

# **PONTIFICAL INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY, ALWAYE**



Central Administrative Office  
P.B. No. 624, U.C. College P.O.  
Aluva - 683 102, Kerala, India

“The heart of Christ is “ecstasy”, openness, gift and encounter. In that heart, we learn to relate to one another in wholesome and happy ways, and to build up in this world God’s kingdom of love and justice. Our hearts, united with the heart of Christ, are capable of working this social miracle”.

*Dilexit Nos*, no. 28

**CYCLES OF  
THE FACULTY OF THEOLOGY**

DEAN

Rev. Prof. Gregory R.B.

ASSOCIATE DEAN

Rev. Prof. Joseph Nalpathilchira

## **CYCLE – II**

### **LICENTIATE IN THEOLOGY (L.Th.)**

General Co-ordinator: Rev. Dr Joshy John Mayyattil

#### **1. Objectives**

- i. to provide the students with an in-depth grasp of the subjects of their specialization
- ii. to provide the students with a comprehensive way of understanding theology through inter-disciplinary research
- iii. to help the students to acquire methodological skills through guided research

#### **2. Specializations**

The Theology Faculty offers Licentiate in Theology with the following courses of specialization:

- i. Licentiate in Dogmatic-Moral Theology
- ii. Licentiate in Spiritual Theology
- iii. Licentiate in Biblical Theology
- iv. Licentiate in Pastoral Theology and Counselling

#### **3. Admission**

##### **3.1. Eligibility**

The L.Th. Programme is open to the Catholics and non-Catholics, men and women. A student is enrolled for L.Th. Programme when the following requirements are fulfilled:

- i. The student should hold a Bachelor's Degree in Theology from an Institute recognized by the Pontifical Institute. There will be an entrance examination for those students who hold B.Th. from universities and institutes other than Catholic Universities and Institutes.
- ii. The student has to produce a letter of authorization/permission from the concerned superior.
- iii. The student may have proficiency in English language.
- iv. The students who do the Licentiate majoring in Biblical Theology should have a basic knowledge of Greek and Hebrew languages, if not, they should do a basic course in those languages.

##### **3.2. Registration**

- i. To be registered to the L.Th. Programme, the candidate has to fill-in the application form provided by the Institute. The application form can be obtained from the Office at request.
- ii. The duly filled-in application form, attached with a passport-size photo, has to be submitted to the Office.
- iii. The filled-in application form has to be accompanied by the approval/noobjection letter of the Bishop or the Provincial Superior or the Superior in-charge.
- iv. Photo-copies of all the relevant certificates, mark lists and documents of other studies accomplished have to be submitted at the time of registration.
- v. The students enrolled for the L.Th. Programme are expected to participate in every academic activity of the Institute.
- vi. The registration fees should be paid along with the application. The Student has to complete the course within five years from the day of registration. For additional

- years a fee of Rs. 1000.00 will be charged annually as fine. The registration will be cancelled if students fail to pay the fine.
- vii. Scholarship may be given only for the first two years. It may be given for the first three years in the case of students of Biblical Theology.

#### **4. Organization of Licentiate Programme in Theology**

- i. Licentiate in Theology is offered in four branches: Dogmatic-Moral Theology, Spiritual Theology, Biblical Theology and Pastoral Theology and Counselling.
- ii. The L.Th. Programme is a four-semester Programme. One has to earn 120 credits from courses, seminars, optional subjects/exposure programs/scientific papers, book reviews, comprehensive examinations and Dissertation (1 credit = 25 study-hours which includes lecture hours, self-study, assignments and practical hours.; 1 credit carries 20 marks). Those who are enrolled for the L.Th. Programme in Biblical Theology have to attain a Propaedeutic Diploma in the first year of studies.
- iii. The 120 credits are divided as follows: 15 credits for obligatory courses, 30 credits for specialization, 9 credits for seminars, 9 credits for optional subjects/exposure programs/scientific papers and 9 credits for the book reviews, 18 credits for the comprehensive examinations and 30 credits for the Dissertation and its defence.
- iv. The courses in the Licentiate are divided into Obligatory Courses (LOC), Courses of Specialization (LST/LSP/LPC/LBT), Seminars (LSR) and Optional Subjects (LOS) (Exposure Programs/Scientific Papers and Book Reviews. Those who do specialization in any of the four branches mentioned above have to take courses from these five sections as follows:
  - A. Fifteen credits from (LOC) (Five Courses)
  - B. Thirty credits from specialization (LST/LSP/LPC/LBT) (Ten Courses)
  - C. Nine credits of Seminar (LSR) (Three Seminars)
  - D. Nine credits from the optional subjects (LOS) (Three courses)/Exposure Programs/Scientific Papers. The optional subjects can also be from courses of specialization.
  - E. Nine credits of Book Review (Nine Books)
- v. The student will not be allowed to do more than 60 credits in the first year (in the first two semesters).
- vi. The students can fix the courses in consultation with the co-ordinators of each specialization, assigned by the Institute. Students are expected to choose their branch of specialization in consultation with the general Co-ordinator of the L.Th. Programme.

#### **5. Examinations**

- i. The student shall do the examination in individual courses according to the prescribed schedule and mode.
- ii. The student can present himself/herself for the final comprehensive examinations only after completing all the examinations and other requirements.
- iii. The final comprehensive examinations for L.Th. Degree will be both written and oral.
  - a. Written Examination: The candidate submits 6 topics from the subjects covered during the programme, of which 3 are taken by lot at the time of examination and the candidate writes on one for a duration of 3 hours.

- b. Oral Examination: The candidate submits 18 topics from the subjects covered during the programme. The Faculty chooses 10 topics out of the list and 3 Professors examine the student on the chosen topics for 10 minutes each.
- iv. The topic for Dissertation is chosen at the beginning of the III semester. It is to be approved by the Faculty Council. If the dissertation is not submitted in 2 years from the date of approval, the process has to be repeated and the new approval is to be sought from the Faculty Council.
- v. Four copies of the Dissertation shall be submitted to the office at least 4 weeks before the final oral examination.
- vi. The Dissertation shall be defended before a panel of examiners appointed by the Faculty Council.
- vii. The L.Th. defence is conducted with the following procedures: The candidate is given 20 minutes to expose the material. The director examines him/her for 20 minutes, which is followed by the examinations of second reader for 15 minutes and the third reader for 10 minutes. Finally, the public may also be given 5 minutes for questions and clarifications.
- i. The final grading shall be based on the results of the courses, seminars, optional subjects/(exposure programs/ scientific papers), book reviews, Dissertation and the comprehensive examinations (written & oral) as given below:

Obligatory Courses	15 credits
Specialization Courses	30 credits
Seminars	09 credits
Optional Subjects/ (Exposure Programs/Scientific Papers)	09 credits
(Book Review)	09 credits
Comprehensive Examinations	18 credits
Dissertation & Defence	30 credits
<b>Total</b>	<b>120 credits</b>

- ii. The Dissertation carries hundred marks in all: Eighty percent for the written work and twenty percent for the defence.
- iii. L.Th. Dissertation should have not less than 12000 words (ca.100 pages). It has to be in printed form.
- iv. The candidate should pass in all the prescribed subjects, seminars, valuation of book review, Dissertation and final comprehensive examinations with a minimum of 60% marks. Total marks of the examinations are decided as per the system that 1 credit carries 20 marks.
- v. Certificate of Licentiate Degree in Theology will be issued only after the verification of the aforesaid norms and conditions.

## 6. Grading System

90-100 %      High Distinction    (*Summa cum laude*)

80-89 %	Distinction	( <i>Magna cum laude</i> )
70-79 %	First Class	( <i>cum Laude</i> )
60-69 %	Second Class	(Pass with <i>Bene Probatus</i> )

## 7. Venue of the Class and Attendance

The classes will be organized in the classroom of the Central Administrative Office as well as in both Campuses. Students are expected to attend all lectures without neglect, carry out all prescribed academic assignments and participate in the regular activities of the Institute. For any period of absence, the Director or Dean of Studies is to be informed beforehand. Those who are absent in more than one third of expected attendances will have to repeat the course.

## PROGRAMME OF STUDY FOR LICENTIATE IN THEOLOGY

General Co-ordinator: Rev. Dr Joshy John Mayyattil

### A) Obligatory Courses (LOC)

CODE	SUBJECTS	TEACHERS	CREDITS
LOC 01	Biblical Interpretations down through the Centuries	Sr Shiny M.	3
LOC 02	Church as the Mystery of Communion	Srampickal W.	3
LOC 03	The Sacraments and Divinization of the World	Nellickakandathil J.	3
LOC 04	Catholic Theology and Religions	Kundukulam V.	3
LOC 05	Mission in the Old Testament	Puthenchakkalackal P.	3
LOC 06	Pauline Spirituality: Key Concepts and Recent Trends	Maleparambil J.	3
LOC 07	The History and Development of Theology	Rolden J.	3
LOC 08	Milestones of the History of Moral Theology	Arakkal J.	3
LOC 09	The Doctrine of the Person of Christ	Valluvassery C.	3
LOC 10	Ethical Reflection on the Virtue of Justice	Chennattu A.	3

LOC 11	Revelation and Messages to Churches	Puthussery J.	3
LOC 12	The Letter to the Hebrews: A Rhetorical Analysis	Maleparambil J.	3
LOC 13	Theory and Practice of Psychotherapy: An Introduction	Kiryanathan J.	3

## **B) Specialization in Dogmatic-Moral Theology (LST)**

Co-ordinator: Prof. R. B. Gregory

CODE	SUBJECTS	TEACHERS	CREDITS
LST 01	Theology of Grace in the Context of Ecumenism	Kadeparambil A.	3
LST 02	Postmodernism and Religion	Kundukulam V.	3
LST 03	Christology in Asian Context	Panjikaran S.	3
LST 04	Theology of Ministry and Leadership in the Church	R.B. Gregory	3
LST 05	Jesus' Humanity: Credibility for Human Transcendence	Ponvelil A.	3
LST 06	Origin and Theological Development of the Nicene Creed	Patteruparambil D.	3
LST 07	Eucharist: <i>Fons et Culmen</i> of the Nuptial Love of Christ The Spouse	Sr. Bindhu ASA	3
LST 08	Newman: Doctrinal Development and Liturgy	Aloor G.	3
LST 09	Eco-Friendly Human Life	Erambil J.	3
LST 10	Classical Christology	Panjikaran S.	3
LST 11	Theology of Mission	Valungal A.	3
LST 12	Political Theology	Rolden J.	3
LST 13	Contemporary Issues in Sacramental Theology	Pulickal S.	3
LST 14	Theology of Aesthetics of Hans Urs von Balthasar	R.B. Gregory	3
LST 15	Anthropological Pneumatology	Erambil J.	3
LST 16	Theological Epistemology	Palamoottil S.	3
LST 17	Perichoresis love of Trinity	Gregory R.B.	3



	as a Locus of Christian Living		
LST 18	Marian Theology in the context of Ecumenical Dialogue	Gregory R.B.	3

### **C) Specialization in Spiritual Theology (LSP)**

Co-ordinator: Rev. Dr Sugun Joseph Leon

**D)**

<b>CODE</b>	<b>SUBJECTS</b>	<b>TEACHERS</b>	<b>CREDITS</b>
LSP 01	Priestly Spirituality: Biblical Perspectives	Jacob Prasad	3
LSP 02	Spirituality: Historical Evolution	Valungal A.	3
LSP 03	Patristic Spirituality and Monasticism		3
LSP 04	Spirituality of Synodality	Oliapurath J.	3
LSP 05	Progressive Stages of Prayer	Valungal A.	3
LSP 06	Spirituality of Wisdom Literature	Mathirappilly S.	3
LSP 07	Spirituality of Ecumenism and Dialogue	Sugun L.	3
LSP 08	Ancient Spirituality	Valungal A.	3
LSP 09	Spirituality of Communion	Sugun L.	3
LSP 10	Different Methods of Meditation	Valungal A.	3
LSP 11	Eco-Spirituality	Manuel R.	3
LSP 12	Virtues in the Modern World	Valungal A.	3
LSP 13	Life in the Spirit: Indian Context	Sugun L.	3
LSP 14	People Oriented Priestly Spirituality	Oliapurath J.	3
LSP 15	Spirituality of Psalms	Mayyattil J.	3
LSP 16	Mystical Spirituality	Valungal A.	3
LSP 17	Spiritual Direction	Valungal A.	3
LSP 18	Liturgical Spirituality	Ayalloor G.	3
LSP 19	Ecumenical Efforts: An Indian Perspective	Sugun L.	3

**Specialization in Biblical Theology (LBT)**

Co-ordinator: Rev. Dr Luke Thadathil (Bineesh George)

<b>CODE</b>	<b>SUBJECTS</b>	<b>TEACHERS</b>	<b>CREDITS</b>
1 LBT 01	Biblical Greek III	Shiny M.	3

1 LBT 02	Biblical Hebrew III	Thumpanath B.	3
1 LBT 03	Biblical Greek II	Mathirappilly S.	3
1 LBT 04	Biblical Hebrew II	Achandy J.	3
1 LBT 05	Modern Language German I	Thadathil L.	3
1 LBT 06	Modern Language Italian I		3
1 LBT 07	Modern Language German II	Thadathil L.	3
1 LBT 08	Modern Language Italian II	Achandy J.	3
1 LBT 09	Biblical Culture of the Old Testament	Thadathil L.	3
1 LBT 10	Biblical Culture of the New Testament	Maria Micheal F.	3
2 LBT 01	Information Technology and Biblical Studies	Maria Micheal F.	3
2 LBT 02	The Bible and the Catholic Church	Kokkattu J.	3
2 LBT 03	Biblical Research Methodology	Achandy J.	3
2 LBT 04	Biblical Exegesis of the Fathers	Kadeparambil A.	3
2 LBT 05	Messianic Prophecies in the Old Testament	Mathirappilly S.	3
2 LBT 06	Biblical Greek II	Achandy J.	3
2 LBT 07	Biblical Hebrew II	Manjaly S.	3
2 LBT 08	Modern Language German II	Thadathil L.	3
2 LBT 09	Interpretation of the Bible in the Church	Mathirappily S.	3
2 LBT 10	Fulfilment of Quotations in Mathew	Kokkatt J.	3
2 LBT 11	Selected Texts from John	Jacob P.	3
2 LBT 12	Social Themes in Luke-Acts	Thayyil P.	3
2 LBT 13	Life in the Spirit according to Rom 5 - 8	Jacob P.	3
2 LBT 14	Rhetorical Analysis of Galatians	Maleparambil J.	3
2 LBT 15	The Suffering Messiah in the Markan Gospel	Marottikkaparambil T.	3

2 LBT 16	Prophets and Social Justice	Thadathil L.	3
2 LBT 17	Sabbath in Jewish & Christian Traditions	Bp. Anaparambil J.	3
2 LBT 18	Kingdom of God in the Old Testaments	Mathirappilly S.	3
2 LBT 19	Passion Narrative in the Gospel of John	Chanikuzhy J.	3
2 LBT 20	The Theology of Covenant	Mathirappilly S.	3
2 LBT 21	Death of Christ in Paul's Letters	Chiraparamban V.	3
2 LBT 22	Sermon on the Mount	Sr. Jeo CTC	3
2 LBT 23	Mission in the Synoptic Gospels	Nalpathilchira J.	3
2 LBT 24	Parables of Jesus	Nalpathilchira J.	3
2 LBT 25	Moses' First Address (Deut.1-4)	Nalpathilchira J.	3
2 LBT 26	The First Letter to Timothy	Nalpathilchira J.	3
2 LBT 27	The Theology of Presence in the Book of Exodus	Mayyattil J.	3
2 LBT 28	Johannine Literature	Maria Micheal F.	3
2 LBT 29	Five Discourses in the Gospel of Mathew	Jeo M.	3
2 LBT 30	Theology of the Infancy Narratives of Matthew and Luke	Jacob P.	3

### **E) Specialization in Pastoral Theology and Counselling (IPC)**

Co-ordinator: Rev. Dr Thattacherry Antony (Manoj John)

CODE	SUBJECTS	TEACHERS	CREDITS
LPC 01	Towards an Ecclesiology for the Ecumenical Age	R.B. Gregory	3
LPC 02	Familial and Parochial Ethics	Arakkal J.	3
LPC 03	Parish as Liturgical	Thoppil A. /	3

	Community	Vazhakkootathil J.	
LPC 04	Marriage and Family Pastoral Care	Kallely A.	3
LPC 05	Centrality of the Poor in the Church	Valungal A.	3
LPC 06	Youth Ministry and Counselling	Manalel G.	3
LPC 07	Catechetical Care in the Church	Valungal A.	3
LPC 08	Pastoral Psychology and Counselling	Puramadam K.	3
LPC 09	Christian Leadership	Gregory R.B.	3
LPC 10	Evangelization through Mass Media	Edappilly J.	3
LPC 11	Skills in Pastoral Counselling	Manalel G.	3
LPC 12	Migration and Pastoral Care	Marottickal B.A.	3
LPC 13	Pastoral Care of Family according to the Codes of Canon Law	Jerman S.	3
LPC 14	'The Vulnerable' and the Pastoral Care in the Church	Marottickal B.A.	3
LPC 15	The issue of Gender and Pastoral Care	Fernandes S.	3

#### **F) Seminars (LSR)**

<b>CODE</b>	<b>SUBJECTS</b>	<b>TEACHERS</b>	<b>CREDITS</b>
STS 01	Hindu-Christian Hermeneutics	Kallungal M.	3
STS 02	Biblical Models in Ecclesiology	Manuel R.	3
STS 03	Theology of Love	Gregory R.B.	3
STS 04	The Development of Christian Theology	Gregory R.B.	3
PCS 05	Theology of Social Development	Charles L.	3
PCS 06	Personal Laws, Especially of Christian Marriage, Divorce, Succession and Adoption	Villukulam S.	3
PCS 07	Theology of BCC	Gregory R.B.	3
PCS 08	Sex Gender Ethics	Illathuparambil M.	3
SPS 09	New Religious Movements	Kundukulam V.	3
SPS 10	Contemplative Prayer	Kallungal M.	3

SPS 11	Medieval Spirituality	Valungal A.	3
BTS 12	Theology of Psalms	Mayyattil J.J.	3
BTS 13	Selected Psalms	Mayyattil J.J.	3
BTS 14	Household Codes in the New Testament	Jacob P.	3
RMS 15	Research Methodology	Kundukulam V. & Marottickal B.A.	3

**G) Optional Subjects / Exposure Programme / Scientific Paper (LOS)**

CODE	SUBJECTS	TEACHERS	CREDITS
LOS 01	Social Concern in Luke	Thayyil P.	3
LOS 02	Word Proclaimed and Celebrated in the Liturgy	Thoppil A. / Vazhakkootathil J.	3
LOS 03	The Pastoral Vision of Pope Francis	Mundolickal P.	3
LOS 04	Marriage is a vocation to Communion of Persons	Kallely A.	3
LOS 05	Sacrament of Reconciliation: Pastoral Canonical Issues	Jerman S.	3
LOS 06	Business Ethics	Chennattu A.	3
LOS 07	Ecological Ethics	Kanayankal S.	3
LOS 08	Development of Theology in the Post Patristic Period	Chittilappilly S.	3

**Subject Distribution in I & II Semesters**

SL. No.	CODE	SUBJECTS
1	LOC 09	The Doctrine of the Person of Christ
2	PCS 07	Theology of BCC
3	LST 04	Theology of Ministry and Leadership in the Church
4	2 LBT 22	Sermon on the Mount
5	2 LBT 12	Social Themes in Luke-Acts
6	LSP 15	Spirituality of the Psalms
7	LOC 01	Biblical Interpretation down through the centuries
8	LPC 04	Marriage and Family Counselling
9	PCS 08	Sex Gender Ethics
10	RMS 15	Research Methodology
11	LOS 07	Ecological Ethics
12	LOS 04	Marriage is a vocation to Communion of Persons
13	LSP 05	The Progressive Stages of Prayer
14	LSP 14	People-oriented Priestly Spirituality

15	LOC 05	Mission in the Old Testament
16	LSP 11	Eco-Spirituality
17	LST 07	Eucharist: <i>Fons et Culmen</i> of the Nuptial Love of Christ the Spouse
18	LOC 06	Pauline Spirituality: Key concepts and Recent Trends
19	LPC 15	Gender Issues and Pastoral Care
20	2 LBT13	Life in the Spirit According to Romans 5-8
21	LSP 04	Spirituality of Synodality
22	LST 18	Marian Theology in the context of Ecumenical Dialogue
23	LOC 11	Revelation and Messages to the Churches
24	LSP 19	Ecumenical Efforts: An Indian Perspective

### SYNOPSIS of L.Th.

1. **Obligatory Courses (LOC)**
2. **Specialization Courses in Systematic Theology (LST)**

#### **LST 02. Postmodernism and Religion (3)**

The purpose of this course is to understand properly the phenomenon of postmodernity, realize about its impact on religion and find out responses that help the Church to translate faith meaningfully to the present era. To arrive at this objective, the course will study the salient features of postmodern culture by way of analysing the texts written by Soren Kierkegaard, Friedrich Nietzsche, Jean-François Lyotard, Jacques Derrida, Michel Baudrillard, Richard Rorty, Michel Foucault, Umberto Eco, etc., and discuss the impact of their thoughts on Christian faith. With reference to the writings of Lieven Boeve, John D. Caputo, James K.A. Smith, Van Erp Stephan and Denis Villepelet, the course shall also make an effort to respond to the above-said challenges from a Christian point of view.

Kundukulam V.

#### **LST 04. Theology of Ministry and Leadership in the Church (3)**

The Christian faithful are those who, inasmuch as they have been incorporated in Christ through baptism, have been constituted as the people of God; for this reason, since they have become sharers in Christ's priestly, prophetic and royal office in their own manner, they are called to exercise the mission which God has entrusted to the Church to fulfil in the world. One of the key elements of effective ministry on the part of the leaders of pastoral work is a clear theological vision for ministry. Christian leaders with a well-developed theology for ministry will be better able to lead faith communities to articulate a faith foundation for all they do. Since the Second Vatican Council, the laity have increasingly exercised their baptismal responsibility, especially as it relates to the public or organizational dimensions of the Church's ministerial life. For centuries, leadership in the Church has been directly identified with the clergy and indirectly with religious. Obviously, both of these required some form of a "permanent commitment" associated with ordination or vows. Recently, some preliminary descriptions of essential dimensions of ministerial

leadership exercised by the baptized/confirmed, based as much on reflection on lived experience as on theological reflection, have emerged.

Christian leadership [formal and informal] is a delegated authority, with some more gifted in it than others, that involves serving others and God to fulfil God's purposes God's way. It is the act of influencing/serving others out of Christ's interests in their lives so they accomplish God's purposes for and through them. A Christian leader ought to understand the impact for leadership development not only on the local, individual Church and its parishioners, but also its impact on the universal Church and the unbelieving world. This course helps the students to understand the theological implications of ministry and the relevance of a charismatic leadership which may fit into the ecclesiology of the time.

Gregory R.B.

### **LST 06. The Origin and Theological Development of the Nicene Creed (3)**

The creeds in the sense of a “fixed” declaratory formulae which summarize the essential articles of faith enjoying the sanction of the ecclesiastical authority seem to have taken their specific shape only with the council of Nicaea. The aim of this course is to study the origin and theological development of the Nicene Creed by focusing, firstly on the creedal elements in the New Testament, and other various creedal formulae both in the East and in the West. Secondly, we focus on the development of the creed from Rule of faith (*Regula Fidei*) to the beginning of the synodal creeds in the fourth century. Thirdly, in the context of the ‘heresies’ of the early centuries attention is given to highlight the theological contributions of the Fathers of the Church in the formulation of the Nicene Creed. Finally, a theological explanation of the Nicene Creed is offered.

Patteruparampil D.

### **LST 07 Eucharist: *Fons et Culmen* of the Nuptial Love of Christ the Spouse**

In this course we apply the metaphysical symbolic language of 'nuptial love' to describe the love of Triune God in Christ towards humanity represented by the chosen people, His bride. The Nuptial paradigm and the conspicuous design of God's spousal love we see all throughout the Scripture. We see the spousal relationship and communion in its fullness in the person of Christ, His Paschal mystery and in the Holy Eucharist which is the source and apex of Christian life. The sacrament of Holy Eucharist is here presented and analysed as a wedding banquet, a celebration of the perfect wedding between Christ-Spouse the new Adam and Church-bride the new Eve. Along with the nuptial character of Eucharist, the course portrays a beautiful picture of Mary/Church as the New Eve and her irreplaceable presence in the nuptial project of God. Many liturgical and Patristic traditions have emphasized this symbolic and mystical union of Mary, the exemplary bride of Christ, mystically and nuptially united to her Son's eternal and ever living Eucharistic body.

Kanniparambil B.E.

### **LST 16. Theology of Interreligious Dialogue (3)**

A study on the Theology of Religions, from a Catholic perspective as an aftermath of Vatican teachings, invites one to, an in-depth dialogue with religions and their culture, which moves one to a search into their innermost spirituality. This study is aimed at investigating the uniformity of spirituality and religiosity in general, entering into a comparative analysis of



different religious spiritualities, and their impact and contributions to human wellness and personal advancement, from a Christian perspective.

Sugun L.

### **3. Specialization Courses in Spiritual Theology (LSP)**

#### **LSP 03. Patristic Spirituality and Monasticism (3)**

Spirituality is the way-out one lives and expresses his/her faith in God. Christian Spirituality is the assimilation of the Salvific Mission of Christ by each Christian. The faith that is professed is to be lived as a witnessing to others. The Patristic Spirituality Period is broadly understood as the time that runs from the Post-Apostolic Period to the 749 A.D (Up to John Damascene). This study is based on the writings of the Archaeological findings, Scripture, Tradition, pagan writings, Early Church Fathers, Councils and Synods. This course strives to bring out to the maximum possible, how the early Christians formed, interpreted and lived their faith in Jesus based on the life and teaching of Christ.

#### **LSP 15. Spirituality of Psalms (3)**

The Book of Psalms is part of the biblical revelation that has offered great contributions to theology and spiritual life. The Psalter, containing solid theology, is a great school of prayer - a hymnal that helps personal, familial and ecclesial prayer life. Pope Benedict XVI pointed out that psalms are “God’s lesson for us how to talk with him” (*Verbum Domini*, 24). The Psalter is also a guide to our day-to-day life, both in the sense of human experiences and moral choices. Its realism is so down to earth that joys and sorrows, trust and anguish, love and anger, piety and protest find proper space in it. It is “a sort of gymnasium for the use of all souls, a sort of stadium of virtues, where different sorts of exercises are set out before him, from which he can choose the best suited to train him to win his crown”, as St Ambrose comments.

Mayyattil J.J.

### **4 Specialization Courses in Biblical Theology (LBT)**

#### **1 LBT 02. Biblical Hebrew I**

This course aims at the mastery of the basic morphology of OT Hebrew, command of a fundamental Hebrew vocabulary, familiarity with Hebrew in transliteration, knowledge of the more important points of syntax and an ability to translate simple sentences from Hebrew.

Shiny M.

#### **2 LBT 09. Exegetic Methods and Tools (3)**

The question of methodology remains important in dealing with the biblical texts given the fact that the Bible is not an uncomplicated work. Its meaning is embedded in the history of the people who wrote it, read it, passed it on, redacted it and read it again. The question addressed in this course is in which manner should exegetes analyse texts? Which methodology should be

followed during the exegetical process? The course discusses in detail on the Exegesis and Eisegesis, Biblical Manuscripts, Texts and Versions, Bible Study Methods, Principles of Interpretation, Literary Forms of the Bible, Biblical Criticism and Tools for Biblical Exegesis.

Mathirappilly S.

### **1 LBT 03. Biblical Greek II (3)**

The objective of this course is the mastery of the basic morphology of NT Greek, command of a fundamental Greek vocabulary, familiarity with Greek in transliteration, knowledge of the more important points of syntax and an ability to translate simple sentences from Greek.

Olikkarot T.

### **2 LBT 12. Social Themes in Luke-Acts (3)**

All the writers of Biblical books were deeply embedded in the life of their communities at all levels – religious, social, political, economic, emotional, cultural etc. Luke was not an exception to this phenomenon. This is evident in his two-volume work. He tried to present and interpret the message of salvation for his fellow Christians taking into account their troubled existence. He did not discuss purely religious issues. Rather social, economic and cultural issues were elaborately dealt with in his presentation of salvific message. In other words, social, economic, cultural and political realities played a vital role in the formation of Luke's theology. In this course we focus on certain Lukan themes which reveal the social concern of Luke, the theologian and historian. We propose that Luke's theology was motivated and influenced, to a great extent, by the social constraints experienced by his community and that he is an inspiring model in the proclamation of the good news.

Thayyil P.

### **2 LBT 16. Prophets and Social Justice (3)**

We are familiar with powerful quotations from the books of the Prophets such as, “*Let justice roll down like waters!*” ([Amos 5:24](#)); “*Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, and please the widow's cause,*” ([Isaiah 1:17](#)); “*He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?*” ([Micah 6:8](#)). Consequently, the Biblical prophets exhort the people to be charitable and merciful to the poor and to help those who were defenceless and needy, widows and orphans, oppressed people, strangers and those without legal rights. They stipulate impartiality in justice, and fairness. They demand respect for every human life. This course will focus on the definition and connotations of the Hebrew concepts such as *tsedaka* (righteousness) and *mishap t* “justice” in the Prophetic literature.

Thadathil L.

### **2 LBT 17. Sabbath in Jewish and Christian Tradition (3)**

Sabbath was the most recurring and significant of all the religious observances of Israel. Various biblical texts and extra biblical texts- the rabbinic literature in particular- speak about the role of Sabbath in the life of Israel. Sabbath and its concept of holiness is at the heart of Jewish identity. Sabbath for the Jews is God's cherished gift and an irrevocable Divine institution. For the Christianity emerging from the Jewish milieu, it was the Sunday that assumed its primary significance being the day of the Resurrection of Lord Jesus. The Resurrection is the cornerstone

of faith of the new Christian community that believes in Jesus as Son of God and Messiah of Israel. The celebration of the LORD's SUPPER became the identity of the nascent Christian Community and its primordial relationship to Sunday earmarked growing tensions between Sabbath and Sunday.

The course aims at understanding the historical, biblical and theological foundations and significance of Sabbath in Jewish and Christian traditions. There are obvious points of convergence and divergence. The post-Holocaust and Post Conciliar period are showing way to renewed engagements of Jewish-Christian dialogue where the checkered history Sabbath and Sunday controversies can be looked anew and collectively throw light on our efforts to reign in a frantic and greed ridden world

Schema: Sabbath in the Hebrew Bible, Sabbath and Israel, Sabbath in the NT, Sabbath and the Christianity, Sabbath- Sunday: Marriage or Divorce?

Bishop Anaparambil J.

## **2 LBT 24. The Parables of Jesus (3)**

Jesus' parables are among the best known and most influential stories in the world. Parables were the means Jesus used most frequently to explain the kingdom of God and to show the character of God and the expectations that God has for human beings. That message has often been subverted. Jesus' parables have been abused and forced to serve various purposes – from ancient theological purposes to modern ideological and pastoral ones. This course will explore selected parables in the Synoptic Gospels. Making use of the conventional tools of redaction criticism, attempts will be made to delineate the traditional material incorporated in the parables. The course also examines the parables making use of the synchronic reading of the text.

Nalpathilchira J.

## **2 LBT 30. Theology of the Infancy Narratives of Matthew and Luke**

The Infancy Narratives, seen in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, are windows opened to the world of the two authors. Reading the two narratives one is intrigued by the historical and theological problems therein, such as the Jesus' Davidic descent, the census, the location of the birth at Bethlehem, the virginal conception and so forth. As for Matthew, the Narrative is meant to make the Christological affirmation that Jesus is Son of David and Son of God from his birth through the operation of the Holy Spirit. Luke here opens his theology of the continuity of salvation history with the Old Testament, and its setting in on-going world history, the *anawim* theology, as presented particularly in the hymns Benedictus and Magnificat, etc. Our study will, therefore, zero in on the issues inherent in the text and try to bring out the emergent theology so as to help the reader to find his way through in readingfully the two works and thus be enlightened.

Jacob P.

## **4 Specialization Courses in Pastoral Theology & Counselling (LPC)**

### **LPC 04. Marriage and Family Pastoral Care (3)**

The shift in understanding marriage from a procreative institution to a personal relationship has raised various challenges to the living of the mission and vocation of the Christian family. People find it difficult to live a lifelong commitment proclaiming the ever-

faithful love of God. The emergence of “free love” culture questions the value of marriage and family as an institution to fulfil the human desire for intimacies. The course will deepen the students’ awareness of the challenges faced by the Christian family today and help them to devise pastoral plans and acquire skills necessary to take care of the family. A detailed discussion of the theology of marriage and the family will unfold new ways of accompanying the family in its various stages. The exploration of the unique place of the sacramentally married in the mission of the Church and the singularity of family spirituality will contribute to the development of a nuanced model of family centred pastoral care in the Church.

Kallely A.

### **LPC 09. Pastoral Psychology and Counselling (3)**

Pastoral psychology is the application of modern psychology to the ancient ministry of the pastoral care exercised within the various Christian Churches. Today this care draws on insights and techniques from three primary sources: contemporary understandings of human personality and interpersonal relationships from the human sciences (especially psychology); therapeutic methods from one or more of the current counselling and psychotherapeutic approaches; and biblical, theological, and historical resources from the Judeo-Christian heritage.

Course Objectives: to understand the basic principles of Pastoral Psychology and counselling; to apply theoretical frame work of counseling to actual Pastoral care & practice; to survey major systems of therapy in relation to Pastoral counselling; to relate methods of Pastoral counseling to specific problems /situations; to improve Pastoral counseling skills.

Course Outline: a) Defining pastoral counseling in the ministry of the Church; b) Understanding Basic Principles of pastoral counseling skills - the Shepherd/counselor: Role and function, Skills and Specialization in Spiritual and Pastoral Counseling; c) Surveying the Major Systems of Therapy and their Relationship to pastoral care & counselling: Psycho Dynamic/ Humanistic, Cognitive and Behavioral Approach; d) Basic and Advanced Pastoral Counseling Skills training; e) Pastoral Counseling Procedures; f) Ethical Considerations in Pastoral & Professional counseling.

Puramadam K.

## **5 Seminars**

### **PCS 08. Sex, Gender, Ethics (3)**

The broad purpose of this course is to help students recognize, appreciate and evaluate surging ethical questions in the areas of sexuality and gender. It is accomplished primarily in the light of time-tested Catholic teachings and contemporary debates. Proper to learning at the Second Cycle of studies, this course is supposed to empower students to answer pastoral questions and to question theological answers for appropriating better pastoral sensitivity and greater theological clarity. After making conceptual clarification of the themes worded in the title of this course, we shall deal with themes such as foundations of biblical sexual ethics; sex, gender and early Christianity; body and angelic life in Gregory of Nyssa; bodily nakedness and shame; transgender questions; the Indian case of Hijras as a transgender group; catholic position on sex reassignment surgery; gender stereotyping and inequality; theological perspectives on sexual pleasure, etc.

Illathuparampil M.

## **6 Optional Subjects (LOS)**

### **LOS 07. Ecological Ethics (3)**

This course intends to develop a clear awareness on theological and ethical responses to the ecological crisis. After presenting an overview on environmental ethics, the course deals with some fundamental areas of biblical ecology like creation stories and wisdom literature with an emphasis to the 'place and position of human being' in the order of creation. It further moves towards the ecological significance of the Christ event with special reference to the wisdom Christology of Paul. The different theological approaches to ecological crisis, like humano-centric, eco-centric and theocentric are also discussed. The last session of this course considers the socio-political and economic impacts of ecological crisis within the frame of the teachings of the Church. The course concludes with a discussion on the 'Integral ecology' proposed by Pope Francis. The students are expected to accomplish a deeper sense of 'being in creation' uniquely through their readings, reflection and contemplation.

Kanayankal S.

### **RMS 15. Research Methodology**

This course is meant to train students in the art of researching and redacting according to the typographic guidelines. It shall give focus to the method of developing research problems, formulating hypotheses, preparing research design, conducting qualitative study, collecting data, analyzing corpus and redacting the text according to typographical guidelines.

Kundukulam V. & Marottical B.