



Diocese of Ballarat

Lay Pastoral Ministry Program

Online Course Provider:

The Virtual Learning Community, University of Dayton

www.vlccf.udayton.edu

The Lay Pastoral Ministry Program offers online study combined with Diocesan-based reflection groups, formation sessions and individual support.

Who is this program for?

Lay women and men (18+) of the Diocese of Ballarat who are currently living in the diocese, who are engaged in parish and diocesan life as a volunteer or in a paid role and with a study pathway or subjects chosen in consultation with the Facilitator of the Diocesan Lay Pastoral Ministry Program.

The Lay Pastoral Ministry Program offers the opportunity for lay workers (paid or volunteer):

- ◆ to study individual subject/s or
- ◆ to undertake Certificate course

Two courses are being certified by Ballarat Diocese:

- ◆ Certificate in Pastoral Ministry
- ◆ Certificate in Youth and Young Adult Ministry

Subjects are each 5 weeks of online study at 6-10 hours per week

Diocesan Lay Pastoral Ministry Program

Individual support is available. Being part of a local support network is encouraged

Certificate Course

6 or more online subjects (studied one at a time) from a range of subject levels plus local formation and reflection sessions - attending 3 sessions and 1 Retreat in the 2 years, with written reflections on each

Individual subjects

Study an individual subject in your ministry area
eg Bereavement Ministry, or Sacraments;
 or study a group of subjects related to your ministry
eg Scripture or Social Justice

Certificate in Pastoral Ministry

Subjects:

- Faith & Human Development
- plus one Leadership subject from:
 - * Collaboration and Community
 - * Communication and Community
 - * Leadership in Ministry
 - * Vocation to Ministry
- and 4 or more other subjects making at least 11 points

Certificate in Youth and Young Adult Ministry

Subjects:

- Faith & Human Development
- plus one Leadership subject from Pastoral Ministry list above
- A Vision for Catholic Youth Ministry
- 2 other youth subjects
- and 1 or more other subject/s

Subjects are done one at a time. A Certificate should be completed within two years. A Certificate will include subjects from a range of subject levels, selected in consultation with the Diocesan Facilitator, and adding up to at least 11 points. A subject is done within a five week study cycle. There are six study cycles per year. You do not have to do a subject every study cycle. Participants may do individual subjects or a focus group of subjects related to their Ministry. A Certificate includes participation in local formation gatherings. Completion of the Certificate program, including participation in local formation gatherings, will be certified by the Diocese of Ballarat. All single subjects successfully completed will be certified by the Diocese of Ballarat.

Financial details

The Ballarat Diocese is a VLCCF partner with Dayton University, so subject fees are discounted. The current per subject fee is \$US50 (approx \$AUD65) for Diocesan participants. Each participant pays this at the start of each subject. There may be additional participation fees for retreats and formation gatherings.

Ballarat Diocese reserves the right to not allow students to undertake or continue a Certificate or other participation in the Lay Pastoral Ministry Program.