Pastoral Care

Aims - to enable participants to:

- develop their understanding of pastoral care from a Christian perspective
- be more effective in relating to and caring for the people and communities around them
- be equipped with the skills they need to be able to offer pastoral care ministry safely and responsibly in their parishes and communities

Assessment:

Using a reflective practice method, such as critical incident analysis, create a portfolio of reflections upon pastoral encounters / conversations - to demonstrate a growing understanding of pastoral care, listening and responding, awareness of particular needs, and sharing ministry appropriately.

Principles:

- Enabling participants to ground their practice in prayer and Scripture
- Encouraging growth in attentiveness, self-awareness, and appropriate boundaries
- Giving participants some tools to enable them to become effective reflective practitioners

Session Outlines:

2) The skills involved in effective pastoral conversations. Practicing the skills of deep listening and appropriate responding in pastoral care situation.
3) Visiting the sick. Good practice in hospitals, residential care, and at home. Exercising care for adults in vulnerable or distressed situations.
4) Pastoral support around church services. Baptism preparation and supporting families with young children. Support for marriage, wedding preparation, and relationship support.
6) When relationships start to break down and conflicts arise. Exploring issues of handling conflict in pastoral relationships and how to address conflicts and differences.
7) Pastoral care and individual needs. Improving our awareness of mental health issues. Considering care, relationships and spiritual growth in ageing.
8) The communal dimension of pastoral care. Reflecting on how we share ministry with others. Learning to signpost appropriately. When and where to make a referral.