

## **DIPLOMA IN INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE & ECUMENISM**

Restoration of unity among all humanity, which has one origin, one goal and end in God, whose providence all enjoy, was considered by the Second Vatican Council to be an important task of the Church when it called all her sons and daughters to engage in dialogue and collaboration with the followers of other religions (Cf. *Nostra aetate*, 1). In the same line of thought, restoration of unity among all Christians was considered to be one of the principal concerns of the Second Vatican Council (Cf. *Unitatis Redintegratio*,1). In its report on the occasion of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *Unitatis Redintegratio* the Pontifical Council for promoting Christian Unity pointed out the urgent need for the ecumenical education of the laity, of religious, seminarians, priests and bishops and the need for inserting ecumenical initiatives in the organic pastoral programmes of dioceses. Jerusalem, which is a spiritual centre for all three major monotheistic religions and the city where within a few kilometres one is able to enter into and pray with the various Churches and to meet with people of many Christian Churches, is uniquely placed for educating personnel in this field.

Given the above mentioned need for trained personnel in the Church to engage in interreligious and ecumenical dialogue, the STS in Jerusalem offers the Diploma in Interreligious Dialogue and Ecumenism.

### **Objectives:**

The Diploma aims to provide the students:

- Adequate knowledge of the Catholic Church's Ecclesiology and its teachings on interreligious dialogue and ecumenical efforts
- Adequate knowledge of Judaism
- Adequate knowledge of Islam
- Adequate knowledge of the Eastern and Oriental Churches
- Adequate knowledge of Eastern Spirituality
- Adequate knowledge of the History of the Churches
- Experiential knowledge of some Holy sites of Judaism and Islam
- Lived experience of participating in the prayer traditions of Jews and Muslims
- Lived experience of participating in the prayer traditions of the various Christian Churches
- Experience of meeting and dialoguing with leaders of various Christian Churches

### **Admission Requirements:**

- A bachelor degree in Theology or currently student of a bachelor degree
- Submission of an application in the time prescribed

- Certification of courses completed
- Recommendation of the Parish Priest/religious superior
- Personal interview

### **Curriculum:**

*Total of 60 ECTS (equivalent to 1500 hours of work)*

26 ECTS lectures

9 ECTS conferences, workshops & Seminars

6 ECTS of guided study

15 ECTS guided experiences & reports

4 ECTS Final written project proposal for an Interreligious or Ecumenical Initiative

### **Courses**

The Diploma will have 4 modules:

*1<sup>st</sup> Module = 17 ECTS (Catholic Church's Theology)*

Ecclesiology = 6 ECTS

Ecumenism = 3 ECTS

Theology of Religions and Missiology = 5 ECTS

Catechetics = 3 ECTS

*2<sup>nd</sup> Module = 13 ECTS (Judaism)*

Lectures on Judaism = 3 ECTS

Guided study on Judaism = 2 ECTS

Conferences, workshops and seminars on Judaism = 3 ECTS

Guided experiences of Judaism (places and prayer) and reports = 5 ECTS

*3<sup>rd</sup> Module = 13 ECTS (Islam)*

Lectures on Islam = 3 ECTS

Guided study on Islam = 2 ECTS

Conferences, workshops and seminars on Islam = 3 ECTS

Guided experiences of Islam (places and prayer) and reports = 5 ECTS

*4<sup>th</sup> Module = 13 ECTS (History of Christian Churches)*

Lectures on History of the Churches = 3 ECTS

Guided study on the History of Eastern and Oriental Churches = 2 ECTS

Conferences, workshops and seminars on Eastern and Oriental Churches = 3 ECTS

Guided experiences of Eastern and Oriental Churches (places and prayer) and reports = 5 ECTS

Final written project proposal for an Interreligious or Ecumenical Initiative = 4 ECTS

### **Duration:**

The Diploma can be earned in three years.

### **Costs:**

500/- Euros plus actual cost of travel for field trips.

STS candidates for the Bachelor degree may avail a 40% discount

### **Staff:**

#### *Teaching staff:*

BALLA Matteo, *sdb*, SThL

CAPUTA Giovanni, *sdb*, PhD, SThD

COUTINHO Mathew, *sdb*, MPh, M.Bioethics, ADPSc, SThD

GIANAZZA Pier Giorgio, *sdb*, SThD, PhL

GOH Lionel, *ofm*, SThD

JOHN BOSCO Vincent Raj, *sdb*, SThL

KULPA Karol, *sdb*, SSL

KUNCHERAKATT Stephen, *sdb*, SThD

MAROUN Khalil, *cm*, DEA, PhD

MICHAEL Biju, *sdb*, MA, MPH, PGDHRM, M. Bioethics, SThD

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VERNET Joan Maria, *sdb*, SThD, SSL

VONCK Leopold, *m.afr.*, SSL, SThD

WANJALA Moses, *sdb*, SThL

WONG, Andrew, *sdb*, SThL

WYCKOFF Eric John, *sdb*, DMin, SSL

ZELAZKO, Piotr, *dio.*, SSD

**Teaching Coordinator:** Rev. Dr RUSSELL William, *M.Afr.*

**Secretary:** Rev. Sr. Angela RIDOUT, *sj* (Registrar)

**Director:** Rev. Dr. Biju MICHAEL, *sdb* (President/Principal)

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