

Course Information:

Scheduling

- This residential course takes place in 2 blocks of 5 days over two consecutive weeks: August 26th - 30th and September 2nd-6th

Class Size

- The group will have a maximum of 15 participants. 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 understood that all participants have a support person/ mentor from their sponsor or host community. The accompanying role of this person is central to continuing process of inculturation. The support person/mentor should be available to attend on the last day of the programme (Sept 6th). Participants will also have an opportunity to dialogue with others who have completed the course and who will share on their experience of ministry in Ireland. The course provides clear signposting to additional resources relevant to each area of content as required throughout the course.

Course Location

- The course takes place in **An Tobar, Spiritan Spirituality and Retreat Centre, Ardraccan, Navan, Co. Meath.**
- This attractive venue offers the participants an opportunity to engage fully with the programme in a reflective and peaceful context. (www.antoobar.ie)

Course Fees

- The course fee is €1,550 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.**
- Please Note: A working knowledge of both written and spoken English ensures participants benefit from and participate fully in the course.

Apply before 30th June 2024

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

Course Co-ordinator:

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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.

Patricia Carroll

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

Audry Deane

Consultant and Policy Analyst. Audry facilitates the input on understanding the marginalised groups in Ireland.

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.

Sean Goan

Sean is a well know contributor to biblical courses as well a retreat facilitator. Sean is cofounder and contributor to www.trasusscriptureschool.ie

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



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Ronan Barry,
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

Autumn 2024



Spiritan Mission Ireland

An Tobar, Spiritan Retreat and Spirituality Centre,
Ardraccan, Navan, Co. Meath



Orientation Course for Incoming Pastoral Ministry Workers

Spiritan Mission Ireland has crafted a customized course specifically tailored for incoming pastoral ministry workers. This programme is designed to facilitate the seamless integration and orientation of newcomers, preparing them for effective ministry in both parish and congregational settings. The fully residential course will be conducted at An Tobar, the Spiritan Spirituality and Retreat Centre located in Ardraccon, near Navan Co Meath. Set in a picturesque environment, this venue offers participants the opportunity to engage in a shared learning experience within a relaxed community atmosphere. The setting fosters moments for personal and communal prayer, as well as the celebration of the Eucharist.

Learning Objectives:

Upon successful completion of the course, participants will have undergone a comprehensive introduction to life in Ireland, equipping them to adapt to their new surroundings with confidence. They will be well-prepared to fulfill their pastoral roles effectively, ensuring that their ministry meets the needs of the communities they serve.

Specifically, participants will:

- Gain valuable insights and understanding of approaches to ministry in the Irish context.
- Explore pertinent issues related to liturgy and spirituality within the framework of pastoral ministry in Ireland.
- Engage with various themes of inter and cross-cultural communication, including change, conflict, authority, leadership, listening, collaboration, and personal well-being.
- Attain a broad overview of the cultural landscape inclusive of those marginalised in society, and history of Ireland.
- Receive a certificate of training from the National Board of Safeguarding of Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland, ensuring full compliance with the protocol for safeguarding training for individuals in ministry in Ireland.

Themes covered on the course:

Acculturation, Communication, and Collaboration:

- Adapting to new cultural environments, fostering effective communication, and promoting collaboration.
- Managing change and transitions effectively.
- Understanding and navigating new contexts, responsibilities, and relationships.
- Addressing cultural nuances, attitudes, norms, and behaviours.
- Cultivating positive and authentic relationships.
- Developing awareness and skills to negotiate power dynamics and authority.
- Building resilience, prioritizing well-being, practicing self-care, and resolving conflicts.

Ministry in Ireland:

- Exploring the structure of the Catholic Church, including the Bishops' Conference, Association of Missionaries and Religious in Ireland, and diocesan and parish settings.
- Introducing key liturgical policies and practices from the Bishops' Conference in Ireland relevant to ministry.
- Understanding responsibilities and duties associated with roles in both parish and congregational settings.

Ministry in Action:

- Framing the role of incoming pastoral ministry workers in Church
- Engaging in day-to-day pastoral work and linking Church teachings to everyday life.
- Establishing authentic connections with congregations, communities, and individuals.
- Developing a synodal approach to Church.
- Acknowledging the Church's role in a post-Christian Europe.

Introduction to the margins in Irish society:

- Offering insights to social challenges, including poverty, exclusion, homelessness, and inequalities in communities where we work and minister
- Pope Francis' call for inclusion of the marginalised
- Guiding participants on accessing relevant information.

Safeguarding:

- Offering a certified 2-day training from the National Board of Safeguarding of Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland.
- Ensuring participants' compliance with the safeguarding protocol for those working in pastoral ministry.

