



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 7: SAMPLE SESSIONS FOR CATHOLIC LAITY IN PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY – EQUIPPING, COORDINATING, SUSTAINING

Committed to effective sacramental and pastoral care ministry in hospitals and senior care facilities, a recently implemented diocesan program is presented, with its emphasis on better coordination of sacramental ministry and the mobilization, training, and administration of Catholic laity for ministry.

Objectives:

- ◆ Explain design and implementation of diocesan operation for institutional ministry
- ◆ Present introductory educational program, equip laity for institutional pastoral care ministry
- ◆ Explain role and duties of the Lay Coordinator and Pastoral Visitors within the diocesan program

Session 1 (45 mins): “A Diocesan Program for Institutional Ministry”

Denice Foose or Ted Smith

Metropolitan Houston is geographically massive, with several large urban hospitals and many smaller suburban, regional hospitals. While the diocesan program addresses the needs of both types, workshop emphasizes the coordination of ministry between neighborhood parishes, hospitals and senior facilities.

Session 2 (45 mins): “Equipping Laity for Ministry: An Educational Program”

Ted Smith

Catholic laypersons, who feel called to caring ministry, want to be challenged to grow in skill and knowledge. This introductory program addresses this diocesan need with a clinically based pedagogy and a Catholic-grounded curriculum designed to enhance skill, increase knowledge and solidify identity.

Session 3 (45 mins): “The Program Begins: Getting Started”

Ted Smith

The initial nine elements of the curriculum are presented, including foundational essays for Catholic pastoral care, spiritual screening, pastoral identity, HIPAA review, and related-ERDs.

Written assignments also reviewed: Ministry Verbatim reports, Reflection Papers on Competency topics, and Personal Grief Narrative; and reading assignment: All Our Losses, All Our Grievs, Mitchell and Anderson.

Session 4 (45 mins): “Empathic Listening: Theory and Practice”

Ted Smith)

The program’s emphasis on empathic listening is undergirded theoretically by Henri Nouwen and Herbert Anderson and is developed through analysis of effective and less effective responses in sample verbatims and an experiential “Tracking” exercise. Facilitation of the person’s narrative is discussed, including the judicious use of “helping responses” and disclosure of personal history.

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Session 5 (45 mins): “More Pastoral Care Basics, Including Prayer and Scripture”

Ted Smith

A review of the program’s curriculum is continued, including such topics as pastoral presence, distinctiveness of Pastoral Visitor role, and pastoral care “rules of thumb.” Attention is also given to nature and use of intercessory Prayer, both written and extemporaneous. Finally, the appropriate use of Scripture is discussed, along with selection of pastorally sensitive biblical texts.

Session 6 (45 mins): “Sustaining the Ministry and Ministers”

Denice Foose or Ted Smith

A significant factor in sustaining and enhancing sacramental and pastoral care ministry in suburban, regional hospitals and senior care facilities has been the creation of the Lay Coordinator position and recruitment, training, and supporting of Pastoral Visitors. The Coordinator’s relationship with an assigned Priest, Pastoral Visitors parish leadership, and these health-care institutions and the diverse ways of sustaining the Pastoral Visitors are explained.

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APPENDIX 8: THE NATIONAL CORE AND SPECIALIZED COMPETENCIES

See addendums:

- ◆ Diocesan Pastoral Care Competencies for the Sick, the Homebound and Older Adults. 2019 (DPC)
- ◆ Criminal Justice Pastoral Care Competencies.2018 (CPM)
- ◆ Permanent Deacon Pastoral Care Competencies.2018 (PDC)