

CatholicCare Victoria's chaplaincy services support thousands of Victorians every year in hospitals, prisons and youth justice centres.

Our Chaplains provide a listening ear and a compassionate presence, along with assistance to cope with emotional pain and loneliness.

Having someone to walk with the vulnerable, shoulder-to-shoulder, along their journey can help them to feel cared for, to feel empowered, and to find hope.

Each day our Chaplains faithfully meet the emotional and spiritual needs of the isolated and marginalised in our community by providing pastoral and spiritual support through all stages of life.



Hospital Chaplaincy

Our Hospital Chaplains offer emotional, spiritual and sacramental support to patients and their families in Melbourne's major public hospitals, as well as hospitals in regional Victoria.

The experience of being in hospital can often mean being surrounded by fear, pain and despair. For many patients and their families, this can mean a time of heightened anxiety and stress.

Chaplains are a listening ear, a calming presence, and a companion for those in hospitals, supporting them through loss, grief, or times of uncertainty.

Prison Ministry

Our Prison Chaplains visit every prison and correctional centre in Victoria, offering emotional, spiritual and sacramental support to residents.

During prison visitation, Chaplains listen, connect, and comfort people who may otherwise feel lost or abandoned. Chaplains also arrange weekly Mass, help new arrivals adjust to their surroundings, and advocate for their needs.

Our ministry seeks to promote the development and understanding of Restorative Justice, which focuses on rehabilitation of offenders. Our Prison Chaplains can also provide support to residents' family or significant others.



Youth Justice Chaplaincy

Our Youth Justice Chaplains provide pastoral support to young people in youth custodial centres. They provide accompaniment, and emotional and spiritual support for young people who are at a particularly vulnerable time in their lives.

Our Chaplains can help young people in custodial centres to feel less alone; to show them that they are worthy of support and care; to provide them a sense of hope; and help them discover their identity as they journey along a difficult path.

Youth Justice Chaplains also play a role in advocating for the dignity of young people, within the youth justice system and across the broader community.

CatholicCare Victoria is the social service agency of the four Catholic dioceses in Victoria. Our programs and services support marginalised and vulnerable individuals, families and communities across Victoria.