I. COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course provides a practical basis for the important role of the Christian Pastor/Priest in the care of souls. It will cover the theological and practical issues at play in the various sacramental rites, Christian pastoral counselling and spiritual direction, as well as providing tools for responding to life issues and pastoral crises.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES
After participating in this module students will be more able to:

- articulate a personal pastoral theology grounded in the Scriptures, theology and the experience of the Church.
- demonstrate a capacity to analyze and evaluate pastoral situations in parish systems, and to make appropriate pastoral responses.
- make use of the various sacramental rites of the Church in the pastoral care of parishioners.
- hone listening and pastoral counseling skills for working with others.
- cultivate an intentional practice of theological reflection, connecting theological education, the practice of ministry and personal spirituality.

These objectives will be evaluated by means of:

- Student attendance, preparation and participation in class (20%)
- A personal theological reflection paper on pastoral identity (30%)
- A Verbatim on pastoral counselling, spiritual direction, pastoral situation or crisis (20%)
- Final Project (30%)
The student will recognize and identify the biblical theology evident in the course work. 
2) The student will be able to articulate an understanding of biblical, historical, systematic, and pastoral theology as grounded in the Anglican tradition.
3) The student will be able to communicate effectively the Christian message to a diversity of people in order to advance the mission of God.
4) The student will be equipped to apply scholarship to the life of the church in her/his chosen theological discipline.

III. METHODOLOGY
Student learning in this course will take place by means of preparation in reading and reflection, class lectures, case study breakout groups, and large group class discussions, as well as theological reflection papers, and the compilation of either a Pastoral Resource Handbook or a series of pastoral tracts for use in a congregation.

IV. COURSE TEXTS
Required Reading


Additional articles will be distributed on the Google online learning platform

Recommended Future Reading


V. ASSIGNMENTS (in order of due date). Please submit all written assignments electronically through the Google online learning platform.

A. Attendance, reading, and discussion (20%) - A schedule of reading will be handed out at first class; students are to come prepared for class discussions. In graduate learning students often learn as much from each other’s reflections as from the Instructors. Students may miss up to one session without penalty to final grade.

B. Personal Theology of Pastoral Care (30%) – Due September 27. Write a paper (approximately 5 pages) describing your personal theology of pastoral care, outlining the Scriptural passages and theological themes that undergird your understanding of pastoral care. Reference what you are learning through class discussions, lectures and class reading from Purves’ Pastoral Theology in the Classical Tradition and Brown and Cocksworth’s On Being a Priest Today, as well as any other pertinent texts that have shaped your thinking on the topic.

C. Verbatim/Theological Reflection Paper #1 on a spiritual direction or pastoral counseling situation (20%) – Due October 25. Write a 3-4 pages paper, referencing the class reading. Please reflect on a recent experience. 1. Start (1-2 pages) with an Introduction describing the context, and a brief verbatim of a real pastoral conversation you’ve had this semester in a spiritual direction, pastoral counseling, a response to a pastoral situation or a crisis. 2. Describe (1 page) the experience, noting both what transpired in the situation as well as your own interior personal experience. What went well? What could have been better? 3. Conclude (1 page) with a personal theological reflection on what you believe is God was doing in that situation. (If appropriate, invite the care-receiver to give you feedback on their experience of God’s care.)

* NB. Disguise names of people, towns and congregations for anonymity.

D. Final Project - November 22.

MAR – A Final Theological Paper (30%) Write an essay on a particular contemporary issue for pastoral care, approximately 10 pages in length, integrating both biblical and systematic theological reflection. The bibliography must contain at least 10 entries. The topic is to be negotiated with the Instructor.

MDiv. – Students may choose between the two following options:

1) Pastoral Resource Handbook (30%) – Write an outline to discuss with the Professor by November 5; final submission is due November 22.

Develop a “handbook” or “resource notebook” (10-13 pages maximum) on a particular issue for pastoral care such as: Marriage preparation or
counseling; Addiction; Suicide; Depression; Grief/Loss; death, etc. The Handbook must include:

- A brief 1-2 paragraph introduction describing the theme of the handbook and the various sections.
- A succinct biblical/theological reflection on the topic (1-2 pages).
- A list of appropriate Scripture passages addressing the topic which you could share with someone in need (1 page).
- Annotated bibliography for further reading - books or articles (1 page).
- Sermon outline addressing the topic (1-2 pages).
- A list of appropriate local community resources available to help
- A list of “dos” and “don’ts” for training lay caregivers (1 page).
- One of either of the following:
  - A succinct and detailed outline of a five-week class or program, either for those facing the issue or for those being trained to give care (5 pages)
  - A five-week devotional with Scripture readings, a written reflection/commentary and a reflection question for those facing the issue (5 pages).

*NB Reference all sources, written and oral/personal.

2) Generate a series “Help” tracts and/or customaries for use in a local congregation (30%) - Final submission is due November 22.

Generate a series of at least 5 bi-fold tracts and/or customaries (each equals 6% of total class grade) to encourage and support parishioners in their discipleship on a variety pastoral issues. These are not intended to be the last word on the matter but for many they may be the first leading to further pastoral guidance. Entitle the series, Help…. Some examples might be, Help! I think about Suicide, Help! I’m a Single Parent, Help I Struggle with Addiction, Help! My Teen Says She/He is Gay, Help! I Lost My Job, Help! I Am Getting Married, Help! I Want to Be Baptized, etc.

Tracts and/or customaries should include:

- A title page.
- A paragraph (philosophical/cultural) description of the issue.
- A paragraph theological description of the issue.
- A bullet-point list of recommendations for practical steps to help address the issue.
- Some recommendations of trusted local organizations/agencies for help.
- Some recommendations for further study.
- Contact info for the church and pastoral leadership.

*NB Customaries are to be structured in similar fashion to tracts but must also include congregational and/or denominational policies related to the topic (viz., Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage, etc.).

VI. EVALUATION

Attendance, preparation, and engagement are expected, as are strict adherence to Trinity’s policy on plagiarism and the institution’s expectations regarding classroom conduct. Students are allowed to miss one session without penalty to final grade for appropriate purposes. Students are asked to communicate with the professor. To receive a passing grade, students must:
- Attend classes and participate in discussion as evidence of advance preparation
- Complete assignments adequately and on time

**Grading Scale**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>95-100</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>90-94</td>
<td>A-</td>
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<td>79-77</td>
<td>C+</td>
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<td>76-73</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>72-70</td>
<td>C-</td>
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<tr>
<td>D (below 70 )</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F (below 60 )</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
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VII. **CLASS SESSIONS**

**September 3** – Course Introduction, Incarnational Pastoral Theology, and Prayer and the Care of Souls  
*Reading - Purves: Introduction, Chaps. 1-3 & 5 and Conclusion*

**September 10** – Practical Theology and Post-Christian Pastoral Assumptions  
*Reading – Pattison Article on Google Classroom: Straw for Bricks*

**September 17** – A Theology of Ordained Ministry and the life of the Pastor  
*Reading – Brown & Cocksworth: Being a Priest Today*

**September 24** – Christian Anthropology and Human Sexuality

**October 1** – Marriage Preparation

**October 8** - Divorce and Remarriage

**October 15** – Reading Week (No class).

**October 22** – Pastoral Counseling and Inner Healing.  
*Reading – Benner: Strategic Pastoral Counseling Chaps. 1-4*

**October 29** – Healing the Soul: Confession and Spiritual Direction.

**November 5** - Healing: Physical and Spiritual (Exorcism).

**November 12** - Home and Hospital Visitation, Ministry with the Elderly  
*Oden: Chaps. 12 - 16*

**November 19** - Crisis Intervention: Addiction

**November 26** - Thanksgiving Break

**December 3** (online, the link will be available in Google Classroom) - Death, Dying, Grief and Depression,  
*Reading – Oden: Chap 17 - 18*
NB – Due to Covid-19 the term is shortened one week. Two additional 45-minute sessions will be available on Google Classroom discussing Suicide and Self Care for Long Haul Ministry for students to review at leisure.

VIII. Addendum - Trinity School for Ministry Policies

TSM Policy on Plagiarism
Plagiarism is an act of “literary theft,” in which the work of another is misrepresented as the original work of the student. This may be done intentionally or unintentionally. The policy on plagiarism is strictly enforced. Please see page 95 of the Academic Catalogue.

TSM Policy for Late Work
All students have the responsibility to complete their academic work in a timely manner and to comply with all course requirements set by the instructor in the course syllabus, including deadlines for assignments and papers. Students must not in any circumstance assume that late submission of work will be overlooked or treated casually.

Late work and extensions. Instructors may grant an extension of due dates for class assignments. If students make a mutually acceptable prior arrangement with an instructor, they may with the instructor’s permission submit required course work up to the official date for the end of term. When students expect to submit required course work later than the due date assigned by the instructor, but before the last day to submit work for the term then the student must signify this prospect to the instructor in writing, stating the extenuating circumstances, to obtain permission for late submission, on or before the assigned due date or stated examination day of a given term. A copy of this request must be submitted to the Registrar to be kept in the student’s file.

Incompletes. Extensions beyond the official last day to submit work for the term will involve an incomplete and may be obtained only upon written petition to the Academic Dean and Registrar, indicating the support of the course instructor for such an extension. The petition must demonstrate significant extenuating circumstances justifying the request. The Academic Dean and instructor, in consultation with the Registrar, shall determine the length and end date of the incomplete period. The Registrar will generate a contract to be signed by the instructor, the student and the Academic Dean. The incomplete work shall be due no later than 30 days following the original work due date. An administration fee of $200 which is not eligible for scholarship, shall be added to the student’s bill. Additionally, the student may not register for courses in the next term until the required work is submitted and all fees are paid in full.

Incompletes will be arranged in accordance with the procedure outlined in the paragraph above; an “I” indicating an incomplete will be entered upon the student’s transcript for the course in question. When the work has been completed, the instructor shall submit a final grade to the Registrar, who shall then make an appropriate notation on the transcript indicating removal of the Incomplete and entering the final grade.

If a student fails to meet the applicable deadline, in accordance with the procedures stated above, an “F” shall be automatically registered for the work in question, and a grade for the course shall be calculated on that basis, together with the evaluation of other coursework submitted. Additionally, the student may also be put on academic probation.