

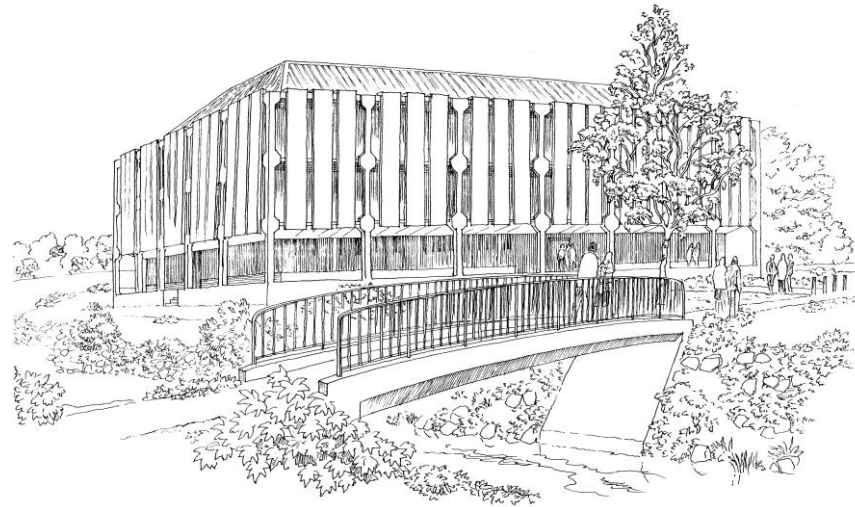
*Chapter V*

**Certificate and Diploma Course**

**Programmes**

**in the**

**Faculty of Theology**



**Pope John Paul II Library**

---

## Higher Diploma in Theological Studies

---

*Course Director:* Rev. Neil Xavier O'Donoghue, Ph.D.

This one-year, evening/weekend, Level 8, 65 ECTS credits programme gives a foundation in Theological Studies to students who hold a primary degree in another discipline. This Higher Diploma meets all the Teaching Council of Ireland's Requirements for the teaching of Religious Studies at post-primary level. It entitles teachers holding Department-recognised degrees and teacher training qualifications to teach up to 15 hours' Religious Education per week in a secondary school.

The Higher Diploma in Theological Studies from St. Patrick's College Maynooth attests to the completion of a substantial and coherent programme of learning. The Higher Diploma allows students to finish an accredited introductory programme in theology and to obtain a credential for it. Other students may use the programme as a gateway to applying to a Masters programme in Theology or Pastoral Ministry either here in Maynooth or elsewhere (students interested in entering a Master's programme are advised to speak with the Admissions Office prior to starting the HDip for further details). Others may be interested in the programme simply as a structured way to approach the big questions in life, giving their personal inquiry a theological shape in the Catholic tradition. St. Patrick's College Maynooth is proud to have the largest faculty of Catholic theology in Great Britain and Ireland

A full range of theological and religious studies courses are studied in the programme, including:

- A general introduction to theology, giving students the necessary foundations for an academic treatment of theology in accordance with St. Anselm's maxim of "faith seeking understanding."
- Sacred Scripture, which studies the Bible – its nature and significance, origins, literary forms, interpretation today. It will include a study of particular Old Testament and New Testament books.
- The History of Christianity including its origins and contemporary experience.
- World Religions, including the major world religions and their relationship to Christianity. Human dignity and religious freedom are also included in the course.
- Secular belief systems and how Christianity engages with their challenges and legitimate questions.
- Moral Theology, which deals with the experience of morality and in particular with the bearing of Christian faith on the moral life. Topics include: conscience, making moral decisions, the Bible and morality,

bioethics, justice, morality and law, ethics in public life, peace and war and ecology.

- Systematic Theology, which studies the meaning and implications of the principal faith-affirmations of Christianity concerning God, Jesus, the Church, the human condition.
- Foundations in Religious Education, which provides students with an introduction to the meaning, tradition and contemporary practice of religious education with a particular focus both on the teaching of Religious Education at post-primary level, with particular but not exclusive reference to Catholic Education
- The Philosophy of Religion which studies the philosophical debate concerning the existence and nature of God. It also considers the interplay between reason, science and religion.

### **Admission Requirements**

- A primary degree or its equivalent is required. consideration will be given to all applications;
- University issued or certified copies of official transcripts of results for qualifications must be included with the application. These copies are kept by the University. Copies can be certified/stamped by the relevant institution or by a member of an Garda Síochána, as a true copy of the original: Members of the police, a Medical doctor, A member of the clergy, a Lawyer/Solicitor, a School principal/vice principal. Just as long as they're not related to the applicant.
- all credentials in languages other than English must be accompanied by certified English translations;
- completed application forms;
- Applicants whose first language is not English will be required to satisfy the English language requirements. See here for more information: <https://maynoothcollege.ie/english-language-requirements>;
- Students must provide a digital passport style photograph that will be used in the College's computer system to identify the student to lecturers and other students;
- As this course is delivered in a hybrid manner with much of the content being given on-line, students are required to have basic academic computer skills and have access to a computer and the internet.

## Timetable

- Students are expected to be available on every Wednesday evening during term time from 6.30 p.m. – 9.30 p.m. On Wednesday evenings content will be delivered “live” on an on-line teaching platform. Students can participate from home.
- Another 3 hours of self-directed learning will be provided for each week in term time, that can be done whenever in the week it suits the students.

Please note that students will be expected to devote additional time to study and working on assignments every week.

6 weekend residentials (Friday/Saturday), three each term. This is when the face to face classes will take place and when students have a chance to meet their lecturers and each other. Additionally, it is a good time to take advantage of the many resources that the historic campus offers (and the amenities of Ireland’s only university town). Students are not obliged to stay on campus but as part of the programme you can avail of the very competitive discounted room rates provided by the Conference and Accommodations’ Office.

The following is the weekend timetable:

### **Friday**

Arrival/check in: 6-6:30 pm; Coffee  
break 6:30-6:55 pm;  
Class: 7-9 pm;

### **Saturday**

7:30:

Mass (optional), Breakfast: 8  
Class: 9-11; Class 11-1;  
Lunch: 1-2;  
Class 3-5.  
Students are free to leave at 5 pm.

Overnight facilities are available in the College at a discounted rate. While students need only stay in the area on Friday nights, they are welcome to either stay on either Thursday night or Saturday night at the discounted rate to conduct research or simply enjoy some free time on the historic college campus.

Rates and information from the Maynooth Campus Conference and Accommodation Office. Early booking is advisable as they are often booked out.

Telephone: 01-708-6400 Fax: 01-708-3534

E-mail: [Reservations@Maynoothcampus.com](mailto:Reservations@Maynoothcampus.com)

Web Pages: [www.Maynoothcampus.com](http://www.Maynoothcampus.com) / [www.MaynoothCollege.ie](http://www.MaynoothCollege.ie)

**Please note that if social distancing rules make it impossible to gather on campus for the weekend residential during the first term of the 2020/21 academic year, the programme will still go ahead with the residential being held on-line.**

**For more details contact the Course Director, Fr. Neil Xavier O'Donoghue, Ph.D., at [neilxavier.odonoghue@spcm.ie](mailto:neilxavier.odonoghue@spcm.ie)**

## Timetable 2020/2021

Course Code	Title	Lecturer(s)	Semester	Credits
TH 401	Introduction to Theology	Marmion/O' Gorman	1	7.5
<b>Systematic Theology</b>				
ST 403	The Church and its Sacraments	Surlis	1	5
ST 404	God Revealed in Jesus Christ	O'Sullivan	2	5
<b>Moral Theology</b>				
MR 401	Bioethics	Shortall	1	5
MR 403	Catholic Social Teaching	Corkery	2	5
<b>Sacred Scripture</b>				
SC 400	The Bible and Its Worlds	O'Connell/Macnamara	1	7.5
SC 401	The Old Testament	Corley	1	5
SC 402	The New Testament:	Macnamara	2	5
<b>General Courses</b>				
LI 400	Foundations of Worship	O'Kane	2	5
TS 109	Foundations of Religious Education	Sheridan	2	5
TS 114	Philosophy of Religion and Secular Thought	Kerr	2	5
TS 111	Introduction to World Religions	O'Donoghue	2	2.5
TS 112	Church History	Ryan	1	2.5

---

# Certificates in Catholic Religious Education and Theological Studies

---

*Course Director: 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 Masters in Education (Primary Teaching) awarded by Maynooth University (MU). 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. Offered in collaboration with the Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education (Maynooth University), it aims 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.

Rev. Dr. John Paul Sheridan BA, STL, MEd, PhD  
Education Programmes Coordinator  
18 Dunboyne House  
St. Patrick's College, Maynooth  
Office: 01-7083637

## **Certificate in Catholic Religious Education and Theological Studies**

---

The *Certificate in Catholic Religious Education and Theological Studies* is offered alongside the *Bachelor of Education* awarded by National University of Ireland, Maynooth.

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. Offered in collaboration with the Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education (Maynooth University), 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 students 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 College, 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.

<b>Certificate in Catholic Religious Education and Theological Studies</b>				
<b>Module</b>		<b>Hours</b>	<b>Year</b>	
RE101	Christian Belief: Faith, Creed and Trinity	20	1	
RE102	Sacred Scripture I (New Testament)	10	2	
RE103	Sacred Scripture II (The Old Testament)	10	3	
RE104	Christian Morality I (Foundations)	10	3	
RE105	Christian Morality II (Living in Right Relationships)	10	4	
RE106	The Church at Prayer	20	4	
RE107	Introduction to Religious Education and Catechesis	12	1	
RE108	Religious Education Applied (Junior Classes)	10	2	
RE109	Religious Education Applied (Senior Classes)	10	3	
RE110	Educational Foundations of RE I – Methodologies	EDF 135	20	1
RE111	Educational Foundations of RE II – World Religions, Ecumenism, and Inter-Faith Dialogue	EDF 236	20	2

### **Admission Requirements**

Applicants must be undertaking or have undertaken a *Bachelor of Education* or its equivalent.

### **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.

### **Module Descriptors**

#### **Christian Belief: Faith, Creed and Trinity**

To introduce students 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.

#### **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.

#### **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.

#### **Christian Morality (I)**

To introduce students to dynamic of Christian moral reflection and action. It aims to facilitate students 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.

#### **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.

#### **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.

#### **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.

#### **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 students to the *Grow in Love* programme as taught in the first four years of primary school.

#### **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 students to the *Alive-O* and *Grow in Love* programmes as taught in the 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> classes in primary school.

#### **Educational Foundations of Religious Education – Methodologies**

See *Maynooth University Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education*

#### **Diversity and Dialogue in Religious Education – World Religions, Ecumenism, and Inter-Faith dialogue**

See *Maynooth University Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education*

---

## **Post-Graduate Certificate in Catholic Religious Education and Theological Studies**

---

The *Post-Graduate Certificate in Catholic Religious Education and Theological Studies* is offered alongside the *Professional Masters in Education (Primary)* awarded by National University of Ireland, Maynooth.

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. Offered in collaboration with the Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education (National University of Ireland, Maynooth), it 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 students 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 College, Maynooth. Design of the theological components took into account the programme learning outcomes, the requirements of the Irish Episcopal Conference, the structure of the Masters in Education, the Primary School Religious Education Curriculum and the integrity of the tapestry of theology itself.

The grid below 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 students will be required to undertake the modules.

<b>Post-Graduate Certificate in Catholic Religious Education and Theological Studies</b>				
<b>Module</b>			<b>Hours</b>	<b>Year</b>
RE 401	Introduction to Religious Education, Catechesis and Liturgy		20	1
RE 402	Christian Belief		10	1
RE 403	Christian Scripture/Morality		20	2
RE 404	Foundations of Religious Education	EDF 607	20	1
RE 405	Religious Education - World Religions, Ecumenism, and Inter-Faith Dialogue	EDF 626	20	2

### **Admission Requirements**

Applicants must be undertaking a *Professional Masters in Education (Primary)*

### **Programme of Study**

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

<i>Knowledge</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relate relevant knowledge of Catholic theology and practice</li> <li>Recognise the theological and pedagogical foundations of RE at primary level</li> <li>Identify significant issues in the Catholic school sector, with regard to education</li> <li>Exhibit an awareness of the religious experiences of an ecclesial community and wider culture.</li> </ul>
<i>Skill</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore the insights of Catholic theology and practice.</li> <li>Compile lesson plans appropriate to the developmental level of children and in line with the proposed curriculum</li> <li>Construct classroom and school community rituals and prayer-service, consistent with the Catholic tradition</li> </ul>

	Apply practices required for personal and professional development.
<i>Competence</i>	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.

### **Module Descriptors**

#### **Christian Belief**

To introduce students 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.

#### **Introduction to Religious Education, Catechesis and Liturgy**

##### **Module Overview:**

To introduce the students 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 students to the philosophy, aims, methodologies and content of the Irish Catechetical Programmes. To introduce the students to an understanding of Sacramentality and liturgy, and in particular the place of liturgy and ritual in religious education and catechesis. To acquaint the students with the sacramental preparation of pupils for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation.

#### **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.

#### **Educational Foundations of Religious Education**

*See Maynooth University Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education*

#### **Religious Education - World Religions, Ecumenism, and Inter-Faith Dialogue**

*See Maynooth University Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education*





---

## Postgraduate Diploma in Christian Communications and Media Practice

---

<b>Subject</b>	Media / Theology
<b>Programme Title/Award</b>	<i>Postgraduate Diploma in Christian Communications and Media Practice</i>
<b>NFQ Level</b>	Level 9 Comparable to Level 7 on the European Qualifications Framework
<b>Credits (ECTS)</b>	60
<b>Programme Duration</b>	1 Year full time or equivalent part time
<b>Programme Overview</b>	The aim of the <i>Postgraduate Programme</i> is to deliver a comprehensive syllabus of media skills, with specific regard to religious and social affairs. It is designed to equip a student with practical competencies in key areas required for working in a contemporary professional media environment. The programme is structured to engage with religious and social affairs through the medium of the media. To this end, it will offer practical, relevant and expert training in mainstream and new technologies, while attentive to the cultural needs and priorities of religious and social affairs.

### Programme Learning Outcomes

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

#### **Knowledge**

##### *Breadth*

Demonstrate an analytic knowledge of the constitutive elements of media production  
Display a knowledge of theories of communication, including the philosophy, theology, ethics and spirituality of communication

##### *Kind*

Engage sensitively and critically with religious and social affairs, by way of the process of media production and theoretical reflection  
Identify self-understandings of religious communities and trends with society

## **Know-How and Skill**

### *Range*

Equip students with an industry entry level competence in media technologies, both mainstream and digital  
Identify, gather and analyse material from a specified range of sources.

### *Selectivity* specific themes

Generate mainstream and social media products on

skills  
Demonstrate competence in technical and production

Communicate values and ideas to contemporary audience in a creative and innovative manner  
Critically reflect on the context of media, their operations and applications  
Demonstrate a capacity for creative innovation in traditional or contemporary media forms

## **Competence**

### *Role* media

Develop critical evaluation skills in relation to mass

Initiate and complete variety of media productions in a leadership capacity or working collaboratively as part of a team

### *Learning to learn*

Complete learning tasks purposefully, ethically and to professional standards

Collaborate effectively within groups in completing projects

### *Insight*

Show a capacity for reflective practice

Value the subjects at the centre of media production  
Articulate the ways in which theory and practice may be integrated

Critically appraise practices and identities of religions and society

Critically appraise media representations and practice from the point of view of ethics, professional practice and the law.

## **Entry Requirements**

A 2.2 in a primary degree or equivalence.

## **Articulation with other Programmes/Progression Opportunities**

On completion, students may progress to Level 9 programmes on the National Qualifications Framework. QQI validation also allows for recognition in Europe and beyond.

---

# Diploma in Catholic Education

(Not running in the Current Academic Year)

---

*Course Director:* Rev. Dr. John-Paul Sheridan

*Chaplain:* Rev. Dr. Michael Shortall

The *Diploma in Catholic Education* (DCE) is a programme devised to enhance the participant's formation as teachers. It aims to prepare students for a professional role (development of knowledge, skills and abilities/competencies) in service of a school-community ethos and sustained by a reflective spirituality. Therefore, it supplements the necessary prerequisite of undertaking or completing teacher education and qualification. The programme is designed to:

- a) Provide students with the knowledge and formation to enable them to become teachers, or develop their capacity and competence as teachers, capable of contributing positively to the ethos of a Catholic school and nourishing themselves as reflective practitioners;
- b) Supply the school community with knowledgeable and professional teachers able to sustain a school's ethos, while having the flexibility to respond to the changing environment of the school system;
- c) Contribute to the on-going development of the vocation of a Catholic teacher and the Catholic school sector by way of critically engaged and reflective practitioners.

The Diploma in Catholic Education is based on three pillars: professionalism, spirituality and community.

## **Professionalism**

Participants undertake classes during the year aimed at enhancing the student's development as Catholic schoolteachers. As a capstone experience to the Diploma in Catholic Education, students will spend one week in June/July in a summer school participating in both academic and retreat experiences.

## **Spirituality**

Participants in the programme will be encouraged to develop spiritually in the context of community. This will be achieved through:

- Three retreat experiences
  - Opening retreat in October
  - Lenten retreat
  - Closing retreat in June/July
- Monthly opportunities for celebration of the Eucharist

## **Community**

The participants in the Diploma in Catholic Education will be asked to form a community outside the academic component of the programme. Students will be

required to meet monthly to celebrate Mass and dinner with the Chaplain. Once each semester, students will also be asked to attend or host a wider community gathering of those involved in Catholic Education.

### **Admission Requirements**

Applicants must be undertaking or have undertaken a *Bachelor of Education/ Professional Masters in Education* or its equivalent.

### **Application Procedure**

Potential participants are required to complete the necessary documentation. Application forms are available from the Admissions Office. Final admission after a short interview

### **Assessment**

Each module will be assessed by way of an essay or its equivalent. In addition, an integrative journal will be required, with the aim of articulating the appropriation of the experience and knowledge of the course.

### **Programme of Study**

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

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>Knowledge</b>  | Identify relevant knowledge and insights of Catholic theology, spirituality and tradition, as they relate to education<br>Recognise important issues in relation to contemporary education in the Catholic school sector<br>Demonstrate an awareness of Catholicism as a wider culture and community. |
| <b>Skill</b>      | Discuss important insights of Catholic theology, spirituality and tradition<br>Examine education issues from the perspective of the Catholic tradition<br>Contribute effectively to the ethos of a school community<br>Employ practices that develop personal and professional development.           |
| <b>Competence</b> | To demonstrate a grasp of Catholic theology, spirituality and tradition<br>Appreciate a school ethos and engage positively and professionally with it.<br>Evaluate, promote, and challenge if necessary, pedagogical and school practices, from the perspective of the Catholic tradition             |

### **Module Descriptors**

A comprehensive description of each module, detailing aims and objectives, indicative syllabus, and a select bibliography is available on request.

**Catholic Education: Roots, History and Content**

The module is designed to introduce students to important foundational aspects of Catholic education and to explore related contemporary concerns.

**Faith Seeking Understanding: An Introduction to Theology**

This module aims to introduce students to the discipline of theology, focusing on the notions of experience, revelation and faith.

**Forged in the Crucible: Spirituality of the Catholic Teacher**

This course aims to facilitate students in establishing connections between their experiences of spirituality and their role as educators in Catholic schools.

**Learning from Jesus the Teacher**

To introduce students to the major developments in Catholic Biblical scholarship by studying how Jesus is presented as teacher by the authors of the four Gospels and the implications of this for Catholic education

**Purposeful Leadership: Catholic Social Teaching and Educational Leadership**

To explore the commitments of responsible leadership by way of an engagement with Catholic Social Teaching, models of educational leadership and the experience of teaching.

**From Ideal to Action: Developing a Distinctly Catholic School Culture**

For students to discover the unique elements of a distinctly Catholic school culture and to consider strategies to impact the Catholicity of their classrooms and school.

**Reflective Journal**

To provide the students with an opportunity identify key learning events in the course of the academic year, on which they might then reflect. This reflection on the experience of learning might be analysed both in terms of professional development and with regard to spiritual growth.

For further information, contact:

Admissions Office, Pontifical University, Saint Patrick's College, Maynooth



Admissions Office  
Pontifical University  
Saint Patrick's College  
Maynooth, County Kildare  
IRELAND  
[www.MaynoothCollege.ie](http://www.MaynoothCollege.ie)

Email: [admissions@spcm.ie](mailto:admissions@spcm.ie) / [Theology.office@spcm.ie](mailto:Theology.office@spcm.ie)  
Telephone: Ireland: 01-708-4772 / 708-3600  
International: +353-1-708-4772/ +353-1-708-3600

---

# Diploma in Theology

(Not running in the Current Academic Year)

---

The *Diploma in Theology* is awarded on the successful completion of a three-year course of theological studies.

## Admission Requirements

Satisfactory completion of one of the following or its equivalent is required.

- The *Seminarist Course in Philosophy and Arts*
- An acceptable two-year programme in Philosophy.

Those who have an interest in Theology, but do not hold a primary degree or equivalent qualification may be considered for entry to the *Diploma in Theology*.

## Programme of Study

The following subjects will be studied:

- Obligatory Subjects:
  - Systematic Theology
  - Moral Theology
  - New Testament
  - Old Testament
  - Ecclesiastical History
  - Liturgy (year I)
  - Canon Law (years II & III)
  - Mission Studies.
- Qualifying Subjects:
  - Patrology
  - Homiletics
  - Catechetics
- Elective Subjects: Any two of the elective subjects approved by the Faculty.

The programme is outlined in full in the *Baccalaureate of Divinity* programme. Candidates are given exemption from studying the theological languages of Latin, Hebrew and Greek.

Students holding a *Diploma in Theology* may be admitted to the BTh or BD programmes in *Add-On* mode. Applicants for the BD *Add-On* mode programme must have at least five years professional experience and satisfy the Pontifical University matriculation criteria.



Course content will be based on the syllabus for BD and BTh programmes, which are described in detail in Chapters III and IV of this publication. The specific courses to be undertaken in the major and in the minor subjects must be agreed in advance on an individual basis with the Dean and the Registrar. The minimum duration of these programmes will be one academic year, and must be full-time in the case of the BD *Add-On* mode. Permission to extend the duration of studies must be sought expressly from the Faculty of Theology. Assessment will be by examination and course work.

### **Application Procedure**

All applications should be made directly to the Admissions Office and will be examined on an individual basis by the Dean of the Faculty and the Registrar.

For further information contact:



Admissions Office  
Pontifical University  
Saint Patrick's College  
Maynooth  
County Kildare  
IRELAND

Web Page: [www.maynoothcollege.ie](http://www.maynoothcollege.ie)

E-mail: [admissions@spcm.ie](mailto:admissions@spcm.ie) / [theology.office@spcm.ie](mailto:theology.office@spcm.ie)

Telephone:

Ireland: 01-708-4772 / 708-3600

International: +353-1-708-4772

Fax:

Ireland: 01-708-3441

International: +353-1-708-3441

---

# Diploma in Mission Studies

(Not running in the Current Academic Year)

---

All students of Theology of the Pontifical University may study for a Diploma in Mission Studies. Seminarians study the course over three years. However, the course of study is designed so that it can be completed in one year to facilitate clerical and lay missionaries, be they from Ireland or overseas, and should they be returning from the missions or preparing to go on the missions for the first time.

Missionary priests sisters or laity may attend the One-Year Course in Mission Studies without seeking a Diploma or doing the required examination.

## Three Year Programme of Study

Over three years the student must take courses in Mission Studies taught in First, Second and Third Divinity, one class per week. In addition, a student must present a substantial essay project after completion of the course. The professor or lecturer in Mission Studies must approve the topic of the project.

## One Year Programme of Study

In one year the student must cover the courses in Mission Studies taught in First, Second and Third Divinity, and present a substantial essay project. The student must also attend at least one module (2 classes per week) in Systematic Theology, Moral Theology and Sacred Scripture as an occasional student but is not required to do examinations in these subjects.

For further details contact:



Admissions Office  
Pontifical University  
Saint Patrick's College  
Maynooth  
County Kildare  
IRELAND

Web Page: [www.maynoothcollege.ie](http://www.maynoothcollege.ie)

E-mail: [admissions@spcm.ie](mailto:admissions@spcm.ie) / [theology.office@spcm.ie](mailto:theology.office@spcm.ie)

Telephone:  
Ireland: 01-708-4772 / 708-3600

Fax:  
Ireland: 01-708-3441

---

## **Diploma in Religious Studies**

(Not running in the Current Academic Year)

---

The Diploma in Religious Studies is a one-year full-time programme in Religious Studies. Its principal purpose is to provide a theological exposition of the Christian life. It does this by imparting such information that its students will understand the authentic teaching of the Church, and recognise its relevance to themselves and to the secularised world of today. The programme is ideal for priests, religious and lay people, particularly those involved in education.

### **Admission Requirements**

A student must have attained the standard required for matriculation in an Irish University or equivalent institution. Mature students may be accepted, if in the judgement of the Registrar they have attained an adequate educational standard.

### **Programme of Study**

The programme is tailored to the needs and interests of the student. From the BD programme a student is required to take four lectures per week in Systematic Theology and Moral Theology, and two in both Old and New Testament. In consultation with the programme Director, the students can pick the courses best suited to them. In addition they also take two elective subjects of their choice from the programme.

### **Assessment**

The award of the Diploma in Religious Studies will be based on the assessment of written examinations, essays and other work throughout the year.



Admissions Office  
Pontifical University  
Saint Patrick's College  
Maynooth  
County Kildare  
IRELAND

Web Page: [www.maynoothcollege.ie](http://www.maynoothcollege.ie)

E-mail: [admissions@spcm.ie](mailto:admissions@spcm.ie) / [theology.office@spcm.ie](mailto:theology.office@spcm.ie)

Telephone:

Fax:

Ireland: 01-708-4772 / 708-3600

Ireland: 01-708-3441

International: +353-1-708-4772

International: +353-1-708-3441

---

# Diploma in Pastoral Theology

---

*Director of Pastoral Theology: Dr Aoife McGrath*

This is a level 7, introductory programme for someone preparing for ministry leadership in the Church. It forms part of a person's initial formation, preparing him/her 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 students to develop a specialised knowledge of theological principles as these relate to ministry practice. Students form an ability to integrate their learning from academic study and placement experiences in parish, school, and hospital settings, in order to establish a sense of ministerial identity and exercise appropriate judgment in ministry leadership.

The programme further prepares students to:

- exercise appropriate judgment in planning;
- take responsibility for forming a habit of reflective practice for ministry;
- 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, to 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.*

## **Admission Requirements**

Candidates who have experience in parish-based or other pastoral ministry but do not hold a primary degree may be considered for entry. They may be required to take courses in theology to qualify for admission.

Students 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.

## Programme of Study

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

PT430: Pastoral Practice	30 Credits
PT431: Prayer Leadership	7.5 Credits
PT432: Caring and Spiritual Accompaniment	5 Credits
PT435: Organisational Leadership in Ministry Contexts	5 Credits
PT434: Theology and Pastoral Ministry	7.5 Credits
PT437: Healthcare Chaplaincy: Ministry of Presence and Visitation	2.5 Credits
PT438: Educational Chaplaincy: Ministry of Catechesis and Faith Formation	2.5 Credits

## 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. Course work includes group sessions, lectures, presentations, and interactive seminars. While classes are normally on Thursday and Friday of each week, students may be required to attend courses and seminars that are only available outside these times.

## Pastoral Practice

Students 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.

*One Year, Full-Time students:* Placement usually takes place between Sunday and Wednesday of each week, for an average of 10-12 hours of contact time per week, with classes in Maynooth on Thursday and Friday. Students will also be required to participate in a number of block placements in their placement sites, with an extended contact time of 16-18 hours per week.

*Two Year, Part-Time students:* Placement usually takes place between Sunday and Wednesday of each week in the two academic years, for an average of 5-6 hours of contact time per week, with classes in Maynooth on Thursday (in Year One) and on Friday (in Year Two). Students will also be required to participate in a number of block placements in their placement sites, with an extended contact time of 8-9 hours per week.

Placement education sites, or ‘Teaching Parishes’, are arranged in collaboration with the PT430 Pastoral Practice Module Coordinator. 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 students.

### **Clinical Pastoral Education**

Students 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 students 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 Pastoral Theology Director.

### **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. Students need to pass all components of assessments in order to pass the respective module.

For further information contact:



Admissions Office  
Pontifical University  
Saint Patrick’s College  
Maynooth  
County Kildare  
IRELAND

Web Page: [www.maynoothcollege.ie](http://www.maynoothcollege.ie)

E-mail: [admissions@spcm.ie](mailto:admissions@spcm.ie) / [theology.office@spcm.ie](mailto:theology.office@spcm.ie)

Telephone:

Ireland: 01-708-4772 / 708-3600

International: +353-1-708-4772

Fax:

Ireland: 01-708-3441

International: +353-1-708-3441

---

## Higher Diploma in Pastoral Theology

---

*Director of Pastoral Theology: Dr Aoife McGrath*

This level 8 programme forms part of a person's initial formation for ministry leadership in the Church, preparing him/her to minister effectively in a peer relationship with other pastoral ministers, and use advanced skills in professional ministry, especially leadership in public prayer, pastoral care and spiritual accompaniment, and building and strengthening community. This includes using and transforming advanced skills and tools to teach in diverse settings, provide effective catechetical and faith formation, and exercise responsible stewardship of parish personnel and resources.

This level allows students to develop a detailed knowledge of theological principles as these relate to ministry practice, and an understanding of concepts, methods, and models pertaining to ways of doing theology in practice. It enables students to develop the ability to act in variable contexts, to be flexible in response to the needs of a community, and a diversity of situations and people, to go beyond their comfort zone, and act effectively within a changing ministerial landscape.

The programme further enables students to:

- exercise appropriate judgment in complex planning, leading groups, and managing resources;
- take responsibility for forming a habit of reflective practice for ministry;
- express a comprehensive, internalised, personal worldview, achieving self-awareness and critical reflection as these relate to pastoral ministry;
- 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, and to formulate pastoral responses to complex situations in pastoral contexts.

*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.*

### **Admission Requirements**

Candidates are required to have a recognised degree qualification where theology is at least a major component. Candidates with other degrees may be admitted if they have experience in pastoral ministry. However, these will be required to take courses in theology to qualify for admission. Students 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.

### **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%). The core modules in the programme are:

PT430: Pastoral Practice	30 Credits
PT431: Prayer Leadership	7.5 Credits
PT432: Caring and Spiritual Accompaniment	5 Credits
PT435: Organisational Leadership in Ministry Contexts	5 Credits
PT434: Theology and Pastoral Ministry	7.5 Credits
PT437: Healthcare Chaplaincy: Ministry of Presence and Visitation	2.5 Credits
PT438: Educational Chaplaincy: Ministry of Catechesis and Faith Formation	2.5 Credits

### **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. Course work includes group sessions, lectures, presentations, and interactive seminars. While classes are normally on Thursday and Friday of each week, students may be required to attend courses and seminars that are only available outside these times.

### **Pastoral Practice**

Students 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.

*One Year, Full-Time students:* Placement usually takes place between Sunday and Wednesday of each week, for an average of 19 hours of contact time per week, with classes in Maynooth on Thursday and Friday. Students will 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.

*Two Year, Part-Time students:* Placement usually takes place between Sunday and Wednesday of each week in the two academic years, for an average of 9.5 hours of contact time per week, with classes in Maynooth on Thursday (in Year One) and on Friday (in Year Two). Students will also be required to participate in a number of block placements in their placement sites, with an extended contact time of 11-12.5 hours per week.

Placement education sites, or ‘Teaching Parishes’, are arranged in collaboration with the PT430 Pastoral Practice Module Coordinator. 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 students.

### **Clinical Pastoral Education**

Students 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 students apply for independently and take after completion of the core modules and parish placement. CPE is a qualifying course for the completion of the Higher Diploma 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 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. Students need to pass all components of assessments in order to pass the respective module.

For further information contact:



Admissions Office  
Pontifical University  
Saint Patrick’s College  
Maynooth  
County Kildare  
IRELAND

Web Page: [www.maynoothcollege.ie](http://www.maynoothcollege.ie)

E-mail: [admissions@spcm.ie](mailto:admissions@spcm.ie) / [theology.office@spcm.ie](mailto:theology.office@spcm.ie)

Telephone:

Ireland: 01-708-4772 / 708-3600

International: +353-1-708-4772

Fax:

Ireland: 01-708-3441

International: +353-1-708-3441

---

## Higher Diploma in Pastoral Theology (Healthcare Chaplaincy)

---

*Director of Pastoral Theology: Dr Aoife McGrath*

This level 8 programme forms part of a person's initial formation for chaplaincy leadership in a healthcare setting, preparing him/her to minister effectively in collaboration with multi-disciplinary healthcare colleagues in the provision of holistic healthcare in public, voluntary, and private healthcare facilities. It prepares students 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.

This level allows students to develop a detailed knowledge of theological principles as these relate to ministry practice, and an understanding of concepts, methods, and models pertaining to ways of doing theology in practice. It enables students to develop the ability to act in variable contexts, to be flexible in response to the needs of persons who are unwell, terminally ill or actively dying, to their family members and loved ones, and to professional colleagues who are deeply impacted by health-related conditions and experiences. Students encounter a diversity of situations and people, go beyond their comfort zone, and learn to minister compassionately and sensitively, providing comforting outreach, sacramental care, facilitating the celebration of liturgy, public worship, and spiritual practices as appropriate within a challenging healthcare landscape.

The programme further enables students to:

- exercise appropriate judgment in complex situations, advocate for the persons in their care, and manage crisis in the practice of pastoral care;
- take responsibility for forming a habit of reflective practice for ministry;
- express a comprehensive, internalised, personal worldview, achieving self-awareness and critical reflection as these relate to pastoral ministry;
- 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.

*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**

Candidates are required to have a recognised degree qualification where theology is at least a major component. Candidates with other degrees may be admitted if they have experience in pastoral ministry. However, these will be required to take courses in theology to qualify for admission.

Students 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.

### **Programme of Study**

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

PT430: Pastoral Practice	30 Credits
PT431: Prayer Leadership	7.5 Credits
PT432: Caring and Spiritual Accompaniment	5 Credits
PT435: Organisational Leadership in Ministry Contexts	5 Credits
PT434: Theology and Pastoral Ministry	7.5 Credits
PT436: Healthcare Chaplaincy: Leadership Ministry of Healing and Justice	5 Credits

### **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. Course work includes group sessions, lectures, presentations, and interactive seminars. While classes are normally on Thursday and Friday of each week, students may be required to attend courses and seminars that are only available outside these times.

## **Pastoral Practice**

Students commit to a placement education experience in a ‘Teaching Hospital,’ from September to April. The basic areas of ministerial practice within the acute general placement site are typically as follows: 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 students:* 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. Students will 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.

*Two Year, Part-Time students:* 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, with classes in Maynooth on Thursday (in Year One) and on Friday (in Year Two). Students will also be required to participate in a number of block placements in their placement sites, with an extended contact time of 11-12.5 hours per week.

Placement education sites, or ‘Teaching Hospitals’, are assigned to the student by the PT430 Pastoral Practice Module Coordinator, who is working in collaboration with the Catholic Healthcare Chaplaincy Board. 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 students.

## **Summer Intensive Placement in Clinical Setting**

At the end of the academic year, students will undertake a second placement in a clinical setting consisting of 350 hours of clinical practice. Assigned clinical areas will 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 student’s reflective practice.

*One Year, Full-Time students:* 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 students:* The placement will consist of 17.5 hours of placement over 10 weeks in each summer. This placement will include rostered night-duty and weekend work.

A Summer School will take place in Maynooth over 3 Saturdays, covering areas such as: understanding and managing oneself, leading and managing others, leading change, leadership and management skills for the future, developing a culture of research and development in best practice, and the integration of learning in preparation for Certification as Catholic Healthcare Chaplains. Part-Time students can undertake this summer school in Year One or Year Two.

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. Students need to pass all components of assessments in order to pass the respective module.

For further information contact:



Admissions Office  
Pontifical University  
Saint Patrick's College  
Maynooth  
County Kildare  
IRELAND

Web Page: [www.maynoothcollege.ie](http://www.maynoothcollege.ie)

E-mail: [admissions@spcm.ie](mailto:admissions@spcm.ie) / [theology.office@spcm.ie](mailto:theology.office@spcm.ie)

Telephone:  
Ireland: 01-708-4772 / 708-3600

Fax:  
Ireland: 01-708-3441

International: +353-1-708-4772

International: +353-1-708-3441



---

# Diploma in Diaconate Studies

---

*National Director:* Rev Dr Michael Duignan, DD

The Diploma in Diaconate Studies is a professional award of the Pontifical University designed to provide for the education and formation of candidates for the Permanent Diaconate in accordance with the Norms of the Holy See and the Irish Episcopal Conference.

The three-year programme may be delivered at locations outside of the college pending a decision of the Faculty of Theology in consultation with local dioceses.

The programme seeks to answer the needs of the Church by ensuring a comprehensive preparation for orders and ministry as a Permanent Deacon, one who sacramentalises the service of Christ. While candidates are already active members in their own ecclesial settings, the Diploma in Diaconate Studies will aim to broaden, deepen and enhance this aspect of their lives as well as ensuring training for the possibility of being ordained for service as a deacon. The Diploma in Diaconate Studies seeks always to integrate in a harmonious manner the four principal areas of formation – human, spiritual, academic, and pastoral.

## Admission Requirements

Admission to the course is confined to those who have been selected by their Local Ordinaries as candidates for the Permanent Diaconate. Where students are in possession of a degree in theology they may be considered to take this course at Higher Diploma level.

## Programme of Study

The course is a taught programme through lectures, workshops and practical sessions. Tutorial assistance is available to students and this can enable them to concentrate on particular aspects of the course. Reading courses will also be prescribed.

The main areas of study include:

- Fundamental and Systematic Theology
- Moral Theology
- Sacred Scripture
- Liturgy
- Canon Law
- Ecclesiastical History
- Spirituality

- Pastoral Theology

Each student following the Diploma in Diaconate Studies will also pursue a programme of pastoral formation decided upon by his sponsoring diocese.

## **Assessment**

Students may be assessed through written work, class participation, and / or examination. On completion of the programme a comprehensive exam will take place.

For further information contact:



Permanent Diaconate  
Columba Centre  
Saint Patrick's College  
Maynooth  
County Kildare  
IRELAND

E-mail: [Diaconate@iecon.ie](mailto:Diaconate@iecon.ie)

Telephone:  
Ireland: 01-505-3028  
International: +353-1-505-3028

---

# Higher Diploma in Pastoral Liturgy

---

*Course Director:* Sr. Moira Bergin, RSM, MTh

The one-year course, conducted by the National Centre for Liturgy, offers candidates the opportunity to study the worship of the Church, its tradition and its place in the Church today. It aims to provide formation in Liturgy to enable the student to take a leadership role in pastoral work, specialising in Liturgy, at diocesan and parish level.

## Admission Requirements

Students are required to have a primary degree where theology is at least a major component. Students with other degrees, or with a professional diploma or equivalent qualification, may be admitted if they have experience in parish or liturgical ministry. They may be required to take extra courses in theology, and to take an oral examination while studying for the Higher Diploma in Pastoral Liturgy.

## Programme of Study

The course is modular in structure and takes place over one academic year. In the current academic year, the following modules are offered:

*Semester One:*

- LI 390:** What then, is Liturgy?
- LI 392:** The Church's Year: Time, Seasons and Feasts
- LI 393:** Christian Initiation I: Order of Christian Initiation of Adults
- LI 395:** Scripture and Liturgy: Ministers, Proclamation, Books

*Semester Two:*

- LI 391:** Leading God's People in Public Prayer
- LI 394:** Christian Initiation II: The Eucharist – Celebration and Theology
- LI 396:** Sacraments and Sacramentality
- LI 397:** Liturgical Questions – New Directions: Leadership and Implementation

### ***Credit Allocation***

The credit allocation for the above programme of study is as follows:

Taught Modules (eight 5-ECTS modules)	40 ECTS
Journal + Portfolio: Liturgical Critique	5 ECTS
Minor Dissertation / Major Essay	12 ECTS
Synthesis Examination (Oral on Dissertation/Major Essay + Specific Modules)	3 ECTS

*Note* Subject to the approval of the Programme Director, the Professor of Liturgy, and the Registrar, a student may take PT431 in lieu of the “Scripture and Liturgy” module above.

### **Assessment**

Students are assessed through a combination of written work and group projects. A minor dissertation/major essay will be submitted by the end of Semester Two, at which point a final synthesis examination is held.

---

# Diploma in Pastoral Liturgy

---

*Course Director:* Sr. Moira Bergin, RSM, MTh

The one-year course, conducted by the National Centre for Liturgy, offers candidates the opportunity to study the worship of the Church, its tradition and its place in the Church today. It aims to provide formation in Liturgy to enable the student to take a leadership role in pastoral work, specialising in Liturgy, at diocesan and parish level.

## Admission Requirements

Admission to the course is normally confined to those who have a basic academic qualification at second level and have completed two years of third level professional studies or two years of pastoral experience.

## Programme of Study

The course is modular in structure and takes place over one academic year. In the current academic year, the following modules are offered:

### *Semester One:*

- What then, is Liturgy?
- The Church's Year: Time, Seasons and Feasts
- Christian Initiation I: Order of Christian Initiation of Adults
- Scripture and Liturgy: Ministers, Proclamation, Books

### *Semester Two:*

- Leading God's People in Public Prayer
- Christian Initiation II: The Eucharist – Celebration and Theology
- Sacraments and Sacramentality
- Liturgical Questions – New Directions: Leadership and Implementation

## Assessment

Students are assessed through a combination of written work and group projects, examined at diploma level. A major essay will be submitted by the end of Semester Two, and a final synthesis examination will be held at that stage.



For further information on Liturgy Courses contact  
Course Director  
National Centre for Liturgy  
Saint Patrick's College  
Maynooth  
County Kildare

Tel: 01-708-3478  
E-mail: [Liturgy@spcm.ie](mailto:Liturgy@spcm.ie)

Fax: 01-708-3477  
Web Page: [www.MaynoothCollege.ie](http://www.MaynoothCollege.ie)

---

## Affiliated Programmes

---

*Director of Affiliated Programmes:* Dr Jessie Rogers, MA, D.Phil (Stellenbosch)

The following programmes are affiliated to the Pontifical University. For further information, please apply to the appropriate programme provider at the address indicated.

**1. Certificate in Person Centred Counselling (Marriage & Relationships)**

ACCORD Central Office,  
Columba Centre,  
Maynooth, Co Kildare  
TEL: 01-5053112  
Website: [www.accord.ie](http://www.accord.ie)

**2. Certificate in Marriage Education**

ACCORD Central Office,  
Columba Centre,  
Maynooth, Co Kildare  
TEL: 01-5053112  
Website: [www.accord.ie](http://www.accord.ie)

**3. Certificate in Christian Studies**

Diocese of Cashel and Ossory (Church of Ireland)  
The Very Rev Tom Gordon, Dean of Leighlin & Director of Adult Education  
Email: [co.diocese.education@gmail.com](mailto:co.diocese.education@gmail.com) Phone: 087 2767562

**4. Advanced Diploma in Spirituality (Supervision) / Diploma in Spirituality (Spiritual Direction)**

Manresa Jesuit Centre of Spirituality  
426 Clontarf Road, Dollymount, Dublin 3.  
Website: [www.manresa.ie](http://www.manresa.ie)  
Tel: +353 1 8331352

**5. Diploma in Spirituality (Youth Ministry) / Certificate in Spirituality (Youth Retreat Facilitation) *Not running in 2020/21***

Shekinah  
Sr Jennifer Perkins (Course Director)  
Website: <http://www.shekinah.ie>

**6. Certificate / Diploma / Degree in Theology  
(Adult Education and Pastoral Ministry)**

Armagh Diocesan Pastoral Centre The Magnet  
Dundalk  
Co. Louth  
Tel: 00353 429336649  
email: parishandfamily@gmail.com

**7. 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)**

Carmelite Institute of Britain and Ireland

Website: <http://www.cibi.ie>

**8. Diploma in Pastoral Studies**

Drumalis Retreat and Conference Centre 47 Glenarm Road

Larne, County Antrim

Northern Ireland

BT40 1DT

+44 (028) 28272196 or +44 (028) 28276455

(048) 28272196 or (048) 28276455 (from Republic of Ireland)

Website: <http://www.drumalis.co.uk>

**9. Diploma in Diaconate Studies (Several Centres)**

Please contact the local Roman Catholic Diocese.



