



BISHOP'S CERTIFICATE

in Catechesis & Youth Ministry

COURSE OUTLINE

Meet the Team



Fr Dominic Howarth

Episcopal Vicar for Pastoral Formation

Fr Dominic Howarth has been a priest of Brentwood Diocese for 15 years, serving as Youth Chaplain and Director of the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service and as Parish Priest of Our Lady and All Saints, Basildon. He is currently immersed in the move of Walsingham House from Canvey Island to Abbotswick.

He has a degree in Politics, Philosophy and Economics from Oxford University, and a Licence in Moral Theology from the Accademia Alphonsiana in Rome, where he specialised in Catholic Social Teaching.

He is passionate about Youth Ministry, and together with the whole team at the Vicariate for Pastoral Formation he is keen to develop opportunities for young people and those who journey with them. This course is part of that vision.



Brenden Thompson

Training & Resources Coordinator

Brenden Thompson is a local boy who grew up in Barking and went to school at All Saints, Dagenham. Brenden's faith came alive through going with the BCYS to Sydney, Australia for World Youth Day. This experience led Brenden to work for three years at the Diocesan Youth Retreat Centre, Walsingham House.

After leaving Walsingham House, Brenden went on to complete a foundation degree in Youth Ministry, an undergraduate degree in Theology and Religious Studies at St Mary's, Twickenham and most recently a Master's Degree in Applied Theology at Oxford University.

As well as working part time for the Vicariate for Pastoral Formation Brenden also works for Catholic Voices as coordinator of the Public Speakers' Programme and is a freelance speaker.



About

The Bishop's Certificate in Catechesis & Youth Ministry (BC) is designed to be an entry level qualification to help in the ongoing formation of youth leaders in parishes and catechists involved in preparing young people for First Holy Communion & Confirmation in the Diocese of Brentwood. It includes both the development of practical skills & the deepening of theological knowledge.

We are committed to making the process of faith formation for catechists and youth leaders more accessible than ever before by harnessing the power of digital media. So we are making sure this course is taught through engaging, short videos on a custom built website, complete with multiple choice questions and journaling for assessment purposes.

Course Fees

The course fee is £25. This includes access to all online videos and downloadable resources accessed through a personal log in via the website.

Dates

As well as the online materials the course will also require students to attend two study days normally on a Saturday. The study days will include live seminars and group work as well as presentations given by participants which will be assessed by moderators of the course. The first cohort will begin in January 2018 with a second cohort beginning in April 2018.

Core Modules

There are 12 core modules that participants will usually complete within one year. The modules have been carefully chosen, based on the structure of the Catechism, to cover essential theology and pastoral practice related to the areas of catechesis and youth ministry. Each module has 5 lessons, which are designed to be no longer than 10 minutes. All modules and most lessons will be accompanied by relevant resources and links to further study on various topics as well as a reflective presentation of a passage of Scripture.

Participants will be provided with a suggested timetable for completing the BC which means it will only take up 45 minutes a week. The additional reading suggested will assist those who wish to gain a deeper knowledge in a particular area.

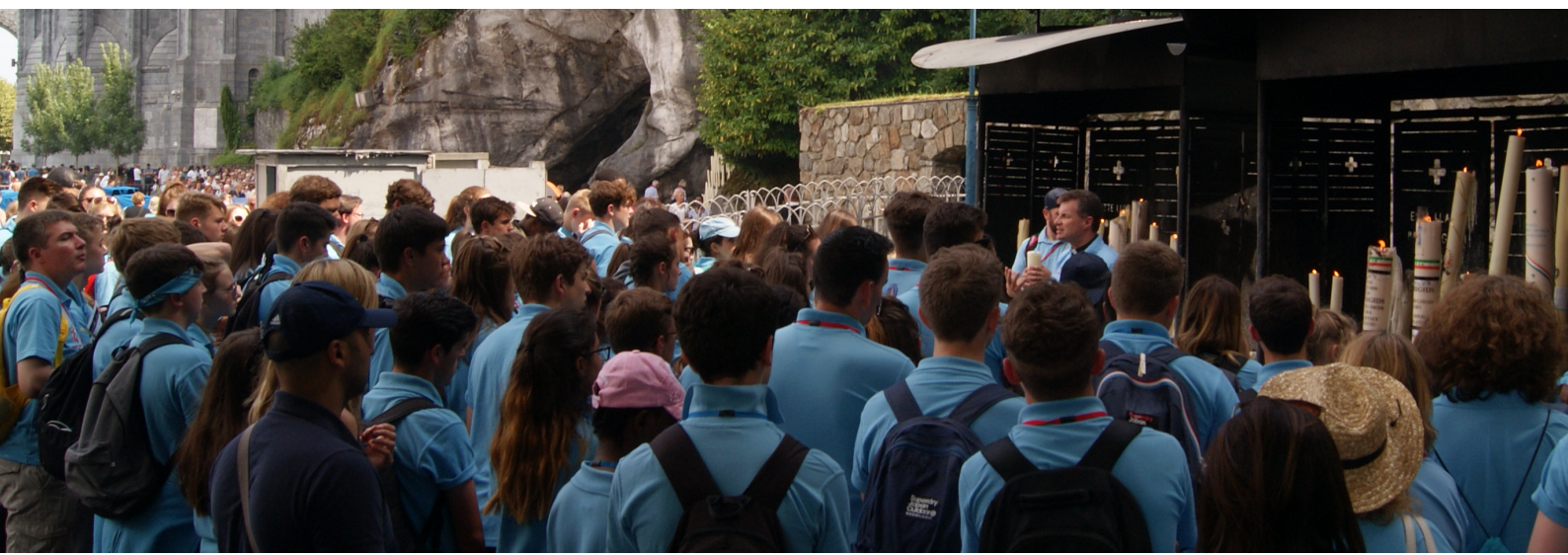
The modules & lessons of the BC are as follows:

1. Intro to Bishop's Certificate (*Matthew 7:24-27*)

1. Welcome & Thanks
2. What is the Bishop's Certificate?
3. What you need to have and need to know
4. Assessment & Presentations
5. We can do it together!

2. Intro to Youth Ministry (*1 Timothy 4:12*)

1. What is Youth Ministry?
2. Leading with love
3. Meeting them where they are
4. Leading them to where God has called them
5. Recap & assessment



3. Intro to Catechesis

(Mark 4:-8)

1. What is Catechesis?
2. Role and responsibilities of a catechist
3. Kerygma & Catechesis
4. Teaching with authority
5. Recap & assessment

4. The Creed

(Romans 10:9)

1. What is the Creed?
 2. We believe in one God
 3. 12 articles of the Creed (Part I)
 4. 12 articles of the Creed (Part II)
 5. Recap & assessment
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5. Sacred Scripture

(Hebrews 4:12)

1. The Bible 101
2. God's Family Plan of Salvation History
3. Key to unlock the Bible: Promises & Fulfilment
4. The Bible & Youth Ministry
5. Recap & assessment

6. The Church

(Acts 2:1-47)

1. What is the Church?
 2. Models of the Church
 3. One, holy, catholic & apostolic
 4. The role of the laity, young and old
 5. Recap & assessment
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7. The Sacraments

(Matthew 28:16-20)

1. The Sacraments of Christian Initiation
2. The Sacraments of Healing
3. The Sacraments at the service of Communion
4. The Holy Spirit in the life of young Catholics
5. Recap & assessment

8. The Mass

(Luke 24:13-35)

1. What is Liturgy?
2. What happens at Mass?
3. The Eucharist: The Source and Summit
4. Mass: A Priest's perspective
5. Recap & assessment

9. Prayer, Discernment & Vocation

(John 1: 43-51)

1. Intro to Prayer
2. What is discernment?
3. Priesthood, Marriage, the Single life and Religious
4. Helping young people to discern their vocation
5. Recap & assessment

10. Catholic Social Teaching

(Matthew 25: 31-46)

1. What is CST?
2. Preferential option for the poor
3. The dignity of the worker & work
4. Principles of Social Justice
5. Recap & assessment

11. Dealing with Controversial Issues

(1 Peter 3: 15)

1. What is Apologetics?
2. How to defend the faith, without raising your voice
3. Life Issues: Abortion & Euthanasia
4. Human Sexuality: Theology of the Body & Homosexuality
5. Recap & assessment

12. Life in Christ: Living it out

(John 15: 12-17)

1. The Great Commission
2. Virtue & Sin
3. Helping young people to live a radically different life
4. What to get involved in as a young Catholic?
5. We can do it together!

Elective Modules

As well as the 12 core modules there will be a number of 'Elective Modules' which are designed to complement the content from the core modules while allowing for more in depth input into more specific areas of catechesis and youth ministry. The elective modules will not be assessed and participants can take as many of the elective modules as they wish. The elective modules will initially be on the following topics:

Holy Communion | Confirmation | School Chaplaincy | Music



Application

The first year of the BC will serve as a pilot of the course. As such we will only initially be able to have an intake of 20-30 people, who we require to be an active catechist for First Holy Communion / Confirmation or work regularly as a youth leader within your parish. The first cohort will begin in January 2018 and a second cohort can begin in April 2018.

If you wish to apply for the pilot of the BC we would ask that you request an application form by emailing brendenthompson@dioceseofbrentwood.org or by downloading it from www.bcys.net/bishops-cert. The application form will require you to provide a simple letter from your parish priest in support of your application.

Assessment

In order to pass the BC you must watch all the videos in all 12 core modules. Some of the modules are assessed by either a multiple choice questionnaire or a self reflective journaling task. All questionnaires and journaling tasks will be moderated online. These assignments are essential components in order to test comprehension and engagement with the materials provided.

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