
CERTIFICATE IN CATHOLIC STUDIES (C.C.S.)

CCS-017 PASTORAL CARE

COURSE OUTLINE

Pastoral Care is an excellent introduction for those already involved in the ministry of care, and for those preparing to undertake this vital work. In the course you will learn a theology of sickness and suffering; how the communion ritual works; practical advice on making pastoral visits; how to take care of yourself while caring for others; and where to find further information about illnesses affecting those you visit.

General Course Objectives

1. Understand Sickness and Healing.
2. Learn the Rites of the Sick.
3. Share the Word of God.
4. Organize Hospital and Nursing Home Visits.
5. Consider Concerns and Pitfalls.
6. Evaluate your Ministry.

Course Structure and Highlights

Week 1: Called to Minister with the Sick

- Reflect on your Parish Ministry.
- Understand Sickness and Healing.
- Learn the Basic Skills

Week 2: The Rites of the Sick

- Consider Principles for Celebration.
- Share the Word of God.

Week 3: Organizing the Visits

- Prepare the Visits.
- Consider General Guidelines for Visiting.

Week 4: Concerns and Pitfalls

- Deal with Differences.
- Consider Special Cases.

Week 5: Your own Life

- Find Balance.
- Evaluate your Ministry.

Textbooks

[Glen, Genevieve; Kofler, Marilyn; O'Connor, Kevin. Handbook for Ministers of Care. Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, 1997.](#)

References

[Catechism of the Catholic Church.](#)

[The Holy Bible.](#)

Assessment

Pastoral Care consists of ten lessons and ten assignments, with each assignment weighted at 10% (percent) of the total grade.

Technical Skills and Equipment Requirements

1. You must have Internet access. A high-speed connection, either ADSL or cable, is recommended.
2. You should know how to use a web browser to navigate the web to locate educational resources and download files.
3. You will need the files management skills necessary to create directories, to save files and to retrieve files.