Roman Catholic Diocese of Whitehorse

Diocese of Victoria
Pastoral Care Outreach training sessions
Winter 2026

Dear Catholic Faithful of the Diocese of Whitehorse,

We would like to share with you important information about free online **Pastoral Care Outreach training sessions** which the Diocese of Victoria has so generously made available to our staff, volunteers and parishioners.

Pope Leo XIV has emphasized a pastoral approach characterized by humility, service, and a focus on the needs of the marginalized, particularly those most vulnerable and suffering.

In the Pastoral Care Outreach training program, participants learn how to accompany the lonely, sick, elderly, palliative, and the dying. The training is for those who are interested in being pastoral care visitors to homebound and shut-ins and in hospitals and long-term care facilities. It's also for those who wish to gain skills to help care for their family members, friends, and neighbours, or as a personal undertaking

As Most Rev. Gary Gordon, Bishop of Victoria, has said, "*In these sessions, you learn tools necessary to tenderly touch the lives of those who are in need of the healing ministry of Christ.*"

The next series of Pastoral Care Outreach training sessions will be held via Zoom on Saturday mornings from **9:30 – noon PST (*10:30am - 1pm Yukon time*),** from **January 24 – March 28**, with no session on March 7. Missed sessions can be made-up, and a beautiful Certificate of Completion is provided to those who complete all nine sessions. [A description of each session is also available.]

Participants will require a phone number and email address, a computer, tablet or smartphone that has a web camera and microphone, a reliable Internet connection and Zoom access.

You can register through the Diocese of Whitehorse office by email at contact@rcdw.ca or by calling 867-667-2052. The registration deadline is **Tuesday, January 13, 2026.**

For more information, visit the Diocese of Whitehorse website at www.rcdw.ca, or contact the diocesan office.

> One attendee of these training sessions shared: *I feel so graced to have been "called" to participate in these learning sessions. I feel wrapped in God's arms as He leads me to grow in compassion and awareness of the opportunities to serve as Jesus served."*

So, this is an invitation for you, like the Good Samaritan, while reflecting the image of Christ, to walk by the side of the road of our own lives; to be good neighbours to one another, and especially, to our sisters and brothers in need of a loving and healing presence.

Thank you and God bless,

Roman Catholic Diocese of Whitehorse

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