

Catholic Diocese of Ballarat



Scholarship

LAY PASTORAL MINISTRY PROGRAM

Are you looking for professional development in faith?

Do you want to explore a deeper faith relationship with God, Church, self, others and creation?

A Diocesan Scholarship can help!!

Religious, laity, families and young people, carry the Gospel into the world transforming it through witness, word, holiness, mercy and life.

Pope Paul VI cf. *Evangelii Nuntiandi* (1975) 66-73

In marking 150 years, the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat is aiming to support the mission formation of people in parishes, Catholic organisations and schools by offering **six scholarships** to study a certificate in Pastoral Ministry or Youth and Young Adult Ministry.



These certificates are part of the Lay Pastoral Ministry Program and aim to provide formation for ministry and mission in the diocese.

The Australian Plenary Council Decree 6 encouraged the formation of laity and this scholarship is offered as a help to enhancing lay people's knowledge and skills for participation in ministry in the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat.

Pope Francis says "the missionary dimension of the Church must be at the centre of the formation of the laity, involving the faithful in various forms of witness, which brings them closer to other people." (*Pope Francis' address at the Conference "Pastors and lay faithful called to go forward together" 18/2/23*)

This scholarship aims to be practical and follow the lead of Pope Francis of journeying together in communion, participation and mission.

The Lay Pastoral Ministry Program Certificates are offered in partnership with the Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation, Dayton University. This is an online adult religious education and faith formation program you can access, anytime, anywhere from any device.



The Multi-faceted Lay Pastoral Ministry Program



- Opportunities to discern pathways for developing lay ministry skills.
- Opportunities for lay workers, both paid and volunteer, to enhance their skills through formation and study.
- Opportunities to undertake a program of formation and study that is certified by the Diocese.

- As part of the study program, opportunities for local formation, attendance at retreats and other gatherings.
- Access to hard copies of study texts.
- Opportunities for informal support and networking.
- Guidance for those who wish to explore further study, for example in theology or in specialised hospital or aged care ministry studies (through other course providers).



Catholic Diocese of Ballarat

Community
Remember *Revitalise*
Hope



Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer
Romans 12:12

We encourage you to apply if:

- you are looking for formation, especially for pastoral leadership roles in the Diocese of Ballarat
- you are able to complete six or more subjects within a two-year period
- you are from the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat

To apply, you will need to:

- choose one of the certificates for study - Pastoral Ministry or Youth and Young Adult Ministry - and indicate your reasons for this study
- provide a statement of your current involvement in diocesan life, including any leadership roles, whether parish, school or agency
- have an endorsement from your Parish Priest, Principal or Head of Department

Previous tertiary studies are not necessary

More information on these courses are available from the Diocesan website:

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

This includes:

- * List of subjects available for online study
- * Certificate course or subject study structure
- * Frequently Asked Questions

To apply please contact the Bishop's Office, ph 5337 7121 or email bishopsoffice@ballarat.catholic.org.au as soon as possible.