

Centre for Ministry Formation

The Centre for Ministry Formation welcomes men and women discerning their direction and/or seeking formation for pastoral leadership, and gathers them to become a community of disciples. The Centre offers human, spiritual, intellectual and pastoral formation in preparation for ministry. Integral formation is one of the defining concerns of the Centre.

The Centre embraces a renewed vision of pastoral leadership whereby both ordained and lay ministers are co-responsible in the service of the people of God. In accomplishing its mission, the Centre combines tradition and innovation. On the one hand, a living tradition of preparation for presbyteral ministry of Saint Paul University Seminary is maintained and enriched. On the other hand, the Centre innovates by offering formation for other ministries emerging in the practice of the Church. Throughout the formation process, candidates for ordained and lay ministry learn to collaborate and value each other's gifts in the formation activities.

BEAUDET, FLAVIE, B.A. (University of Ottawa), Certificate in Pastoral Theology, M.A. Counselling and Spirituality (Saint Paul University) *Formator Coordinator of Pastoral Placements; Lecturer in the Faculty of Theology.*

BITAR, ANTOINETTE, *Ministry Formation Assistant.*

FLYNN, KEVIN, B.A. (York University), M.Div. (Trinity College/University of Toronto), M.Th. (Trinity College/University of Toronto) *Responsible for the formation of Anglican candidates for Ministry; Director of Anglican Studies; Formator; Professor in the Faculty of Theology.*

KUZMOCHKA, CAROL, B.A. (Dalhousie University), Certificate in Process Facilitation (Stillpoint Institute), M.R.E. (Saint Paul University), D.Min. Candidate (Saint Paul University) *Director of the Centre for Ministry Formation; Formator; Lecturer in the Faculty of Theology.*

TARDIF, LUC, O.M.I., L.L.L. (Sherbrooke), B.Th. (Saint Paul), L.Th. (Institute of Spirituality, Gregorian University, Rome), doctoral studies in Education and Religion (Boston College) *Associate Director of the Centre for Ministry Formation; Rector of Saint Paul University Seminary; Formator; Lecturer in the Faculty of Theology.*

FORMATION

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIC TO THE PROGRAMS

For admission to a full program in the Centre for Ministry Formation, candidates must:

- Be recommended for formation by a recognized Church community, pastoral minister or leader;
- Have exercised ministry for at least two years, showing promise of leadership.

For admission to all formation and discernment programs in the Centre for Ministry Formation, candidates must:

- Have conviction of a sense of call to ministry and make an adult commitment to Christian faith and community;
- Have developed a basic discipline of spiritual and liturgical life;
- Be sufficiently mature to sustain caring relationships for self and others;
- Be registered in one of Saint Paul University's academic programs.

Students registered in either an undergraduate or graduate program must follow the specific academic regulations of Saint Paul University's and the University of Ottawa's faculties in which they take courses.

PROFILES OF FORMATION

PROFILE OF THE PERSON WHO IS SEEKING DIRECTION/VOCATIONAL DISCERNMENT

There are many times in life when a person can be searching for direction, for their call or vocation. Often young adults are trying to find their path; sometimes older adults are changing careers, retiring, or beginning a new phase in life, and want to engage in reflection and discernment. The Centre offers a variety of services (see complete list below) to help persons discern their path. Individual programs may be developed according to need.

FULL PROGRAM / SIX-YEAR PROFILE

- Four years of undergraduate studies, including eighteen credits of Philosophy, the civil and ecclesiastical Bachelor of Theology degrees;
- One year of Pastoral Internship;
- One year of graduate studies, Master in Pastoral Theology (M.P.Th.).

Students who are already advanced or have completed an undergraduate or graduate program in theology must undertake at least two years of formation, which may require at least two of the following: a year of intensive spiritual and adult faith development, an internship year, and the Master in Pastoral Theology.

INTERNSHIP

Students who have completed the first cycle of formation enter into a year of supervised pastoral service in their diocese or supporting community. This is organized by the Centre in cooperation with the formation leaders of the specific area of service. Various activities during the year connect those in internship with each other and the formation community.

SHORTER AND MODIFIED PROGRAMS PROFILES

Students who wish to acquire a shorter formation may avail themselves of different profiles of studies according to readiness, time and resources, and their assessed needs, combined with a personalized plan for human, intellectual, spiritual, and pastoral development. Similarly, students who are not following a typical Six-Year profile, but who may wish ministry formation as they complete their program of study in theology or another discipline, may engage in a modified formation program designed to meet their needs.

PART-TIME AND DISTANCE EDUCATION

Part-time students may participate in a formation program tailored to their specific needs and availability. Formation is also available for those living at a distance from the University campus.

SABBATICAL PROFILE

Adjusted formation profiles are available for pastoral persons seeking to renew or deepen their lived experience of ministry.

FORMATION SERVICES

The Centre provides all of its services within the context of the formation community which seeks to develop the skills and attitudes for collaborative ministry. The community experience is oriented toward building relations of mutuality and co-responsibility.

ASSESSMENT SERVICES

- Assessment of readiness for ministry formation; evaluation for the practice of ministry.

FAITH AND SPIRITUAL FORMATION

- Individual spiritual direction;
- Group spiritual direction;
- Faith-sharing groups;
- Pastoral skills for liturgical celebration;
- Creative experiences in prayer and ritual;
- Directed retreats;
- Discernment and integration seminars;
- Theological reflection skills.

PASTORAL FORMATION

- Pastoral placements with ongoing supervision;
- Practica during each year of undergraduate studies;
- Seminars on pastoral issues and concerns;
- Development of facilitation and leadership skills;
- Internship preparation, pastoral reflection and evaluation seminars;
- Accompaniment in the Master of Pastoral Theology program/Faculty of Theology

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

- Mentoring;
- Development of relational skills, such as listening, dialogue, empathy, engaging in conflict, and feedback;
- Opportunities in imaginative and creative awakenings;
- Opportunities for psychological counselling, therapeutic, and growth services.