

Our Parish Catechists

TERM 2, 2018

Handing on what we have received:
the hope and joy that
Jesus brings

2018
YEAR
OF
YOUTH

1

3

2

4

5

The catechists must be those
“who keep the memory of
God alive; they keep it alive
in themselves and they are
able to revive it in others”.

Pope Francis to Catechists
29 September 2013



CATHOLIC
ARCHDIOCESE
OF SYDNEY



Catechist Newsletter

From the Director

Welcome to Term 2



Happy Easter!

I hope the *Christ our Light and Life* Easter lessons have been generating wonder and intrigue, especially in young hearts and minds.

It is amazing to wonder about Jesus showing his friends what a 'renewed' resurrected body looks like and what he could do. He could eat and drink with them and we read that he appeared to them at least eight times over 40 days.

So why did Jesus have to go away if he could do such amazing things? This is where the Pentecost lessons come in.



Doug Mawhinney

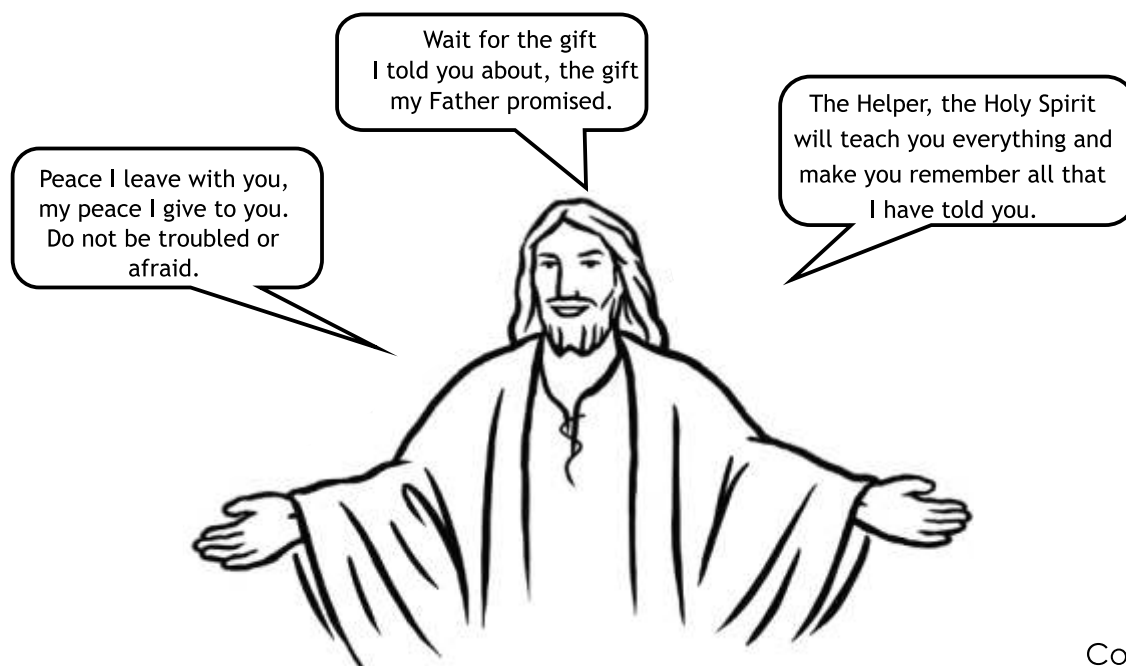
At home, we want our kids to grow up to be good and loving adults and to relate to them as such. How much more does God want to be in a mature relationship with us!

The sending of the Holy Spirit enables us to love in union with God's love, like two flames coming together to burn as one. "To be one with" is what communion means. The Holy Spirit gathers us into communion, helps us to become Christ-like and impels us with the power of the resurrection to proclaim the Good News of being called to being one with God: the one thing necessary to live, forever and ever with God. This is why your "call" by God to be a Catechist to proclaim this Good News is of eternal significance.

As we journey in the hope and joy of this Easter season towards Pentecost, I wish you the Grace and Peace of our loving God, who is with us and goes before us,

Doug

Jesus promises the Holy Spirit



Continued...

From the Director

CCD staff news

Paul Worthington has served Catechists for 15 years as the Parramatta CCD Director and, most recently, for two years as the CCD Sydney's Special Projects Coordinator and NSW-ACT CCRESS Executive Officer.

Thank you, Paul, for your wisdom, mentoring, music and mirth! Of particular note, your help with revising and presenting initial training courses has been invaluable and also greatly appreciated by Catechists.

We wish you and your family many happy times ahead – perhaps even at Brookvale Oval – but more certainly in your new role ... yes, Paul will now continue as an eager volunteer Catechist in his new local Parish!



To Vincent Haber, our Western Region FEO, we are saying “see you back here later” because, for the greater good of the Church in Australia, Vincent has been asked to help the Archdiocese of Perth for 18 months to prepare and run the next Australian Catholic Youth Festival.

We also look forward to welcoming back Teresa Culjak in Term 3 after 18 months away helping to lead evangelising efforts in California.

We are also preparing for a mammoth change: Eddie Kropkowski, our beloved CCD Business Manager and “General All-rounder”, who has the publication and distribution of 100,000 books/year down to a fine art, will be retiring in July after 18 years of service. More on this for your “Eddiefication” in our next issue!



Vincent Haber at ACYF Sydney 2017



Teresa Culjak

Continued...

From the Director

Level 2 (Intermediate) training course

The revised Level 2 training course is where we help you really hone "teaching for learning" skills. Feedback from this course is extremely positive. Here is what some Catechists have written:

Thank you very much for teaching us the course this morning. There is always something new to learn.

Thank you for that – much appreciated. It was also a real pleasure attending that course with you. It's never too soon to learn.

What catechists are saying...

Thank you for the materials and for the very informative, practical and hands-on presentation. We learned a lot from it.

Overview of Level 2
See Page 17.

Thank you very much for today's excellent training session.

Behaviour management and special needs in your classroom

If the behaviour of a student is of concern, please talk firstly with the school and your Catechist Co-ordinator. Schools are grateful to know if a student is acting "out of character" or misbehaving consistently. You can rightly say that you are concerned for the children's safety and ask if the school has a management plan for any particular students.

The current SRE "Scripture" Implementation Procedures state that SRE teachers (Catechists) are to be given "any special information, such as disability or special needs, which might affect the health, behaviour or performance of particular students." Students with learning difficulties, such as attention disorders or autism, should have school management plans and, in certain cases, have an assigned teacher's aide to help the student in class, including SRE.

The above is covered in CCD's revised *Level 1.1 SRE Safeguarding Module* training course. Your CCD Faith Education Officer is available to help you and your Catechist Co-ordinator with any matters that are not readily addressed by your school at the local level.

Year of Youth

Year of Youth

The Australian Bishops have identified the liturgical year of 2018 as a national Year of Youth. The Year of Youth invites us to focus on the reconnection and renewal of a new generation of young people in the life of the Church.

At World Youth Day 2016, Pope Francis called young people and the Church to 'open new horizons for spreading joy', which sets the theme for this year:

My friends, Jesus is the Lord of risk, he is the Lord of the eternal "more". Jesus is not the Lord of comfort, security and ease. Following Jesus demands a good dose of courage, a readiness to trade in the sofa for a pair of walking shoes and to set out on new and uncharted paths, to blaze trails that open up new horizons capable of spreading joy, born of God's love and wells up in your hearts with every act of mercy. To take the path of the "craziness" of our God, who teaches us to encounter him in the hungry, the thirsty, the naked, the sick, the friend in trouble, the prisoner, the refugee and the migrant, and our neighbours who feel abandoned. To take the path of our God, who encourages us to be politicians, thinkers, social activists. **Pope Francis, World Youth Day Vigil with Young People, 30 July 2016**

These words of the Holy Father challenge us to welcome new opportunities for sharing the joy and hope of the Risen Christ, to hear the dreams of young people and share the dream Jesus has for them. As Catechists, you are doing this. Thank you!

Jesus is the Lord of risk, he is the Lord of the **eternal** "more". Jesus is not the Lord of comfort, security and ease.

Pope Francis
WYD 2016 Vigil

Eileen O'Connor

Eileen O'Connor is a 'local girl' who is an inspiration, especially for young people, during this Year of Youth.



A SAINT-IN-WAITING?
Eileen O'Connor - dubbed 'Little Mother' by her congregation - is considered by many to be a saint-in-waiting.

Eileen suffered a crippling back injury as a toddler and died on 10th January 1921, aged just 28 years. Her body was found to be incorrupt when it was exhumed from Randwick Cemetery for reinterment in the chapel at Our Lady's Home, Coogee, 15 years later.

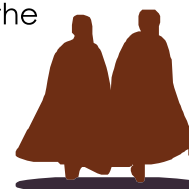
As Bishop Terry Brady, Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney, said some years ago, "To many of us she is already an uncanonised saint of our Church."

Our Archbishop Anthony Fisher has recently appointed an official postulator to continue the process for Eileen to be officially recognised as a saint of the Church.

Eileen's legacy ranks among the great and enduring social works of Caroline Chisholm and Saint Mary MacKillop. Eileen co-founded the mission of Our Lady's Nurses for the Poor, who over the past 100 years have provided in-home healthcare, advocacy and friendship for the poor and marginalised throughout Sydney, Brisbane, Newcastle and Wollongong.

For more information, please see: <https://www.ourladynurses.org.au/>

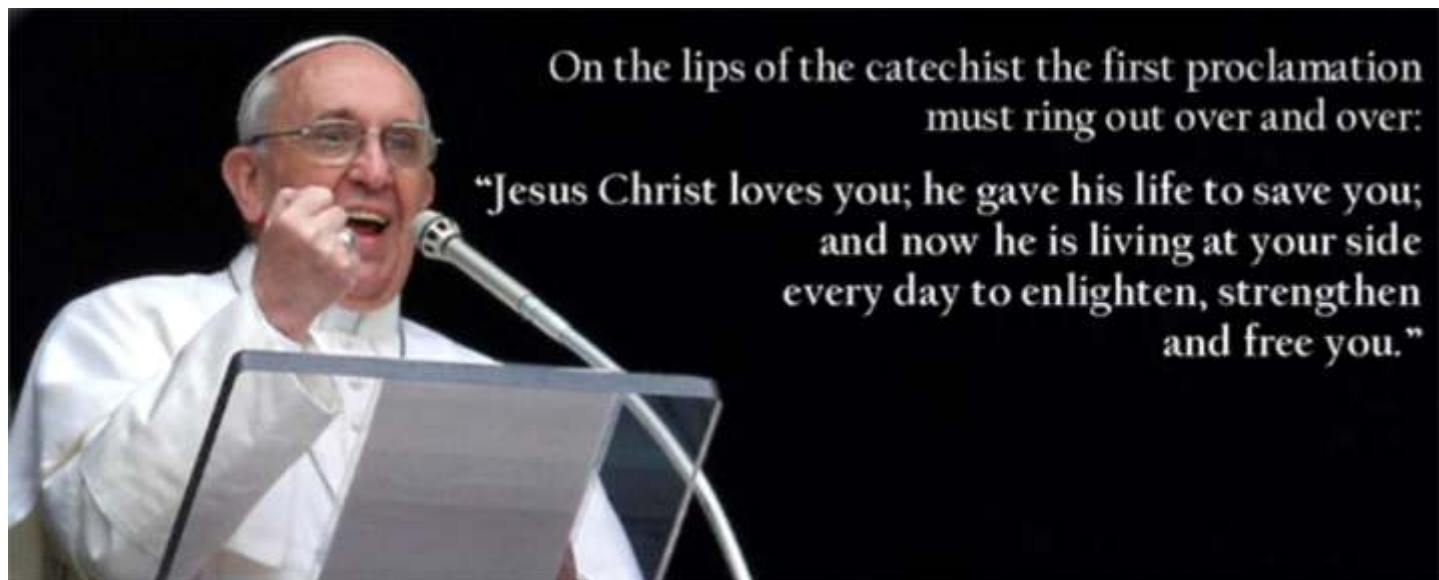
CCD will be creating lesson resources to help let children know about Eileen O'Connor.



**For the poor
& the poor only**

For more than 100 years, Our Lady's Nurses for the Poor - fondly known as the Brown Nurses - has performed a unique ministry of healthcare, advocacy and friendship for the sick poor and disadvantaged.

Pope Francis encourages Catechists ...



Missionary disciples: Pope Francis thanks and encourages Catechists

Last July, Pope Francis sent his message to participants in the First International Symposium on Catechesis in Buenos Aires.

The Pope opened his message with a quote from his namesake, St. Francis of Assisi. He noted that when one of St. Francis' followers asked to be taught how to preach, the saint responded by saying: "Brother, when we visit the sick, help children and give to the poor, we are already preaching."

"In this beautiful lesson is enclosed the vocation and task of the catechist," Pope Francis said, explaining that catechesis is not simply a job or a task external to the person of the catechist. Rather, "their whole life revolves around this mission," he said, noting that to be a catechist is "a vocation of service in the Church, which is received as a gift on the part of the Lord and must in turn be transmitted."

To do this, one must return to the first encounter with Christ that changed their life. This moment, Francis said, is "the fundamental announcement that must resonate again and again in the life of the Christian, and even more in the one who is called to announce and teach the faith."

A catechist is also someone who journeys both from and with Christ, He said. "They are not a person who starts from their own ideas and preferences, but who allows themselves to look to him, to this gaze that makes their heart burn."

The more that Jesus is the centre of our lives, the more he teaches us to go out of ourselves, Pope Francis said, able to be close to others.

"This dynamism of love is like the movement of the heart," and Jesus himself gives us an example of how to live this when he retreats to pray, and then "immediately goes to the encounter of those who are hungry and thirsty for God".

Pope Francis closed his speech by thanking catechists for their work, "above all because you walk with the People of God," and encouraged them "to be joyful messengers, guardians of the good and the beauty that shines forth in the faithful life of the missionary disciple."

The Fruits of the Holy Spirit

This is a reflection to use at your catechist meeting in Term 2.

Set up a prayer place and choose someone to read the Scripture passage.

Reading: Galatians 5:22-23a, 25

What the Spirit brings is very different: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self control ...

Since the Spirit is our life, let us be directed by the Spirit.



Leave a little time to reflect between the reading of each fruit of the Spirit.

This could be accompanied by reflective music.

LOVE	This is the basis of all of Jesus' teachings and ministry ... <i>How do I show love to the people around me?</i>
JOY	A Christian person creates and gives joy to life ... <i>Am I seeker of joy in my life? Do I see wonder & joy in all of creation?</i>
KINDNESS	Jesus was a model of kindness and compassion... <i>Am I growing in awareness of what it is to be kind & compassionate?</i>
FAITHFULNESS	Jesus is faithful to Himself, His Father, family and followers ... <i>Do I show loyalty towards others?</i>
PATIENCE	Jesus was always prepared to spend time with others in need ... <i>Am I patient with those whose behaviour annoys me?</i>
GOODNESS	People were attracted to Jesus because of his goodness ... <i>Do I always recognise goodness in other people?</i>
SELF CONTROL	We, as Christians are challenged to be responsible for our actions ... <i>Are there times when my self control is challenged?</i>
HUMILITY (Gentleness)	Jesus was a humble person ... <i>Am I able to recognise both my strengths & my weaknesses?</i>
PEACE	Jesus is the way of peace ... <i>Is peace my way of life?</i>

The Fruits of the Holy Spirit are concrete evidence that we are cooperating with the Spirit of God within us.

CCD Sydney - Catholic Scripture in Public Schools
February 22 · 🌐

Have you seen our latest CCD Recruitment poster?
Do you have them up at your Parish? Contact CCD for a copy (hard or soft)
Remember, recruitment is definitely an all year round effort!! 😊

**YES, YOU CAN...
BE A
CATECHIST
OR CATECHIST
HELPER**

Delight in a spiritually fulfilling mission. Our Parish children are hungry to hear the story of Jesus and the hope and joy he brings.

- ✓ Effective Catechist training
- ✓ Easy step-by-step lessons
- ✓ Start as a helper
- ✓ Flexible and fun

To find out more contact your Parish Coordinator:

or contact the CCD
☎ 9307 8330
🌐 ccd.sydneycatholic.org
✉ office@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au
📍 Find us on facebook
CCD Sydney - Catholic Scripture in Public Schools

Let the children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.
- Jesus

Supporting Parish Catechists

Like Comment Share



Find us on Facebook

For updates, events, pictures, news and stories....

Search for **CCD Sydney - Catholic Scripture in Public Schools** on FACEBOOK  & click 'LIKE' 

 *A great reason to be on Facebook.*

CCD Sydney - Catholic Scripture in Public Schools
February 8 · 🌐


Only 34 of the 96 public high schools within the Archdiocese of Sydney currently have Catholic scripture classes.

CCD's goal is to penetrate more high schools especially in this Year of Youth. We believe we can do it with a cohesive effort from families, the parishes and the schools.

Join us in our mission and be a high school Catechist like Karen Maia from Smithfield Parish.

Read hear why she and many other high school scripture teachers are so passionate teaching the catechism in the public schools.

If you are interested contact your local Parish Priest or contact our friendly staff at CCD Office - 02 9307 8330.



"In my heart, I know this work is important. Catholic families need the support of the Church community in raising our children to be Christian. Our youth need to know that there is more to life than their phones, negative social media and dangerous worldly trends. And most importantly that there is a God who loves them and who is always with them. They are never alone. I pray that others will answer the call to be High School catechists."

Karen Maia -
High School Catechist from
Smithfield Parish

Supporting Parish Catechists

Like Comment Share

Don't forget to like us on Facebook!

As seen on Facebook



CCD Sydney - Catholic Scripture in Public Schools added 5 new photos.
February 27 · Sydney · 🌐

Level 1.2 Using the Curriculum.

A very engaging and interactive class which we know many new and experienced Catechist and helpers will enjoy and benefit from. 😊

Remember, if any new Catechists want to teach they need to complete and do this course. But we would also like to encourage experienced Catechist to get a refresher. 😊

Just contact us at CCD or ask your coordinators when this course will be conducted near you.

Happy teaching 😊




Like Comment Share

CCD Sydney - Catholic Scripture in Public Schools added 2 new photos.
March 12 at 11:07am · Sydney · 🌐

It's always a joy when participants at CCD's Training courses are enjoying being themselves. 😊

Here's a group from last Saturday's training at Miranda with FEO, Vincent Haber.

They are immersed in creating and colouring in Lenten resources to use in their classrooms.

What a fun day. 😊

Want to attend a CCD course?
Check out our website or contact us at the CCD office on 9307 8330.



Like Comment Share

CCD Sydney - Catholic Scripture in Public Schools added 3 new photos.
March 2 · Sydney · 🌐

Another full house!! 😊

Thank you Fr James McCarthy for a wonderful reflection to help us prepare our minds and hearts for this Lenten season.

Did you miss out??? 😊

Don't worry, because this May 11 we are having a Retreat Day at Mulgoa. Watch this space for more details.

Booking is essential and remember places are limited. Start gathering your groups and make a day out of it.



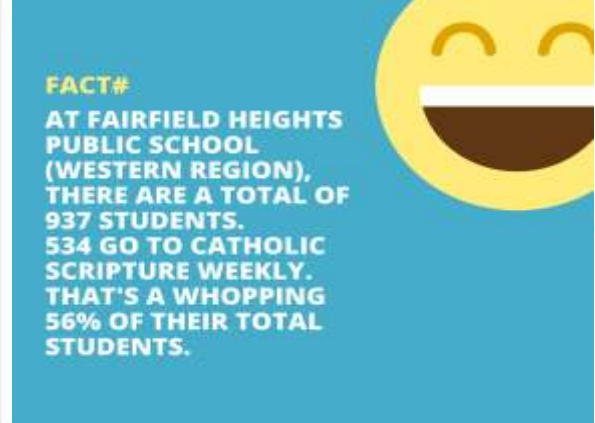

Like Comment Share

CCD Sydney - Catholic Scripture in Public Schools
March 1 · 🌐

Check out this Fun Fact!!

You wouldn't believe the amount of Catholic students there are out West, particularly at one school!

Here's something to celebrate about!



FACT#
AT FAIRFIELD HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL (WESTERN REGION), THERE ARE A TOTAL OF 937 STUDENTS. 534 GO TO CATHOLIC SCRIPTURE WEEKLY. THAT'S A WHOPPING 56% OF THEIR TOTAL STUDENTS.

Like Comment Share

2018 Award Recipients

Cardinal Gilroy Award - 40 Years Service

Fairfield	Irene Taylor
Liverpool	Kathy Commisso
Smithfield	Catherine Coiera
Smithfield	Elaine Brennan
Sutherland	Patricia Eve Cutcliffe

Life Member Award - 30 Years Service

Bonnyrigg	Nina Laureti
Eastwood	Constance Mary Allman
Enfield	Mary Rudolph
Holsworthy	Veronica Tindall
Horsley Park	Angela Panetta
Marsfield	Madeleine Pizzuti

Cardinal Freeman Award - 25 Years Service

Austral	Faye Hockings
Como-Oyster Bay	Gaitu Michael Borg
Enfield	Helmarri Anzillero
Lurnea	Lia Newhouse
Mascot	Elsie Maxwell
Menai	Annette Tesolin
Menai	Amal Yousif
Moorebank	Angelina Gullo
Mt Pritchard	Rosina Tribbia
Padstow	Kathleen Theresa Ryan
Rose Bay	Narelle Ann Hills
Ryde	Gabrielle Claridge
Smithfield	Domenica Romeo
Strathfield South	Maureen Pasqual

Apostolic Blessing - 20 Years Service

Ashbury	Younna Kazzi
Auburn	Antoinette Draybi
Austral	Margaret Cvetko
Bankstown	Frances Musumeci
Bass Hill	Hasna Chakty
Bondi	Tina Rodgers
Bonnyrigg	Sharon Cook
Bonnyrigg	Connie Giannone
Brighton-Le-Sands	Robert Morris
Concord West	Alfia Turnaturi
Cronulla	Ronald Anthony Butterworth
Eastwood	Alison Khalil
Eastwood	Sandra Mary Youssef
Kingsgrove	Peter Coleman
Maroubra Bay	Paola Romeo
Maroubra Bay	Stella Maria Cessario
Meadowbank	Evelyn Stiffle
Meadowbank	Felisa Tan
Menai	Michelle Heathcote
Mt Pritchard	Joy Daly
Padstow	Anne Carruthers
Penshurst	Carl Spain
Revesby	Stanislaus Hurley
Sans Souci	Doris Galea
Smithfield	Claudia Perco

The Annual Archdiocesan Catechist Mass

will be held on:

Sunday 23 September 2018

at St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney

Commencing at 2.00pm,

followed by afternoon tea

All catechists, family & friends are invited to attend

Teaching Today's Teenagers

Throughout history the church has always known that religious education was a life-long process. The faithful of all age groups were taught through sermons, travelling preachers, catechumenates, and mystery and morality plays. Only a small part of the population received formal religious education. It is only over the last hundred years that schools have been set up for the education of all children. In Australia this saw both secular and religious education become part of the classroom program. We have seen the age at which a child leaves school stretch from 12 to 14 to 18.

Interestingly, during the same period, this group of over 12s also became identified as a separate age group called "teenagers". This age sub-group has been developed, and to a large extent exploited, by the media, fashion, music, entertainment and leisure industries. Catechists meet teenagers in high schools and find themselves in situations similar to the early missionaries. These teachers are trying to build links between the culture of the teenagers and the culture and heritage of the church - a culture of which they may be largely unaware or to which they may have little access."

Catechists need to understand the forces at work within the teenage culture so they can identify elements in that culture which may help introduce these young people to their religious heritage. Today's teenagers live in a time of unprecedented change, many of them have been cut off from a heritage which may seem alien to them but to which they are heirs. Just like the early missionaries, catechists are working in an area where the potential harvest is great but the harvesters are few. We are always looking for catechists to teach high school special religious education classes. So, is the lot of the scripture teacher in high school more stressful than it used to be? Are teenagers today really more difficult than those of the last generation? Should we just give up on them?

Here are a few comments on "teenagers" collected over the years:

The young people of today think of nothing but themselves. They have no reverence for parents or old age; They are impatient of all restraint; They talk as if they alone know everything. As for the girls, they are foolish, and immodest and unwomanly in speech, behaviour and dress. **Peter the Hermit 1083 A.D.**

Our young men have grown slothful. There is not a single honourable occupation for which they will toil night and day. Without strength, without energy, they add nothing to the gifts with which they were born - then they complain of their lot. **Seneca 1 A.D.**

Youth today now love luxury; they show disrespect for elders. They no longer rise when their elders enter the room. They contradict their parents, chatter before company.....and tyrannise their teachers. **Socrates 400 B.C.**

I see no hope for the future of our people if they are dependent on the frivolous youth of today, for all youth are reckless beyond words....When I was young, we were taught to be discreet and respectful of elders, but the present youth are impatient of restraint. **Hesiod 800 B.C.**

Faith Education Officer

Central Area SUZANNE MICELI

Email: suzanne.miceli@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

Tel: 9787 3579 Campsie CCD Office



Dear Catechists of the Central area,

Term One has flown by at an amazing speed. I am sure, like me, you feel that the teaching term has just begun and now it is almost over. I hope you have had a smooth start to the year and that your classes are progressing well.

I am pleased to say that we have a number of new catechists in our area this year. Thank you to the co-ordinators who have been diligent in sending them to training. During the term I hosted my first Level One training at Campsie. This was most successful, with a strong bond forming between those who completed the course. I would like to thank Denise, Robert and Doug for sharing their expertise during sessions 1.2-1.4. Special thanks to Norina Fincato from Riverwood. Norina, a catechist and co-ordinator of many years, attended the course to update her skills. She kindly presented her many creative resources to the group during our last session. Her presentation was most inspiring, certainly the highlight of the day. The group enjoyed creating their own "disciple" figure at the end of the day.

Congratulations to the parishes who have upgraded their safeguarding training. I have enjoyed meeting so many committed catechists as I have visited the parishes for this training. It is very important that all parishes do this at some stage this year. Positive feedback has been received with catechists benefiting from the time taken to learn about new child protection policies and share their concerns. I strongly urge all parishes to avail themselves of this opportunity as soon as possible.

Please keep in your prayers two of our co-ordinators, who are both very ill: David Kelson-Mickelburgh from Punchbowl and Maryanne Weir from Bass Hill.

This year our Area Mass will be hosted by St Mels' Campsie at 11am on Wednesday 8 August. Please save the date!

Thank you for your continual dedication to the children of our public schools, for bringing the light of Christ into their worlds.

Suzanne



Level 1 participants at Campsie proudly showing their disciple figures.



Norina (Riverwood Parish) presenting her beautiful resources to the group.

Faith Education Officer

Eastern Area ROBERT MILAN

Email: robert.milan@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

Tel: 9307 8332 City CCD Office



Peace be with you, Easter blessings to all!

Our lessons on Easter should continue in early Term 2 as our liturgical cycle heads towards Pentecost. In our Prayer Space, it is good practice to teach our children the Liturgical seasons and subtly invite them to Mass by saying "On Sunday Mass the Priest is in [White or Red or Green or Purple/Violet] during this season of [Easter/Christmas/Pentecost/Ordinary Time/Lent/Advent]"

Remember, from our Unit 1.2 Using The Authorised Curriculum:

- Purple – preparing for a feast
- White – celebrating the feast
- Green – the feast is growing inside you

The Prayer Space is an appropriate way of reinforcing the time and place for prayer, the Liturgical Season and the presence of the Mass.

Early in Term One a number of parishes invited me to speak at their respective catechist recruitment drives. Thank you to you all for raising the awareness of our work. Often interested parishioners do not come forward at the end of each Mass but approach later. This has been the case for two of these parishes.

As you are aware, Unit 1.1 Safeguarding and Role of the Catechist (prior to entering a class) and Unit 1.2: Using the Authorised Curriculum (prior to teaching a class), are essential requirements for Catholic SRE teachers in public schools. Keep in mind that the remaining Units 1.3 to 1.5 must be completed in the first year of teaching. You will find dates and locations of these courses in the current newsletter on pages 18 and 19.

The Eastern Area Mass will be hosted by Randwick Parish, on Wednesday 20 June, commencing with Mass at 10am, followed by lunch. You are all invited to join us and bring some food to share.

One of the CCD's greatest initiatives has been the High School Student Catechist Program. In the Eastern Area, there are six Catholic High Schools involved. Our newest high school Casimir Catholic College Marrickville, is in their second year and has demonstrated the importance and the mutual benefit of the program. Recently the Coordinator of St Brigid's Parish Marrickville, Ms Sue King made the following remark after observing two of the high school students:

"I was with the Year 6 Wilkins class today. Your students Anthony and Andrew were excellent. They fully engaged the students and it was obvious they had prepared the lesson extremely thoroughly. They should be commended for their excellent work." Thank you Mr. John Abi-Elias, REC of Casimir Catholic College for your support.

I pray you enjoy a fruitful Term 2 and I hope to assist you in your role as catechist.

Robert

Faith Education Officer

Northern Area

ANITA LEE

Email: anita.lee@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

Mobile: 0449 808 381 & Office: 9307 8338



He is risen, Alleluia.

I hope you all had a wonderful first term in preparing your students for Easter. The wonderful mystery of redemption is a time when hopefully we all realise how much God loves each and every one of us. With a deeper knowledge and awareness of the meaning of Easter, we too can become a little light of hope and joy, burning and beaming for Christ, illuminating the children to know the way to Christ and to love him.

I am sure you have heard of this favourite song that I like to share with my students: "This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine. Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine". It is a simple song and extra fun with some hand actions.

By the time you read this letter we will be getting closer to other special times in our liturgical calendar – the Ascension of the Lord and the feast of Pentecost. Don't we all sometimes wonder how Mary and the apostles felt when they were waiting in the upper room and what was it like to receive the power of the Holy Spirit? There is a connection between the word 'power' and the Greek word 'dunamis' (the root word of 'dynamite') which is mentioned more than one hundred times in the New Testament. Let us continue to share this Easter's message of hope and be grateful and feel blessed that we are able to live our Christian life with the power of the Holy Spirit.

There is much good news I would like to share with you. We welcomed 55 new catechists. All of them have completed the necessary training and most of them have started teaching or helping in Term 1. They are the answer to our prayer. It is amazing how truly good our God is; "Ask, and it will be given you" (Matt 7:7) I want to thank each and every one of the new catechists for their 'Fiat' – their 'yes' – to be part of this great mission to share their faith in Christ; with, of course, heartfelt gratitude to all current and super-experienced catechists, who continue to serve and follow Christ with such love and compassion. I pray that all of you never give up as you share your faith and plant the seed of faith for Christ to reign in the hearts of the children. Believe me, your rewards will be a thousand fold.

As promised we held a morning retreat that was very well attended and appreciated by more than 80 catechists. It was great to see a full house. Fr James McCarthy presented a powerful topic: "The First and the Last Supper". His reflection gave us deeper meaning and appreciation of the Eucharist, especially during Lent.

I hope to see you all at our next Retreat and upcoming Gathering. Please feel free to call or email me anytime.

With Easter blessings and peace,

Anita



Catechist Sunday
St Mark's, Drummoyne

Faith Education Officer

Southern Area DENISE HUMPHREYS

Email: denise.humphreys@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

southern@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

Tel: 9524-6400 Miranda CCD Office



Welcome to Term Two.

By now you should be fairly settled with your class – the class rules have been established – you know the students' names – you have established a pattern of preparation and teaching that gives you some sense of achievement and control. This is always a busy term and SRE classes are often interrupted by Naplan tests, sports carnivals and excursions. Schools often have little choice as to when these events can be held.

The 2018 Southern Area Mass will be held on Thursday 3 May at St Joseph's Parish, Oatley. The Mass will start at 12 noon. Please bring a plate of food for a shared lunch after the Mass. Tea and coffee will be provided. Area Masses rotate around the parishes with the day and time of the Mass being chosen to suit the host parish. These events provide a great opportunity to meet catechists from other parishes. I look forward to seeing many of you at Oatley this year.



In Term One the Level 1 (Basic) Catechist Training Course was held in the Southern Area at Brighton Le Sands, Miranda and Menai (two units). More than 20 new Southern Area catechists have attended this course – some of them travelling as far as Maroubra, Lidcombe and Mt Pritchard to do a catch-up session. Pictured is the Miranda Saturday class. I hope that these new catechists will continue on to complete the Level 2 course.



A Level 2 (Intermediate) Training Course will start on Saturdays at the Miranda CCD Office from May 12th. Catechist training courses, gatherings, retreats, reflection days, Area Masses and our Annual Mass are some of the events provided by CCD Sydney for catechists. Details of these are placed on our web page and advertised on the back page of this Catechist Newsletter. At the recent resources day held at Miranda CCD Centre catechists demonstrated how to use some of Br Julian's resources to present the Easter Story.

Please ring or email if you need help.

Denise Humphreys

Faith Education Officer

Western Area Vincent Haber

Email: vincent.haber@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au
western@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au



Welcome to Term 2!

Woah, where did the time go? It was certainly a huge first term with many fresh faces, intensive training courses and even new SRE requirements. However, we all survived it! Massive high-fives to all of you, for your commitment and effort.

Please note that the Western Region Area Mass will be on Friday 13 July at Sacred Heart Parish Cabramatta and not the date mentioned on our last newsletter. Our apologies for the error. Nevertheless, we are all excited, as it will be during the school holidays. Save the date!

This May, the Western Region will be hosting a Level 2 Course (Intermediate). The course will be hosted at St Joseph's Parish Hall, Moorebank, starting on 21 May, for five Mondays. I would highly encourage you to experience a course that will form and equip you to become a more knowledgeable and effective Scripture Teacher. REGISTRATION IS IMPORTANT!

On a different note, I am sad to say that I will be moving back to Perth temporarily at the end of May on an important mission. After much prayer, I have accepted a role at Catholic Youth Ministry as Acting Director for the Archdiocese of Perth, to cover a maternity leave position and assist in facilitating the next Australian Catholic Youth Festival, which will be held in Perth in December 2019. Please pray for me as I lead the young people of Perth closer to God and the Church.

Finally, thank you for making my first year at CCD Sydney a wonderful and fun experience. To the Western Region Coordinators, you have been a great support and I feel blessed to have worked with such a passionate and committed group. I will miss you all. I WILL BE BACK!

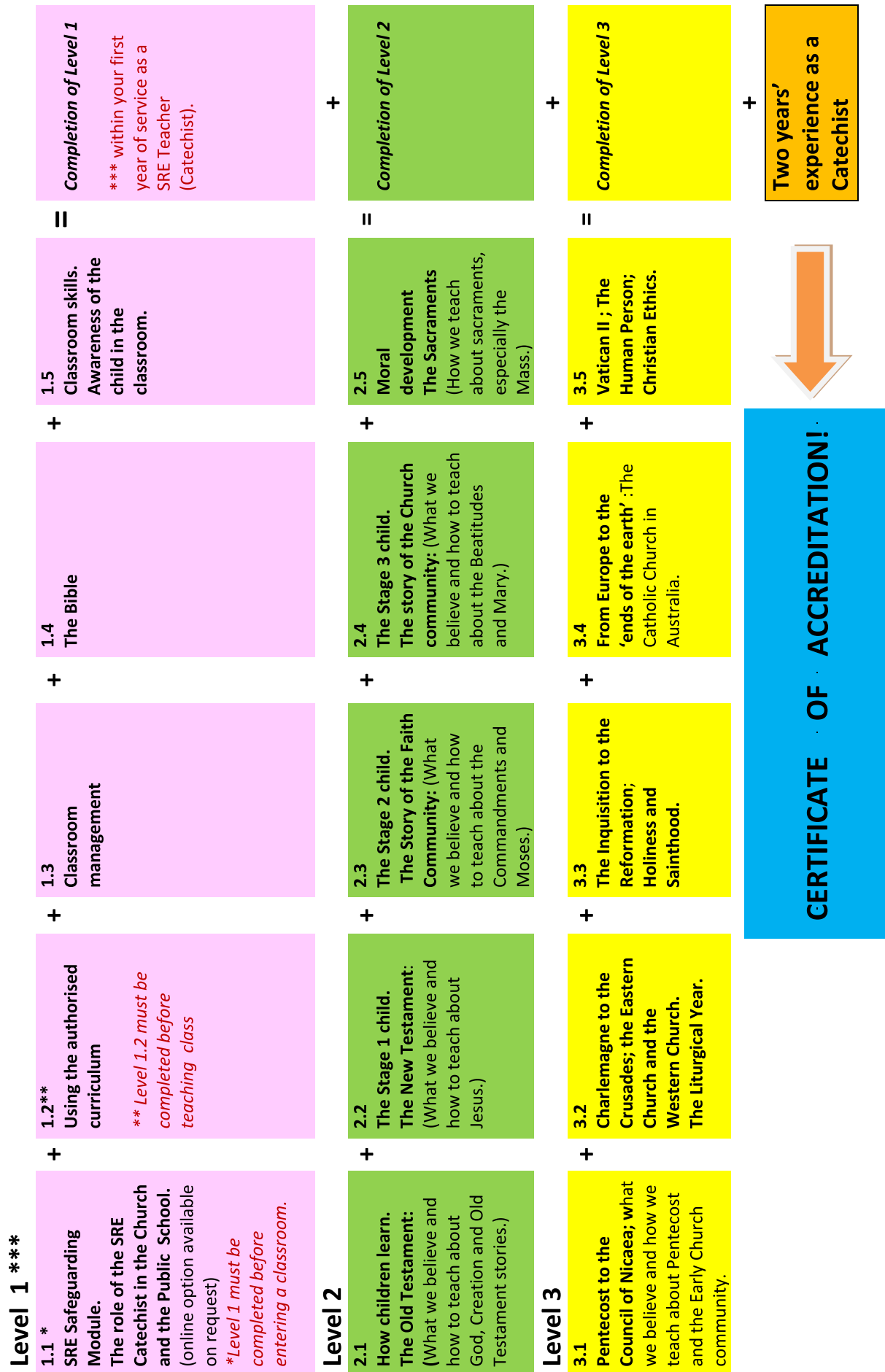
Pope Francis once said, "The Catechist, then, is a Christian who is mindful of God, who is guided by the memory of God in his or her entire life and who is able to awaken that memory in the hearts of others." Let us continue to focus our eyes on Him, be the incredible witnesses that we are and awaken the spirit of God in the hearts of the students.

Vincent



Training Course at OLMC, Mt Pritchard

Training Course Outline



Course Information

Courses are subject to change - Bookings are essential

Please contact Laura or Julia:

EMAIL: office@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au or

TEL: 02 9307 8330 or ONLINE: bookings now open at
ccd.sydneycatholic.org

ALL COURSES RUN FROM 9.45AM TO 2.15PM

Please bring your own lunch, tea and coffee will be provided

COURSE LOCATIONS

Brighton	St Thomas More, Bay St, Brighton Le Sands
Bonnyrigg	John The Baptist, 45 Mount St, Bonnyrigg Heights
Campsie	St Mel's Parish, 16 Duke St, Campsie
City	Polding Centre, 133 Liverpool St, Sydney
Lidcombe	St Joachim's, 31-33 John St, Lidcombe (car entry via 3 Keating St)
Hoxton Park	Meeting Room, 21 Twentieth Avenue, Hoxton Park
Maroubra Bay	St Mary & Joseph, 246 Malabar Rd, Maroubra Bay
Miranda	CCD Centre, 50 Kiora Road, Miranda
Moorebank	St Josephs, 231 Newbridge Rd, Moorebank
Peakhurst	OLF Parish Hall, 825 Forest Rd, Peakhurst
Mt Pritchard	Our Lady Mt Carmel, 230 Humphries Rd, Bonnyrigg
Ryde	St Charles Borromeo, Fr Gell Room, 582 Victoria Rd, Ryde
Smithfield	St Benedict's, Montefano Hall, Cnr Neville & Justin St, Smithfield

CCD Training Courses - May to December 2018

1.1 Safeguarding & role of SRE Catechist Monday 7 May Wednesday 9 May Friday 18 May Wednesday 30 May Tuesday 5 June Friday 3 August Tuesday 7 August Friday 17 August Friday 26 October Tuesday 30 October Wednesday 7 November	Campsie Maroubra Bay City Maroubra Bay City Hoxton Park City Campsie City Miranda Maroubra Bay
1.2 Using the authorised curriculum Monday 14 May Wednesday 16 May Friday 25 May Wednesday 6 June Tuesday 12 June Friday 10 August Tuesday 14 August Friday 24 August Friday 2 November Tuesday 6 November Wednesday 14 November	Campsie Maroubra Bay City Maroubra Bay City Hoxton Park City Campsie City Miranda Maroubra Bay
1.3 Classroom management Monday 21 May Wednesday 13 June Tuesday 19 June Tuesday 21 August Friday 31 August Friday 9 November Tuesday 13 November	Campsie Maroubra Bay City City Campsie City Miranda
1.4 The Bible Monday 28 May Wednesday 27 June Tuesday 26 June Tuesday 28 August Friday 7 September Friday 16 November Tuesday 20 November	Campsie Maroubra Bay City City Campsie City Miranda
1.5 Classroom skills Monday 4 June Wednesday 4 July Tuesday 3 July Tuesday 4 September Friday 14 September Friday 23 November Tuesday 27 November	Campsie Maroubra Bay City City Campsie City Miranda
2.1 – How children learn/The Old testament Saturday 5 May Monday 21 May Monday 9 July Monday 30 July Friday 19 October	Miranda Moorebank City Smithfield Campsie
2.2 – The Stage 1 child/New Testament Saturday 12 May Monday 28 May Wednesday 11 July Monday 6 August Friday 26 October	Miranda Moorebank City Smithfield Campsie
2.3 – The Stage 2 child/Story of the Faith Community Saturday 19 May Monday 4 June Thursday 12 July Monday 13 August Friday 2 November	Miranda Moorebank City Smithfield Campsie
2.4 – The Stage 3 child/The story of the Church community Saturday 26 May Monday 18 June Monday 16 July Monday 20 August Friday 9 November	Miranda Moorebank City Smithfield Campsie
2.5 – Moral development/the Sacraments Saturday 2 June Monday 25 June Tuesday 17 July Monday 27 September Friday 16 November	Miranda Moorebank City Smithfield Campsie
3.1: Pentecost to the Council of Nicea Tuesday 15 May Thursday 17 May Friday 31 August Monday 22 October	Peakhurst Ryde City Miranda
3.2 Charlemagne to the Crusades, Eastern Church & Western Church, The Liturgical Year Tuesday 22 May Thursday 24 May Friday 7 September Monday 29 October	Peakhurst Ryde City Miranda
3.3: The Inquisition to the Reformation; Holiness and Sainthood Tuesday 29 May Thursday 31 May Friday 14 September Monday 5 November	Peakhurst Ryde City Miranda
3.4 From Europe to 'the ends of the earth' – the Catholic Church in Australia Tuesday 5 June Thursday 7 June Friday 21 September Monday 12 November	Peakhurst Ryde City Miranda
3.5 Vatican II, the Human Person, Christian Ethics Tuesday 12 June Thursday 14 June Friday 28 September Monday 19 November	Peakhurst Ryde City Miranda

Please Note:
Level 2 & 3 courses will only run if minimum numbers are met.

Courses are subject to change - Bookings Essential
Locations & further information on pages 17 & 18 or online at ccd.sydneycatholic.org



CCD Calendar 2018

May

- Tuesday 1** **Start of Term 2**
- Thursday 3** **Southern Area Mass**, 12 noon
St Joseph's Parish, Oatley
- Thursday 6** Sixth Sunday of Easter
- Friday 11** **Catechist Retreat** - Mt Schoenstatt , Mulgoa
10.00am – 2.00pm

June

- Wednesday 20** **Eastern Area Mass**, 10.00am
Our Lady of the Rosary, Randwick

July

- Friday 6** **End of Term 2**
- Tuesday 10** Southern Area Co-ordinators' Meeting
10.00am-12 noon, 50 Kiora Rd, Miranda
- Friday 13** **Western Area Mass**, 11.00am
Sacred Heart Parish, Cabramatta
- Friday 20** **Northern Area Mass**, 11.00am
St Kevin's Parish, Eastwood
- Monday 23** Eastern & Northern Co-ordinators' Meeting
Polding Centre, 133 Liverpool St, Sydney
- Tuesday 24** **Start of Term 3**

Central Area Co-ordinator s' Meeting
10.00am-12 noon – 4 Duke St, Campsie
- Friday 27** Western Area Co-ordinators' Meeting

August

- Wednesday 8** **Central Area Mass**, 11.00am
St Mel's Parish, Campsie

September

- Sunday 23** **Annual Catechist Mass; Awards; Afternoon tea, 2.00pm-4.00pm, St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney**
- Friday 28** **End of Term 3**

October

- Monday 15** **Start of Term 4**

November

End of SRE classes – check with your school

- Friday 30** Life Members' Function (30 years' service)

December

- Friday 19** **End of Term 4**

Front cover photos: 1, 2, 3, 4: High school Student Catechists at the Annual Catechist Mass, 2017.
Photos by Patrick Lee

Photo 5: Pope Francis - 2013

CCD Head Office

Address:

Polding Centre
Level 6, 133 Liverpool Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Phone: (02) 9307 8330 **Fax:** (02) 9283 5146

Email: office@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

Website: ccd.sydneycatholic.org

CHECK OUT
OUR
NEW WEBSITE

ccd.sydneycatholic.org