



FOUNDATIONS IN YOUTH MINISTRY

ONLINE PROGRAMME





Aspal is an online learning platform developed by the Diocese of Ossory and St. Patrick's Pontifical University. The online platform has been designed to offer all involved in ministry the opportunity to access training courses that are tailored to developing confidence, competence and capacity in parishes and dioceses across Ireland.

Aspal, the Irish for Apostle reminds us that we are all called in order to be sent. The baptism we share, recalled in the blue waters of the Aspal logo, calls us to mission – to bring others to a knowledge of our Triune God, pointed to in that first A of Aspal. A God from whom all emerge and toward whom all intend.

The seven buildings that make our Aspal Church remind us, then, of our goal the completeness and perfection to which we are, with God's help, intended and for which seven stands as a continual reminder; the seven sacraments moments of encounter with our God. In learning we grow, in coming together our Church is built, in our being sent others are called.

The Archdiocese of Armagh has partnered with Aspal in the development of a programme entitled "Foundations in Youth Ministry". It is hoped that this is the first of many courses that will be offered by the Archdiocese of Armagh in conjunction with the Aspal Platform.



Programme registration
Scan QR Code or visit
www.aspal.ie



Programme Outline

"The most powerful ministry to young people is from young people themselves. Young women and men who have found a vocation to accompany other young people on their journey of faith."
Archbishop Eamon Martin

In this short course developed by the Archdiocese of Armagh and the Aspal platform contemporary Catholic Youth Ministry is explored and reflected upon.

The programme consists of an introduction and 7 modules, each module adopts the following format:

1. 20–25-minute video input on the theme of the module.
2. Participants will be asked to read a short, related essay on the module.
3. Participants will be asked to write a 500-word reflection on the video and the reading.

Introduction: Archbishop Eamon Martin

Module 1: Dr Tom Groome "What Makes Youth Ministry Catholic"

Module 2: Janet Forbes "Insights that inform youth ministry today"

Module 3: Fr Eamonn Fitzgibbon "The role of community and peers in contemporary Youth Ministry"

Module 4: Bishop Michael Router "Jesus Ever Young", what young people bring to Church Communities.

Module 5: R O'Hara "Prayer, Reflection and spirituality for young people"

Module 6: Aidan Gordan – "A Sacred Trust – Moving beyond basic safeguarding principles"

Module 7: "The Practice of Working with Young People"

- Philip McMaster - Faith in Action and the importance of ethos.
- Gerard Devine – Faith in Action, the gifts of young people.
- Lizzie Rea - Faith in Action, the role of community



How to engage with the programme

The programme has been developed to enable individuals, parishes and other communities to reflect on their understanding of modern Catholic youth ministry. Through engagement with the materials and individual and communal reflection communities can look at current practices and to begin the process of discernment around how a parish community can engage with young people and offer spaces where young people can encounter Jesus and the wealth of the Catholic tradition.

The course can be accessed individually or as a group and is currently available at www.aspal.ie.

Three ways in which the programme might be engaged with are as follows:

1. Individuals considering work with young people can engage with the programme online, complete the reflective pieces and submit individually.
2. Parish Pastoral Councils, youth leaders and other interested parties can form a reflective group and watch the video content individually. After accessing the material they can meet to reflect on the content of each module and submit a summary of reflections collectively.
3. Parish Pastoral Councils, youth leaders and other interested parties can form a reflective group and watch the video content together, submitting reflections collectively.

Should any parish or youth group choose to participate as a group it is advised that a communal dimension of prayer and hospitality be integrated into their gatherings.

Should any parish or youth group in the Archdiocese of Armagh require any advice or assistance they are asked to contact diocesan youth coordinators Janet and Rob via armaghyouth@aracoeli.com