



Office of the Bishop

# DIOCESE OF DALLAS

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August 2017

Dear Monsignor/Father,

The Diocese of Dallas and the Neuhoff School of Ministry entered into a partnership last year to provide a **Certificate in Pastoral Ministry** program for adults working in parish ministries, both parish staff and volunteers. This program includes concentrations in: Catechetics; Marriage and Family Life; Pastoral Care; Worship; and Youth, Young Adult and Campus Ministry. The classes will be taught by the faculty of the Neuhoff School of Ministry at the University of Dallas as well as adjunct professors. The certificate program will provide a solid foundation for those who work in parish ministry but do not have or are unable to pursue an academic degree in ministry. The program will be offered in both English and Spanish.

The Certificate of Pastoral Ministry is a three-year program which began in the fall of 2016 with 80 students taking part. Some parishes, including Our Lady of Lourdes and St. Patrick, Dallas, are providing additional assistance to make the program accessible to as many as possible. It is a wonderful investment in the formation of adult Catholics and will assist them in sharing that faith with others in the parish and beyond.

Along with Bishop Greg Kelly, I endorse the Certificate of Pastoral Ministry program and desire it to be the certification process to be followed for all those interested in serving in pastoral ministry within the diocese. It will assist many of our generous and committed adults gain a deeper understanding of our Catholic faith and gain the skills needed to share that faith more effectively with their brothers and sisters. Please encourage adults in your parish to participate and please assist them in whatever way you can. Thank you.

Fraternally yours in Christ,



Most Reverend Edward J. Burns  
Bishop of Dallas