

FUNDAMENTALS FOR INTERCULTURAL MINISTRY WITH HISPANIC/LATINOS

The growing Hispanic presence in our midst, challenges us to find pastoral instruments which can help us bridge the communication and culture gap, as we provide means to help our brothers and sisters preserve their faith and integrate into the life of our Church and society. Hence the importance of this SEPI program, which we would like to tell you about.

Given the present situation we regret that we are unable to hold our Language and Culture program on site as we do every year. As an alternative we are offering instead an online program covering most of the Culture aspect of it.

Beginning on June 15, 2021, we will offer online classes every Tuesday and Thursday for four weeks from 3:00 to 4:15 pm EST as follows:

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| June 15 | Introduction to Spanish Language and Culture. Ms. Rosa Cabrales and Ana María Cabrales |
| June 17 | What is Culture? By Hosffman Ospino who has written extensively on the topic and intends to give an overview and stress the importance of culture in the life of the individual. |
| June 22 | Intercultural Competencies , by Vivi Iglesias, from CRS, will dwell on the abilities and knowledge needed to successfully navigate in a multicultural pastoral setting. |
| June 24 | Hispanic customs, traditions and liturgy , by Rev. Juan Sosa. Hispanics have a rich tradition of celebrations, fiestas and ways to live their faith that the pastoral agent ministering to them should know. |
| June 29 | Pastoral Principles for Hispanic Ministry , by Dr. Marzo Artime. The development of Hispanic Ministry in the USA is more than 60 years old and it has developed a series of principles and guidelines in how to successfully minister to them. |
| July 1 | Family Life Ministry with Hispanics , by Dr. Claudia Herrera. Family is one of the most important aspects of Hispanic Culture and anyone ministering to Hispanic should be familiar with the dynamics of this reality. |
| July 6 | Ministry to Hispanic/Latino Immigrants: challenges and opportunities , by Tim Mantovina. The reality of immigration, legal status and related issues is an ever present reality in the mind and life of most Hispanics in the USA. |
| July 8 | “Pastoral Juvenil” Ministry with young Hispanics , by Armando Cervantes of NFCYM and Pastoral Juvenil Director of the diocese of Orange, CA. The Hispanic population in the USA is very young and often times is isolated and has no one to accompany them. |

Pastoral Juvenil has been a response to the Evangelization and accompaniment of young Hispanics.

This course is especially designed to help bishops, priests, deacons, seminarians and lay people involved in ministry to Hispanics or for those who are preparing to engage in Hispanic Ministry in the near future.

Once again I am counting on you to encourage clergy, seminarians and lay people in your diocese who minister to Hispanics to participate in this program. I am sure that after taking it, they will be better prepared to serve the needs of those they minister to.

Gratefully yours,

Rev. Emilio Sotomayor, Sch.P.
Director