

## MESSAGING

- **A collegial learning environment:** In collaborative classes and through your own spiritual development, you'll grow and strengthen your real-world knowledge and skills in theological reflection, ministerial practice, and ethical judgment.
- **Your experience matters:** All IPS programs may allow you to transfer credits from previous graduate work.
- **An interdisciplinary curriculum:** Expand your knowledge with courses that draw from a range of disciplines as well as rich experiential opportunities.
- **Scholarships:** Last year, the Institute of Pastoral studies recognized outstanding applicants. More than half of IPS students receive scholarships or grant support.
- **Convenience:** You can complete most IPS master's degrees or graduate certificates in a fully online or hybrid modality, allowing you flexibility and opportunities to interact with classmates throughout the world.
- **Experiential learning:** IPS offerings integrate supervised in-field training that empowers you to have hands-on learning and ability to apply real-world education in your workplace. Furthermore, you have the opportunity to study-abroad at our Rome campus and benefit from IPS's global partnerships.

## ACADEMICS

### DEGREES:

- MA in Pastoral Counseling
- MA in Counseling For Ministry
- MA in Pastoral Studies-General & Four Concentrations
- Maestría De Artes en Estudios Pastorales Bilingüe (Español)/MA Pastoral Studies, Online Bilingual (Spanish)
- MA in Social Justice-General & Social Enterprise Concentration
- MA in Christian Spirituality-General & Spiritual Direction Concentration
- MDiv (Master of Divinity)-General & Two Concentrations

### DUAL DEGREE:

- The MDiv/MA in Pastoral Counseling
- The MDiv/MA in Social Justice
- The MDiv/Master of Social Work
- The MA in Social Justice/Master of Social Work

### GRADUATE CERTIFICATES:

- Church Management Certificate
- Pastoral Counseling Certificate  
\*Available Only On-Site\*
- Religious Education Certificate
- Social Justice Certificate
- Social Justice and Social Enterprise Certificate
- Spiritual Direction Certificate
- Certificate with Degree
- Pastoral Leadership Certificate
- Christian Spirituality Certificate

### OTHER:

- Institute of Pastoral Studies Non-Degree

## PROSPECTIVE STUDENT PROFILE

**GENDER:** 67% Female, 33% Male

**LOCATION:** 81.4% from Midwest, 62.7% from IL

### CAREER ASPIRATIONS:

- Lay leadership (catechist, Eucharistic minister, lector, retreat leader)
- Chaplaincy (healthcare)
- Counseling (LPC, LCPC)
- Spiritual direction
- Religious and secular nonprofit organizations
- Community organizing/advocacy roles

### INTERESTS & ACTIVITIES:

- Mentorship and theological teaching within parish
- Religious formation
- Retreat participation and attendance
- Social/community work
- Volunteerism in hospice organizations and settings
- Domestic and international mission work

### HEAVIEST SOCIAL MEDIA

**PLATFORMS:** Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn

### PUBLICATIONS/WEBSITES:

America Magazine



## PROGRAM DETAILS

### TIME TO COMPLETE PROGRAM:

- MA Students: Most are part time and complete their degrees in 3 years. Full-time students can earn their MA in 2 academic years.
- MDiv Students: Finish in 4–5 years through a combination of full-time and part-time study.

**PACE:** Both full time and part time (Some certificate programs are intentionally part time).

**FORMAT:** Most programs can be completed entirely online; hybrid format available.  
(Many students prefer hybrid)

**IF IN PERSON, LOCATION:** Water Tower Campus

**CURRENT TUITION RATE PER CREDIT HOUR:** \$805.00

**AVERAGE COST TO COMPLETE 36 CREDIT HOUR PROGRAM:** \$30,543.00  
Some Masters degree requirement have higher credit hours, thus increasing/doubling cost  
Certificate requirements are naturally less.

**FINANCIAL AID OPTIONS:** Loans, scholarships, grants

### COMPETITOR PROGRAMS:

- Boston College
- Catholic Theological Union (Very niche coursework for specialized ministry study)
- Fordham University Online MDiv
- Garrett Evangelical theological Seminary (Northwestern - Counseling track)
- Institute of Pastoral Leadership (University of Saint Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary)
- Loyola University New Orleans
- St. Joseph's University (Maine) online MDiv

### INFLUENCERS:

- Lay community members
- Pastors (Catholic and Protestant)
- Spiritual directors
- Spouses/partners (current students)
- Counseling centers/ community organizations

### MOTIVATIONS:

- Formation for professional ministry
- Desire founded in faith/ spirituality to 'give back'/ serve their communities
- Tangible career outcomes (i.e.: spiritual director, chaplain, campus ministry, clinical counselors)
- Deepen their spiritual understanding

## LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO

INSTITUTE OF  
PASTORAL STUDIES

For more information or to register for an upcoming information session, please contact Graduate Enrollment at [gradinfo@LUC.edu](mailto:gradinfo@LUC.edu) or 312.915.7900.

