



Pastoral Care in a Geriatric Setting

This three-day workshop offers an exploration of pastoral care tailored to the unique needs of elders. Designed for those working in different elder care settings who provide spiritual care, the workshop equips participants with essential knowledge and practical tools to deliver compassionate, holistic support in geriatric settings especially those ministering in a Pastoral Care Department.

TOPICS COVERED:

- Life Review and Core Beliefs
- Spirituality in Aging
- Sacred Listening
- Spiritual Care in Dementia Care
- Understanding Palliative Care
- The Pastoral Visit: A Holy Encounter
- Entering into Deeper Conversations
- Establishing a Pastoral Care Department
(including procedures, policies, and job descriptions)

Deepen your understanding of geriatric pastoral care and learn the essential skills to make a meaningful difference in the lives of elders.

Thursday, April 16 to Saturday, April 18

St. Teresa's Motherhouse
600 Woods Road, Germantown, NY 12526

Registration (Space is Limited)

Registration includes workshop sessions, materials, accommodations, meals, snacks, and beverages.

\$475 per person

For more information contact, Melissa Silvestro at melissas@avilainstitute.org or call (518) 537-5000.



Wednesday, April 15

3:30 pm Registration
5:30 pm Supper

Thursday, April 16

7:30 am Mass
8:45 am Welcome / Call to Prayer

9:00 – **Life Review and Core Beliefs**
10:30 am *Sr. M. Peter Di Maria, O.Carm.*

10:30 am BREAK (15 minutes)

10:45 am – **What is Spirituality?**
12:15 pm *Sr. Stephanie Still, PBVM*

12:15 pm LUNCH (1 hour)

1:15 – **Sacred Listening**
2:15 pm *Sr. Stephanie Still, PBVM*

2:15 pm BREAK (15 minutes)

2:30 – **Spiritual Care in Dementia Care**
4:00 pm *Sr. M. Peter Di Maria, O.Carm.*
Alfred Norwood, MBA, BS

5:30 pm SUPPER

Friday, April 17

8:00 am Mass

9:00 – **Understanding Palliative Care**
10:00 am *Sr. Leda Domino, O.Carm.*
Sr. M. Peter Di Maria, O.Carm.

10:00 am BREAK (15 minutes)

10:15 – **The Pastoral Visit: A Holy Encounter**
11:15 am *Deacon Tony Silvestro, MTS, BS*

11:15 am BREAK (15 minutes)

11:30 – **Entering into Deeper Conversations**
12:15 pm *Faculty*

12:15 pm LUNCH (1 hour)

1:15 – **Setting up a Pastoral Care Department in Geriatric Care**
3:45 pm *Sr. Ann McCartney, O.Carm., MA*
Sr. M. Peter Di Maria, O.Carm.

5:30 pm SUPPER

Saturday, April 18

9:00 – **Debrief**
10:00 am

10:30 am Mass
12:00 pm Lunch

CANCELLATION POLICY: Cancellation and refund requests must be made in writing (mail or email). Phone cancellations will not be accepted. AIG regrets that refunds will not be given for no-shows; however, substitutions are gladly accepted. For more information contact us.

EVENT CANCELLATION POLICY: The Avila Institute of Gerontology reserves the right to cancel any scheduled seminar due to unforeseen circumstances up to one day prior to the scheduled workshop, with a full refund of any registration payment.

DISCLOSURES: This educational activity does not include any content that relates to the products and/or services of a commercial interest that would create a conflict of interest. There is no commercial support being received for this event.



THURSDAY, APRIL 16

9:00 – 10:30 am

Life Review and Core Beliefs

Our time together begins with Sr. Peter guiding us through our life's journey and uncovering how we identify our core beliefs. Throughout this session, we discuss what it means to enter into a pastoral care journey with our elders. We will look at what needs you see in your own life and how they might relate to the spiritual needs of those you serve.

10:45 am – 12:15 pm

What is Spirituality?

Understanding the meaning of Spirituality and understanding your own Spirituality and its basis in your life experiences is an important element when ministering to those who are aging. In this session, we will explore what Spirituality is, how it is formed, and identify the values and desires actions of our personal Spiritualities.

1:15 – 2:15 pm

Sacred Listening

In this session, the process of spiritual listening will be presented to provide tools, practices, and attitudes that will enhance pastoral care visits.

2:30 – 4:00 pm

Spiritual Care in Dementia Care

What does it mean to live with dementia? How does this impact one's need for deeper spiritual care? Dementia does not erase one's spiritual longing and their desire to live in deep relationship with God. This session will help us with these two questions and how we can adapt the tools we use in pastoral care to best accompany those with memory loss.

FRIDAY, APRIL 17

9:00 – 10:00 am

Understanding Palliative Care

In pastoral care, we come across many different types of pain and expressions of that pain. This session will guide us through the five domains of pain and how they impact those we serve, including those living with dementia.

10:15 – 11:15 am

The Pastoral Visit: A Holy Encounter

The pastoral visit is unique and sacred. This session will enable you to bring spiritual comfort to those you minister to. From relationship building to establishing a self-emptying flow, we will discuss the essence of the pastoral visit.

11:30 am – 12:15 pm

Entering into Deeper Conversations

Whether discussing health challenges, loss in all its forms, brokenness, or other vulnerable topics, we will discover how to enter into deeper conversations with those we serve and how to hold space for ourselves while doing so.

1:15 – 3:45 pm

Setting up a Pastoral Care Department in Geriatric Care

After laying the foundation, what does it look like to make this knowledge impactful for those we serve? This session will guide you through implementing a Pastoral Care Department in elder care to ensure you are successful in your pastoral care for those you serve.

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

9:00 – 10:00 am

Debrief



Pastoral Care in a Geriatric Setting

DATES AND LOCATION

April 16-18, 2026

St. Teresa's Motherhouse
Germantown, NY

REGISTRATION DEADLINE

Friday, March 23, 2026

PERSONAL INFORMATION *Please print clearly.*

Date: _____

NAME (First and Last Name): _____

Badge Name: _____

Position / Title: _____

Facility: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____ ☐ Sign me up for emails regarding future programs

Do you have any dietary restrictions we need to be aware of? ☐ No ☐ Yes _____

REGISTRATION

Registration includes workshop sessions, materials, accommodations, meals, snacks, and beverages.

\$475 per person

Thoroughly complete this form and return with check to:

Avila Institute of Gerontology, Inc.
600 Woods Rd.
Germantown, NY 12526

Payment Include a check for \$475 payable to the "Avila Institute of Gerontology, Inc."

Have questions?

Contact Melissa Silvestro at
melissas@avilainstitute.org or call
at 518-537-5000.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Check which nights you will need accommodations.

Wednesday April 15	Thursday April 16	Friday April 17
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please provide necessary information including arrival times:

Please indicate any special requests or contact us.

