Ministry Essentials – Skills and Practices

CE-SY511-12W

This is a practical course. Why? Because successful programs and ministries are led by successful leaders. If a leader lacks the competence and confidence to succeed, it is unlikely that the ministry will succeed.

The secret to ministry success is less about doing more things, and more about doing the right things. This course offers the essential principles, processes and practices needed to discern and practice these right things. This course will address the key pastoral and human competencies for ministry and provide an entrée to further studies at Christ the King Seminary.

**Learning Outcomes:** Provides an orientation to all types of pastoral ministry. Interested in more? Then the *Faith Essentials* and *Spiritual Essentials* courses are for you.

1. Purpose-Driven Life and Time Management
   - Know: how to align daily plans with life priorities
   - Feel: greater satisfaction with setting daily priorities
   - Do: a statement of personal mission that gives focus to one’s life

2. Leadership that Empowers Leaders
   - Know: what makes a person a leader and how one can become a more effective leader
   - Feel: confidence when people look to you for direction
   - Do: a system of empowerment with simple ways to make leaders out of followers

3. Empowering Volunteers and Leading as a Servant
   - Know: what is distinct about Christian leaders
   - Feel: willingness to put aside one-sided expectations in favor of building partnership
   - Do: an analysis of the seven attributes and their capacity as a servant leader

4. Planning for Impact and Planning for Life
   - Know: the basic steps for needs-based pastoral planning
   - Feel: empowered to take action and plan within one’s circles of influence
   - Do: a plan for better life and apply planning to program development

5. Collaboration and Cooperative Decisions
   - Know: the best method for making decisions, foster ownership & head off conflict
   - Feel: supported by the group in decisions
   - Do: a process exercising the necessary skills for group decision making

6. Team-Building and Leading Public Prayer
   - Know: essential elements of healthy teams and styles of public prayer
   - Feel: confident to assume the role of prayer leader when need arises
   - Do: create and rehearse a simply formula for leading prayer spontaneously
7. Communication – Person to Person & Social Media
   Know: the difference between talking to a person and encountering another person
   Know: the role of ‘curator’ of content means and its value.
   Feel: encountering a person through effective listening
   Feel: more comfortable with technology both for PR and growing community.
   Do: practice effective skills for interpersonal and small group communication

8. Forge Unity through Diversity
   Know: the difference between integration and assimilation
   Feel: gratitude for one’s own background & appreciation for those of different cultures
   Do: various techniques that build the critical cultural bridges

9. Game-Changing Strategies for Evangelization
   Know: the rationale, purpose and goals of evangelization
   Know: a distinctively Catholic approach to evangelization in purpose and practice
   Feel: confident in sharing one’s faith story
   Do: an assessment of personal strengths for evangelism

10. Engage Catholic Families
    Know: what is meant by the ‘domestic church’ and needs of families
    Feel: empathy toward today’s families - their struggles, joys, challenges & priorities
    Do: one idea designed to fully engage families as communities of faith

11. Encourage Holiness in Youth
    Know: foundational principles and framework for healthy, fruitful, disciple-making ministry with adolescents
    Feel: inspired to enhance or initiate ministry with youth
    Do: identify at least one practical way to more effectively disciple adolescents

12. Feed the Spiritual Hungers of Young Adults
    Know: who young adults are today and some foundational principles for outreach
    Feel: challenged by the call for spiritual renewal as proposed by young adults
    Do: name at least one practical way to reach out and disciple young adults

Date, Time and Location: Starting Tuesday, January 21st at 2pm (Christ the King Seminary) or 6:30pm (Catholic Center) and ending April 7th.

Cost: $35 Administrative Fee (but no one is turned away for lack of ability to pay). Make checks payable to Christ the King Seminary.

Information and Registration: Contact Dennis Mahaney 716-847-8393 or email: dmahaney@buffalodiocese.org