

## **Advanced Level Spirituality/Theology Courses**

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The following are suggested course topics that are appropriate for each area of the Advanced Level Spirituality/Theology course requirements. Many other topics are possible and acceptable. These are listed to give a general idea of the areas that might be covered.

### **For a course to be approved for this level, the following criteria must be met:**

1. The methodology is based on adult learning principles, with preference given to the Theological Reflection model described in this document so that knowledge is integrated with the lived experience of the adults who participate.
2. The content builds upon rather than repeats the content of the Basic Level Courses.
3. The theological content reflects current Church teaching, found in the Vatican II documents, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, post-Vatican II documents such as the writings of the Pope, the Vatican, and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.
4. The presenter is a person with proper credentials and is in good standing with the Catholic Church in the Archdiocese of Santa Fe.
5. The course presents theology in a manner that assists the participants to grow in knowledge and faith and a deeper living of the Christian life.

### **Hebrew Scriptures / Old Testament** (10 hours)

- Study of "The Interpretation of the Bible in the Church," 1994 document of the Pontifical Biblical Commission
- Survey of the Hebrew Scriptures
- Study of the Torah
- Study of the Prophets
- Study of the Writings
- Women of the Hebrew Scriptures
- Study of any particular Book or Theme

### **Christian Scriptures / New Testament** (10 hours)

- The Structure of the Christian Scriptures
- Survey of the Christian Scriptures
- The Cultural Context of the Christian Scriptures
- Study of the Synoptic Gospels
- Study of the Epistles
- The Writings of St. Paul
- Study of John

- The Book of Revelation
- Study of any particular Book or Theme

### **Foundations of the Faith: the Creed**

- The Trinity
- God the Father: Creator of all things
- Christology
- Who is Jesus Christ?
- The Mysteries of Christ's Life
- Death and Resurrection
- The Holy Spirit
- The Life of the World to Come
- Mary the Mother of God
- Sin and Grace
- What is Faith

### **Ecclesiology: Church and Church History** (10 hours)

- Vatican II Ecclesiology
- The Mission and Nature of the Church
- Scriptural Roots of the Church
- Models of the Church
- Church Structures: local, diocesan, national and global
- Church History
- The Church is One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic
- The Church and Culture
- Christ's Faithful
- The Challenge of Ecumenism
- Various Aspects of New Mexico Church History
- The Saints

### **Prayer and Liturgy** (10 hours)

- Celebrating the Church's Liturgy
- Liturgy, Symbol, Ritual
- The Paschal Mystery
- The Liturgical Cycle: Sacred Time
- The Sacramental Life of the Church
- The Sacraments of Christian Initiation
- The Sacraments of Healing
- The Sacraments at the Service of Communion
- Christian Funerals
- Study of any Liturgical Season, Prayer form, Ritual, or Sacrament
- Eucharist: Sacrament and Sacrifice
- Eucharistic Devotions outside of the Mass

- Marian Devotion
- Popular Piety and Popular Devotion

**Discipleship and Personal Faith Growth** (10 hours)

- Prayer in the Christian Life
- The Universal Call to Holiness
- Ways of Praying, Personal and Communal
- Forms of Prayer: Adoration, Petition, Intercession, Thanksgiving
- The Lord's Prayer
- Praying With Scripture
- Traditional Prayers of the Church
- Retreat Experiences
- Vocation: The Call of God
- Christian Spirituality (various forms)
- Discernment in the Spiritual Life
- Spiritual Direction

**Morality** (10 hours)

- Scriptural Roots of Christian Morality
- Formation and Role of Conscience
- The Morality of Human Acts and Passions
- The Virtues
- Beatitudes and Commandments
- Nature of Sin
- Grace and God's Forgiveness
- Social Morality
- Social Teaching of the Church
- Study of Specific Documents
- Consistent Ethic of Life
- Moral Issues (Abortion, War, Capital Punishment, etc.)
- The Decalogue: The Ten Commandments

These workshops will be presented by qualified persons who have completed the Archdiocesan Orientation and Training for Workshop Presenters.