



Partners in Pastoral Care

Continuing the Healing Ministry of Jesus
in the Name of the Church

PROJECT BOOKLET

Templates for Formation

SUMMARY:

A Template for Programs of Formation for Pastoral Care ministers in Diverse Settings through Partnership of Arch/diocesan Offices, Academic Programs and National Associations



The Partners in Pastoral Care Project is a product of the National Association of Catholic Chaplains (NACC) and its Partners

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APPENDIX 4: SAMPLE INTRODUCTION TO CATHOLIC PRISON MINISTRIES

Developing Outline for Introductory Pathway Training

For Partners in Pastoral Care Project

Catholic Prison Ministries Coalition: Formation Committee

An introduction to prison ministry with an emphasis on the unique theological, psychosocial, and ministerial needs of the incarcerated. This 6-hour program will focus on the practical tools needed for successful prison ministry in order to form the next generation of professional prison chaplains.

As a result of this program, participants will:

- ◆ Be introduced to prison ministry with an emphasis on the unique theological, psychosocial and ministerial needs of the incarcerated.
- ◆ Learn practical tools needed for successful prison ministry.
- ◆ Consider joining and inviting others to join the next generation of professional prison chaplains.

These sessions are based upon the three main approaches to this ministry recommended by Chaplain Dale S. Recinella in his book, **When We Visit Jesus in Ministry**:

- ◆ The first two hours focus on the importance of rooting the ministry in **Prayer** (Faith Formation).
- ◆ The second two hours focus on **Listening** (Pastoral Care Formation).
- ◆ The last two hours focus on how the ministry is to be done with **Love** (Skill/ Knowledge Formation)

Outline of 6-hour training: Hours 1 & 2: Faith Formation

Session One Pray - Spiritual Formation I: What goes into the initial discernment for this ministry? This addresses what does one consider when thinking about pastoral care in jail and prison ministry and one's own spirituality as grounding for this ministry?

Our relationship with Christ and Prison Ministry

- ◆ Discernment- why am I doing this? Our Call to prison ministry
- ◆ Personal Prayer
- ◆ Grounded in the sacraments
- ◆ History of Prisons
- ◆ Understanding Jail and Prison Culture

The basic question: Who am I and how am I here in Jail and Prison Ministry?

Pastoral Identity- rooted in prayer and my relationship with Christ

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RELATED COMPETENCIES:

Human

- ◆ **Self-Care** - Human 1.5 *Maintain a healthy lifestyle and a reasonable balance among the legitimate claims of family, community, personal relationships and ministry.*

Spiritual

- ◆ **Personal Prayer** - Spiritual 2.2 *Live a life of private and communal prayer that is both formed by and reflective of the breadth and depth of the Catholic spiritual tradition*
- ◆ **Sacraments** - Spiritual 2.5 *Honor the call to ministry that is rooted in one's baptism by developing ministerial goals that flow from one's spirituality and reflect an integration of Gospel values. Am I practicing my faith/receiving the sacraments regularly?*
- ◆ **Discernment** - Spiritual 2.6 *Demonstrate an ability to discern the signs of the times and address current realities in the Church and world in the light of the Gospel.*
- ◆ **Relationship with Christ** - Spiritual 2.9 *Model the spirit of Jesus in one's life and identify with and promote the universal Church and its mission.*

Intellectual

- ◆ **Scripture** - Intellectual 3.1 *Know and integrate into ministerial practice a theology of revelation as embodied in scripture, tradition and creation.*

Go-to Resources

Essential:

1. **Messengers of Hope**, A Catholic Correctional Training Resource, Dismas Ministry, <https://dismasministry.org/catholic-correctional-training-resource/>
2. See also webinar: Dismas Ministry and Sharing Resources, August 22, 2018, Tyler Curtis, Director and Ron Zeilinger, Founder of Dismas Ministry at <https://catholicprisonministries.org/webinars/>
3. See webinar: Basics of Empathic Listening for Pastoral Care Ministry - A review of empathy's importance as a fundamental dynamic in human interaction and pastoral care ministry in particular at <https://catholicprisonministries.org/webinars/>

Mentioned and helpful for more insight:

4. **When we visit Jesus in Prison**, A Guide for Catholic Ministry, Chaplain Dale Recinella, ACTA Publications, Chicago, IL, 2016. www.actapublications.com

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5. **Prison Ministry: Understanding Prison Culture Inside and Out**, Lennie Spitale, B&H Publishing Group, Nashville, TN, 2002.
<https://www.amazon.com/Prison-Ministry-Understanding-Culture-Inside/dp/0805424830>

Session Two Pray - Spiritual Formation II: What is one's motive for this ministry? This explores the roots of this ministry in the Catholic tradition, and the relational nature of this ministry.

Representing the Church in Ministry

- ◆ The Church as the Body of Christ
- ◆ The Relational nature of Catholic Prison Ministry
- ◆ Scripture and Tradition
- ◆ Eucharist and Reconciliation
- ◆ Practical info – go to resources – Dimas, Websites, etc. (where to go for helpful faith-based information for your ministry)

The basic questions: Why am I doing this? Who's Call? What does it mean to be minister representing the Church?

RELATED COMPETENCIES:

Spiritual

- ◆ **Church - The Body of Christ** - Spiritual 2.1 *Give witness to an integrated spirituality formed by Scripture, theological reflection, sacramental celebration, communal worship and active participation in parish life.*
- ◆ **Eucharist and Reconciliation** Spiritual 2.3 *Bear witness to the profound significance of the Eucharist in one's own life, in the life of one's parish and in the whole Catholic community*
- ◆ **Scripture and Tradition** - Spiritual 2.4 *Demonstrate sensitivity to the spirituality of the sacred arts, i.e. music, and the value of their expression in liturgical and communal prayer*
- ◆ **Our call to ministry** - Spiritual 2.7 *Accept and articulate one's ministerial vocation as coming from God and confirmed by the ecclesial community (from Church/spirit, not just ourselves*

Intellectual

- ◆ Intellectual 3.3 *Know and integrate into ministerial practice a foundational understanding of the major events in the history of the church.*
- ◆ **Liturgical and Sacramental Theology** - Intellectual 3.4 *Know and integrate into Ministerial practice theologies of liturgy, worship and sacraments*

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Go-to-Resources

Essential:

1. See webinar: **Ministry of Accompaniment: What Is Needed?** July 31, 2018, Presented by: Dr. David Lichter, Executive Director of NACC & Dale Recinella, Catholic Chaplain, Florida Death Row at <https://catholicprisonministries.org/webinars/>

Mentioned and helpful for further insight:

2. **Lumen Gentium:** Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, Vatican II, November 1964, especially Nos. 34-41
http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_const_19641121_lumen-gentium_en.html
3. **The New Jim Crow**, Mass Incarceration in an Age of Colorblindness, Michelle Alexander, The New Press, New York, 2010- a detailed look at the sundry of injustices behind bars and failed policies. <http://newjimcrow.com/>
4. **Reflect on:** Exodus 33:12-17
5. **Evangelii Gaudium**, the Joy of the Gospel, Apostolic Exhortation, Pope Francis, March 2014 – on Missionary Discipleship
http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20131124_evangelii-gaudium.html
6. **Reflect on:** Mark 7
7. The Portal of the Mystery of Hope, Charles Péguy, Continuum, London, 2005,
<https://www.amazon.com/Portal-Mystery-Ressourcement-Grand-Rapids/dp/0802808999>
on how Christian hope elevates
8. **Gaudium et Spes**, Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, Vatican II, December 1965.
http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_cons_19651207_gaudium-et-spes_en.html
9. **Justice in the World, World Synod of Bishops, 1971**, “*Action on behalf of justice and participation in the transformation of the world, fully appear to us as a constitutive dimension of the preaching of the Gospel or, in other words, of the Church’s mission for the redemption of the human race and its liberation from every oppressive situation.*” For full document go to:
<https://www1.villanova.edu/content/dam/villanova/mission/JusticeInTheWorld1971.pdf>
10. **Society of Jesus, GC 32. Decree 4** – This was a mission statement for the Jesuits: “*the mission of the Society of Jesus today is the service of faith, of which the promotion of justice is an absolute requirement. For reconciliation with God demands the reconciliation of people with one another.*” For full

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text see, <https://www.scu.edu/ic/programs/ignatian-tradition-offerings/stories/decre-4-gc-32-service-of-faith-and-the-promotion-of-justice.html>

11. **The Apocalyptic Imagination, An Introduction to Jewish Apocalyptic Literature**, John J. Collins, Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2016,
<https://www.eerdmans.com/Products/Default.aspx?bookid=7279>
12. **Catholicism: Christ and the Common Destiny of Man**, Henri de Lubac, Ignatius Press, November 1, 1988, “*Reconciliation is sign of heaven*”, With a Foreword by Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger/Pope Benedict XVI
<https://www.ignatius.com/Catholicism-P196.aspx>
13. **Paul and the Faithfulness of God: Two Book Set** (*Christian Origins and the Question of God 4*), N. T. Wright, Fortress Press, 2013 – Onesimus and Philemon
<https://fortresspress.com/product/paul-and-faithfulness-god-christian-origins-and-question-god-volume-4>

Hours 3 & 4: Pastoral Care Formation

Session Three Listen - Pastoral Care Formation I: How is one pastorally present to and accompany the incarcerated? This addresses the realities of sin/human brokenness, forgiveness/reconciliation/mercy, grief/bereavement, empathic listening, and awareness of one’s own biases/resistances.

- ◆ Ministry of Compassion
- ◆ Ministry of presence
- ◆ Empathic Listening
- ◆ Mercy – reality of sin and human brokenness – *Amoris Laetitia*
- ◆ Grief and Bereavement
- ◆ Self-Care

Hour 3: Listen: Pastoral Care

The basic question: How am I present pastorally?

Related Competencies:

Human:

- ◆ **Reality of Sin and Human Brokenness** - Human 1.4 *Recognize both the reality of sin with its personal and social consequences and the power of forgiveness and reconciliation to heal people and relationships*
- ◆ **Awareness of personal biases, hurts, woundedness**

Intellectual

- ◆ **Pastoral Theology** - Intellectual 3.6 *Know and integrate into ministerial practice a theology of ministry as well as guiding principles for the practice of ministry in a given context*

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- ◆ **Forgiveness/ reconciliation/ mercy**

Pastoral

- ◆ **Compassion** - Pastoral 4.1 *Exercise sound practices of compassionate pastoral care*
- ◆ **Grief and Bereavement**
- ◆ **Ministry of Listening – empathic listening** Pastoral 4.2 *Foster a pastoral ministry that empowers people to enculturate the Gospel in their own culture and to foster unity in diversity in the Catholic Church by utilizing human, spiritual, theological and pastoral approaches proper to each culture*

Go-to Resources

Essential

1. Webinar **Ministry to the Incarcerated in the Era of Pope Francis**, June 27, 2018, Presented by Fr. George Williams, SJ, Chaplain, San Quentin State Prison & Fr. Dustin Feddon, Chaplain, Diocese of Tallahassee – Pensacola at <https://catholicprisonministries.org/webinars/>
2. Detailed training on **Empathic Listening Skills for Pastoral Care Ministry**, I refer you to a recent Webinar of the CPMC on that Topic that was presented by Drs. Ted Smith and Katherine Getek-Solis. You can find a link to this webinar at <https://catholicprisonministries.org/webinars/>
3. **When We Visit Jesus In Prison**, A Guide for Catholic Ministry, Chaplain Dale Recinella, ACTA Publications, Chicago, IL 2016, www.actapublications.com, See “*Spiritual, Communal and Individual Practices for Catholic Prison Ministers to Avoid Burnout*”, pp 151-181

Mentioned and helpful for further insight:

4. *Amoris Laetiae*, Apostolic Exhortation on Love and the Family, Pope Francis, 2016, https://w2.vatican.va/content/dam/francesco/pdf/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20160319_amoris-laetitia_en.pdf

Session Four Listen - Pastoral Care Formation II: How is one representative of the Church’s Social Teaching? These grounds one’s ministry in the Church’s teaching on human dignity, social and restorative justice, evangelization, recognizing racism, empowering people, collaborative ministry.

Restorative Justice

- ◆ Catholic Social Teaching – The Dignity of the Human person
- ◆ Moral Theology
- ◆ Evangelization as Catholic Christians
- ◆ Recognizing racism
- ◆ Empowering/collaborative ministry
- ◆ Restorative Justice

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Hour 4: Pastoral Care Formation 2

Related Competencies:

Human

- ◆ **The Dignity of the Human Person** - Human 1.1 *Appreciate and affirm the dignity of the human person and the positive values of diverse cultures, ethnicities, etc.*

Spiritual

- ◆ **Recognizing Racism** - Spiritual 2.10 *Develop spirituality sensitive to diverse cultural expressions based on conversion, communion, mission and solidarity*

Intellectual

- ◆ **Church Teaching** - Intellectual 3.2 *Know and integrate into ministerial practice Trinitarian Theology, Christology, pneumatology, missiology & Christian anthropology*
- ◆ **Moral Theology and Catholic Social Teaching** - Intellectual 3.5 *Know and integrate into ministerial practice a theology of the moral life, including Catholic social teaching*

Go-to Resources

Essential:

1. **Harm, Healing, and Human Dignity, A Catholic Encounter with Restorative Justice**, Adapted by Caitlin Morneau, Catholic Mobilizing Network, Liturgical Press. May 2019
<https://catholicmobilizing.org/harm-healing-and-human-dignity-catholic-encounter-restorative-justice>

Hours 5 & 6: Skill/Knowledge Formation

Pastoral Skills

- ◆ Boundaries
- ◆ Power dynamics
- ◆ Situational Awareness
- ◆ Substance Abuse
- ◆ What works – worship and sacraments in jail and prison/ Bible Studies/ Sacramentals/ Praying with prisoners - 1:1, cell fronts, etc.
- ◆ Bible Studies
- ◆ Sacramentals
- ◆ Evangelization
- ◆ Praying with Prisoners - 1:1, groups, cell fronts
- ◆ Situational Awareness- jails and prisons- recap

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Hour 5: Love: Skill/ Knowledge Formation 1

Session Five Love – Skill/Knowledge Formation I: What do I need to be aware of and prepared for to serve in these settings? This addresses the importance of knowing/keeping boundaries, understanding prisoners' characteristics/motivations, understanding issues related to substance abuse, safety, having a situational awareness of types/levels of jails and prisons.

Related Competencies:

Human

- ◆ Appropriate Resources - Human 1.3 Engage in programs or practices of continuing ministerial formation and lifelong personal growth
- ◆ On-going formation and personal growth
- ◆ Boundaries Basic Pastoral Skills - Human 1.6 Manifest psychological health marked
- ◆ by integrity, appropriate interpersonal boundaries and the ability to honor and safeguard the trust that people place in them as Church ministers
- ◆ Power dynamics - Human 1.7 Understand the power inherent in positions of pastoral leadership and be diligent in the responsible exercise of such power

Pastoral

- ◆ Worship & Sacraments -Pastoral 4.8: ritual, sacraments in prison, prayer styles. Appropriate use of scripture, apologetics
- ◆ Understand prisoners' characteristics and motivations (see Chapters 7 & 8 Recinella)
- ◆ Understand issues related to Substance abuse, safety, types/levels of jails/prisons

Go-to Resources

Essential

1. Archived – Webinar: **Recognizing Trauma in the Prisoner**, November 27, 2018, Maria Morrison, M.S.W., Senior Social Worker at the Equal Justice Initiative, and Fr. Dustin Feddon, Ph.D., Chaplain, Diocese of Tallahassee – Pensacola
<https://catholicprisonministries.org/webinars/>
2. **When We Visit Jesus in Prison**, A Guide for Catholic Ministry, Chaplain Dale Recinella, ACTA Publications, Chicago, IL, 2016, www.actapublications.com, Chapter 16, “*Religious Constraints That Affect Prison Ministry and Restorative Justice*” pp 477-499

Hour 6: Pastoral Skills

- ◆ Working with others
- ◆ Working with prison Staff
- ◆ Working with families of the incarcerated

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- ◆ Pastoral care do's and don'ts
- ◆ Ethics

Hour 6: Love: Skill/ Knowledge Formation 2

Session Six Love – Skill/Knowledge Formation II: How do I navigate and work within the system? This final session explores a variety of pastoral do's and don'ts in diverse relationships with others, from relating to those of other faiths to developing the faith community, from working with prison staff to relating to families of incarcerated and working with ex-prisoners

The basic questions: How do I navigate the system? How do I negotiate the various relationships necessary to be effective?

Related Competencies:

Human

- ◆ **Self-Care**

Spiritual

- ◆ **Ecumenism** - Spiritual 2.8 *Display openness to ecumenical prayer, work and practices that promote Christian unity and acknowledge the gifts afforded the human community from the various world religions*

Pastoral

- ◆ **Developing the faith community** - Pastoral 4.8 *Develop and nurture the prayer life of the community in the jail or prison*

Go to resources

Essential:

1. Webinar: **Maintaining Resilience**, September 18, 2018, Dr. Eileen Dombo, National Catholic School of Social Service, The Catholic University of America and Fr. George Williams, S.J., Chaplain, San Quentin State Prison at <https://catholicprisonministries.org/webinars/>
2. **Desert Waters Correctional Outreach, Inc.** The mission of this non-profit organization in Colorado is to promote occupational, personal and family well-being of the corrections workforce through the provision of evidence-informed resources, solutions and support. <http://desertwaters.com/>