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit.



## Orientation Course for Incoming Pastoral Ministry Workers

February 2020



*Spiritan Mission Ireland*

An Tobar, Ardbracan, Navan, Co. Meath



# Orientation Course for Incoming Pastoral Ministry Workers

Spiritan Mission Ireland, has designed a tailor-made course aimed at incoming pastoral ministry workers. **This course seeks to support the integration and orientation process of incoming pastoral workers and to prepare them for ministry in parishes and congregational settings.** The course is fully residential and takes place in the Spiritan Retreat and Spirituality Centre in Ardbraccan, Navan Co Meath. This beautiful setting affords the participants the opportunity to learn together in a relaxed community atmosphere where there will be opportunity for personal and communal prayer and the celebration of the Eucharist.

## Learning Objectives:

On completion of the course participants will have received a holistic introduction into life in Ireland which will help them adjust to their new home, feel confident in fulfilling their pastoral role and ensure that their ministry meets the needs of those they serve. Participants will:

- Gain insights and understanding of approaches to ministry in Ireland
- Explore issues related to liturgy and spirituality in the context of pastoral ministry in Ireland
- Explore various themes of inter and cross-cultural communication (change, conflict, authority, leadership, listening, collaboration and personal wellbeing)
- Have received a broad overview of the socioeconomic, political, cultural landscape and history of Ireland
- Be awarded a certificate of training from the National Board of Safeguarding of Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland and be fully compliant with the protocol for safeguarding training for people in ministry in Ireland

## Themes covered on the course:

### Acculturation, communication and collaboration

- Coping with change and transition issues.
- Understanding new contexts, responsibilities and relationships.
- Dealing with cultural nuances, attitudes, norms and behaviours.
- Developing and nurturing positive, authentic relationships.
- Awareness and ability to negotiate power dynamics, authority.
- Resilience, well-being, self-care and conflict resolution.

### Ministry in Ireland

- Structure of the Catholic Church, Bishops' Conference, Association of Missionaries and Religious in Ireland, diocesan and parish settings.
- Introduction to key liturgical policies and practices from the Bishops' Conference in Ireland related to ministry in Ireland.
- Understanding responsibilities and duties of roles in both parish and congregational settings.

### Ministry in Action

- The role of incoming pastoral ministry workers.
- Day to day pastoral work, making the link between the Church's teaching and everyday life.
- How to connect authentically with congregations, communities and individuals.
- The role of women in the Church.
- Acknowledgement of the role of the Church in a post Christian Europe.

### Historical, economic & social introduction to Ireland

- Introduction to key Irish historical events.
- Critical social challenges: poverty, exclusion, homelessness, inequalities of access to healthcare, education, work and housing.
- Brief introduction to taxation and Irish social welfare system and entitlements.
- How to access information.

### Safeguarding

- A certified 2-day training from the National Board of Safeguarding of Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland is included which ensures that participants are in compliance with the safeguarding protocol for those working in pastoral ministry.

