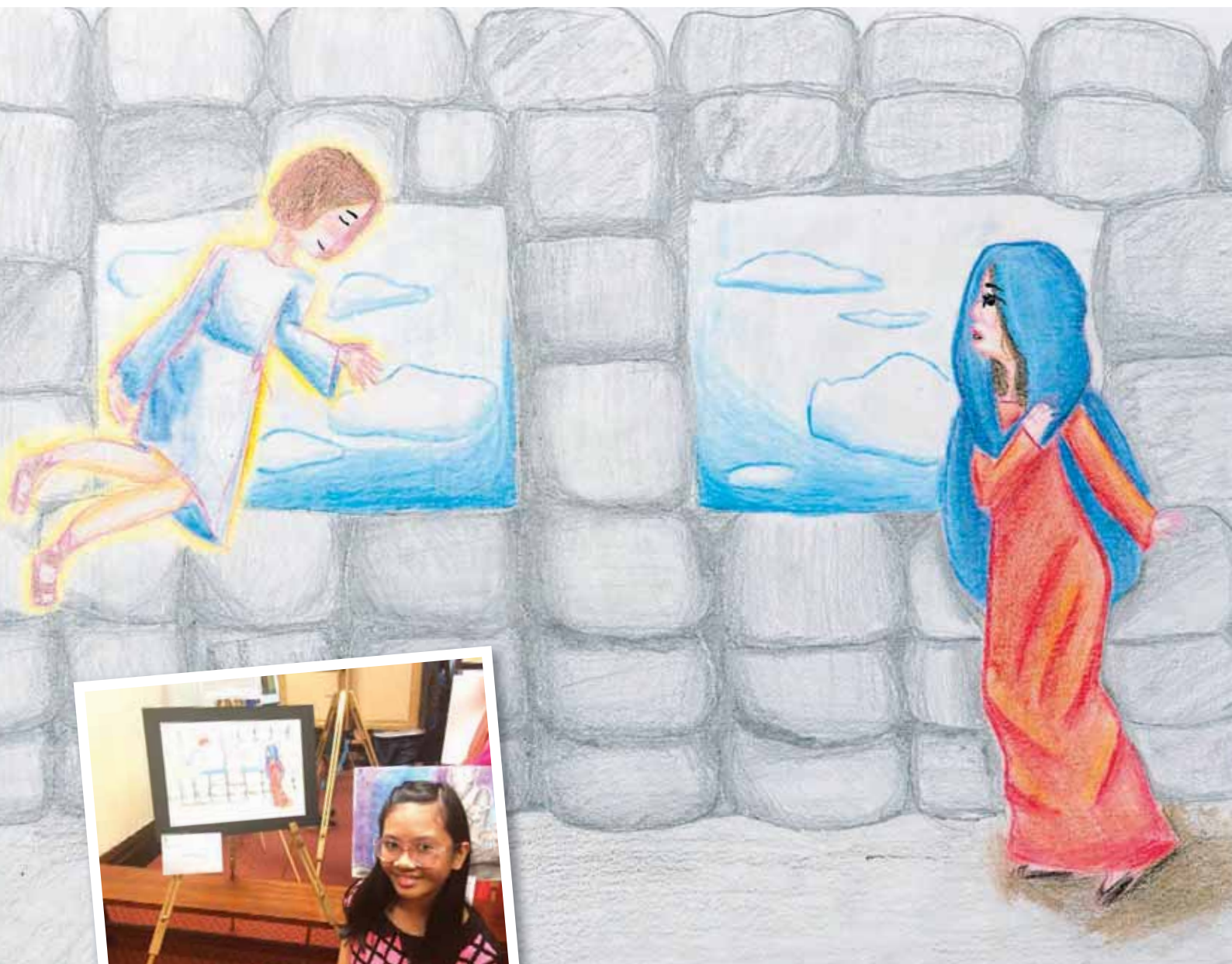


# Our Parish Catechists

TERM 1, 2020

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

## The Annunciation



Artwork by Ashley, Year 6, Rainbow Street Public School, Randwick



CATHOLIC  
ARCHDIOCESE  
OF SYDNEY



Supporting  
Parish Catechists

# CATECHIST NEWSLETTER

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# Welcome to TERM 1, 2020

Welcome to the new school year on behalf of our Archbishop, Most Rev Anthony Fisher OP, and our Episcopal Vicar for Education, Very Rev Michael McLean, who support you and us, your CCD Parish Catechist Support team.

Thank you for sharing the hope and joy that Jesus brings with our parish children in public schools.

As we welcome all new and returning catechists, please join me in welcoming Christine as a Faith Education Officer (FEO) to job-share with Josie in the Southern Area with Denise. We also welcome back Vincent, one of your FEOs, who has been 'on loan' to the Archdiocese of Perth these past 18 months directing the successful December 2019 Australian Catholic Youth Festival. Welcome, Christine, and welcome back, Vincent!

Your FEOs, who provide you with training and in-school support, have written articles in this newsletter to offer you practical classroom help and inspiration.

This is a Jubilee year for the CCD. In 1960, the CCD effectively started offering training courses for catechists to go into public schools. Prior to 1960, catechists received training from groups, such as, the Teresians and the Motor Missioners who helped make the Word of God present to children in public schooling.

We give thanks to God for the good and faithful service of all those who have gone before us and for you who are with us. We look forward to supporting you as catechists who are sent to gather the children in Jesus' name. May they delight with you in praying, looking, listening and doing the Archbishop's Christ our Light and Life lessons. We are here to support you.

Our service as catechists flows from our identity as disciples, which means teachable friends of God. May our loving God bless you as you are sent forth from Sunday Mass to our Parish children in public schools.

- Doug



Doug Mawhinney

## CHRISTINE ZAKARIA

Your new CCD team member



*I have been a primary school teacher for over 10 years as well as a School SRE Coordinator. My passion lies in my faith and charity work, which includes missionary work in the Philippines and offering my services in various acts of charity. As a teacher who has taught in the public school system, I have continually witnessed the dedication of catechists in evangelising the children and bringing the love of Christ to them. So, it is with great pleasure that I join such an amazing team. I look forward to meeting you all and seeing what God has in store for us! - Christine*



## News From Your Area Faith Education Officers (FEOs)

### CENTRAL-NORTHERN AREA Central, Concord & Northern Deaneries



Suzanne



Anita

We hope that you all had a happy and peaceful Christmas with your family and friends. It is hard to believe that a new year is here, the first of the new decade. Looking back, we would like to reflect on 2019.

#### Catechist Retreat



On 22 November, catechists were treated to a day of spiritual enrichment at Surry Hills led by the Missionary of Charity Sisters. We visited the museum of Saint Mother Teresa of Kolkata and listened to the Sisters who shared the inspirational life story of Saint Mother Teresa. We would like to thank Fr Michael McLean for leading us in prayer and reflection at the beginning of the day and Fr John



Fr Michael McLean addressing catechists at the Retreat

Macdonald for his hospitality. Most importantly, we need to express our sincere thanks to the Sisters for their generosity and for sharing their time and home with us.

#### Seminarians



End of year celebration with Fr Simon and the third year seminarians at Good Shepherd Seminary.

Once again, we would like to acknowledge the amazing work of the young men from the Good Shepherd Seminary in Homebush. These third-year seminarians shared their faith with students at Ashfield Boys, Burwood Girls, Concord High, Strathfield Girls, Epping Boys, Homebush Boys and Dulwich High School of Visual and Creative Arts. During their final lessons, the students expressed gratitude to the seminarians for their time and faith. This shows the impact they had on the lives of those they taught. This was reciprocated as the seminarians commented that being with the students helped to confirm their vocation and desire to be a priest.

The Seminarians also displayed their culinary talents, cooking a meal for

both of us at the seminary to celebrate the wonderful year we shared. We were treated to a Vietnamese BBQ, good company and music. We would like to express our sincere thanks to Cong, Hien, Sone, Adrian, Martino, Mark, Foligia, Lordhu, Duong and Salam. We must not forget Richard and Justin who are now studying in Rome but helped us during the first part of the year. Many thanks to Fr Danny and Fr Simon for supporting the work we do in the high schools. Please keep these young men in your prayers as they continue their journey to priesthood. We look forward to welcoming the new group of seminarians who will be working in the high schools with us this year.

#### The Year Ahead

As you are reading this article, you will be preparing your Term 1 lessons. As Lent will be upon us very early in the term, some of your first lessons may be the Lenten units. Please consider this in your planning.

We look forward to welcoming and working with new catechists in our areas, as well as connecting again with experienced catechists who have served for many years. God bless for the year ahead.

Remember one important rule: enjoy the time with your students and have fun sharing the faith.

## EASTERN AREA

### City & Eastern Deaneries

It is humbling to remind ourselves that we have been chosen by the Lord to do His work in His Vineyard, *"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide; so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you"* (St John 15:16). Yes, we are in this Apostolate and we do the work of the Lord as He has requested of us. Thank you and welcome back to 2020.

Catechist Sunday is on Sunday 2nd February 2020 and I invite you to share your joy in being a catechist and encourage others to do the work of the Lord. Be assured that the CCD will always support you through training, advice and recruitment. I will be speaking at St Brigid's Catholic Church Coogee at the Vigil Mass and at 9:30am on Sunday 2nd February.

I would highly recommend a COLAL display and speakers allocated to each of the Masses together with the commissioning ceremony to welcome the new school year and for Father to send you forth with his blessings, *"Go out and teach ye all nations"* (St Matthew 28:19).

The accreditation courses are all set out in the current Newsletter and CCD will be holding training at a central point in the city at the Polding Centre. CCD have tried to accommodate for most days of the week. However, as per usual you can access these compulsory Level 1 units in a combination of learning modes including online units and/or face-to-face at the many locations across the Sydney Archdiocese.

I am looking for a Parish that



Robert

would like to host the **Eastern Area Mass for 2020**. Last year we held the Mass at the Holy Family Parish at Maroubra during the July School holidays to provide access to the hall and parking. Should you wish to do the same, please let me know ASAP.

I also invite **ALL COORDINATORS** to attend the Eastern Area Coordinator Meeting to be held on Tuesday 28 January 2020 from 10.00am – 12.30pm at the Polding Centre. Hope to see you all there.

***God be with you and I wish you a fruitful 2020.***

## SOUTHERN AREA

### St George & Sutherland Deaneries



Christine



Denise



Josie

**Welcome to all catechists who are working in the Southern Area in 2020. A special welcome to those beginning their journey as catechists, helpers and coordinators and a sincere thank you to those who are returning to their roles. May God bless and guide you all.**

As we begin the new year, please ensure your Working with Children Check Clearance is current and

that you wear your name badge. Remember, using the teacher's manual combined with your preparation should ensure engaging lessons for the students and enjoyable lessons for you to teach.

This is also the time to continue your learning. Please check the training dates in our newsletter or the CCD website for dates and locations. Our 'Training Course Outline' on page 17

explains the mandatory requirements for new people. For the benefit of those we teach, a refresher and further professional development is the key to the success of Special Religious Education in public schools.

To encourage one another, if you have an inspiring story that you would like to share, please let us know. This may be to do with a child you have taught, or the way you were called to

becoming a catechist or what works for you in the classroom. We would love to share your story with other catechists and coordinators. Email [southern@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au](mailto:southern@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au)

SRE classes will start one or two weeks before Lent and we will start our journey to Easter. Easter, this year, is celebrated during the school holidays, so plan ahead to cover the Holy Week lessons leading up to the end of Term 1.

The Southern Area Coordinator meeting will be held on Wednesday, 29 January 2020 at St Thomas More Parish, Brighton-le-Sands at 10am and will conclude with a lunch.

The Southern Area Mass for 2020 is scheduled for Friday, 15 May at Our Lady of Fatima, Peakhurst at 11am. Mass will be followed by lunch. Please bring a plate to share and gather with us to give thanks, celebrate our work and connect with one another.

We wish you all the very best for your work in 2020. If you need help or have any concerns, please feel free to invite us to your meetings, classrooms or call or send us an email.



Mercede Nardella at her farewell function

### Service and Friendship

Fr Patrick, Fr Miguel and the catechists of Earlwood Parish took the opportunity to acknowledge and sincerely thank their retiring catechist, Mercede Nardella for her dedicated service for over 30 years. It was lovely to see past and present catechists at the celebration, and also Laura, a

Protestant scripture teacher. Mercede and Laura's friendship developed over the many years of bringing the faith to the children they taught. It can truly be said, "they will know we are Christians by our love" as we work alongside other denominational groups in a common commitment to children in public schools.

## WESTERN AREA South-West & Western Deaneries

***"You did not choose me, no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and bear fruit, fruit that will last."*** – John 15:16

As we embark on our catechetical journey for 2020, this word proclaims and declares that YOU have been CHOSEN for this time and season to bring Christ to His little ones. The God of providence has provided you with the gifts needed in this ministry, the availability and your responsive heart to achieve miracles this year.

A new year allows for new beginnings and the most important thing we can do to prepare for the new catechetical year is to pray. Through prayer, the Holy Spirit reminds us who this ministry really belongs to: God, who completes his work through us. Make a commitment



Teresa

to pray daily for the students entrusted to you, that their needs will be met and that they will always be aware of God's presence in their lives.

Let us be encouraged that the Lord hears our prayers, will not orphan nor abandon, and has promised to always be with His people. He will be with us in our preparations, in the classroom and in our evaluations. Don't forget to invite Him in, for without Him we can do nothing, but with Him we can do everything.



A special welcome to all our new catechists and helpers, you are an answer to prayer. Thank you for your yes in joining this adventure of discovery helping people find God. Please be reassured, that there are many people who are and will be available to support you.

If needed, online courses are also available. For all course dates and times, for Term 1 & 2, please pages 17-20.

See you on the field and please be assured of my prayers.

#### A few suggestions for your first class:

- Be punctual
- Be prepared
- Pray
- Play a game to learn children's names
- Share a little about yourself and family including family photos
- Explain the routine of a lesson
- Explain what you will be teaching this year and the importance of God
- Develop a few classroom rules

## CATHECHIST GATHERING 14 OCTOBER 2019



Catechist gathering

Catechists gathered at our Lady of the Rosary, Fairfield to further develop their teaching skills and knowledge in the areas of diverse learning needs and teaching of the Christmas lessons.

#### Students with Diverse Learning Needs

We were fortunate to welcome Dot Rogers and Ann Larkin from Sydney Catholic Schools Diverse Learning Centre. These ladies shared their expertise. Some



Ann Larkin addressing catechists

practical tips provided by the ladies are published on the next few pages.

If you wish to enrich your understandings in this area, you can complete a free online training course. Please see the link below.

<https://www.nccd.edu.au/professional-learning/disability-standards-education-education-assistants>

#### Christmas in the Classroom

Brother Julian Quinlan joined us to demonstrate ways in which the Christmas lessons could be brought to life in the classroom. Using puppets and other resources from his collection, he showed how students could be fully engaged as they explored the Christmas story. Br Julian's puppets and illustrations can be downloaded onto a USB for your use. You can bring a USB to the city office or speak to your FEO, if you would like a copy.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to Ann, Dot and Br Julian for making the gathering a worthwhile and memorable day. Also thank you to the Fairfield Parish for allowing us to use their premises.



Brother Julian with our catechists

# CATECHIST CORNER

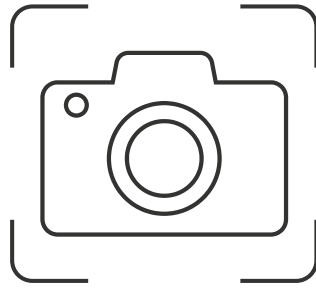


## Experienced or new, here are some tips for the beginning of the year

- 1 Learn the students' names – use name tags, seating arrangements, class roll, etc.
- 2 Set the class rules and consequences - keep rules few, simple and clear. You could check the school rules and consequences. Most primary schools display these in the classroom. This avoids duplication and re-inventing the wheel.
- 3 With infants' classes, try the five "L's":
  - Look at the teacher
  - Lips still
  - Legs crossed (when students sit on the floor)
  - Hands on lap
  - Ears listen
- 4 Develop a routine or structure with the class – how they enter the classroom, move from one activity to the next, allocate tasks for students each week, e.g. distribution of books, prayer place set up, etc.
- 5 Make prayer and the prayer space an integral part of your lesson. Allow time for prayers at the beginning and end of lessons. This is in your teacher's manual.
- 6 Promote classroom discussions rather than lengthy periods of teacher talk. A student's attention span is their age plus one year, i.e. if they are six years old, their attention span is seven minutes. Most of our instruction should be brief, encouraging the students to share answers and guiding them through the activities.
- 7 Don't just settle for read-discuss-read-discuss. Engage your students in the 'I Wonder' questions. Allow time for students to ponder over the questions. This will hold their attention and enthusiasm. This is in your teacher's manual.
- 8 Always have a backup plan in case the technology fails.
- 9 Read your teacher's manual, whether it is new or familiar to you. You need to be familiar with each lesson and aware of the aim of the lesson, the 'TO REMEMBER'.
- 10 A great teacher will reflect after each lesson. Take the time to think through what worked and what didn't work in your lesson.

**Remember...You are not just the teacher of a subject, you are a witness to a living, loving relationship with God. As Pope Saint Paul VI said, "Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses."**





# Social Media and Photos

## NO PHOTO in classroom POLICY

From our initial induction/refreshers Level 1 SRE Catechist training, you will recall the "NSW Department of Education Code of Conduct"...

*SRE Teachers (Catechists and Assistants) are to be aware of the NSW Department of Education Code of Conduct, which includes the "Social Media Policy" and act in accordance with the conduct described in it. Of particular note in the "Social Media Policy" is Section 23; see: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library>, and click on "People" policy group.*

### Simply put:

- no photos to be taken of students
- no "be-friending" on private Facebook accounts
- refer to your Level 1.1 SRE Safeguarding Code of Conduct workbook

The CCD's Level 1.1 SRE Safeguarding Code of Conduct training course meets the Archdiocese and the Department of Education's requirements by providing information, guidelines and scenarios. See pages 18-20 for scheduled Level 1.1 induction/refreshers courses.

### Project Compassion

**We do not collect Project Compassion fundraising money from students in public schools.** Rather we raise their awareness of the needs of others, via teaching our authorised curriculum. If students say they do want to contribute, catechists simply direct them to ask their parents/carers to go to their local parish to do so.

On the following page, you can find an outline of the Teaching Lent and Holy Week lessons taken from our Level 1.2 catechist training course. Additional resources on Project Compassion can be found at the following website: <https://lent.caritas.org.au/page/schools>. Please click on "Classroom Resources" on the homepage.

# TEACHING LENT AND HOLY WEEK LESSONS

Lent is a time the Church prepares to celebrate the great feast of Easter. In Kindergarten, we introduce the students to the Prayer Place and use a purple prayer cloth – purple because we are preparing for a feast. In years 1-6 we cover the Lenten practices of prayer, almsgiving and fasting at an age appropriate level.

In Holy week we remember how much Jesus loved us. The students will learn that Jesus died for us on Good Friday and rose to new life on Easter Sunday. This is taught across the years in an age appropriate manner.

The Scope and Sequence in your Teacher's Manual gives you some idea of what is taught in each year level.

## LENT AND HOLY WEEK

### STAGE ONE (K, Year 1, Year 2)

- Holy Week: the washing of the feet and the Last Supper.
- Easter Sunday: we celebrate Jesus rising to a new life.
- Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent.
- Lent is a time to grow in love.
- Palm Sunday is the first day in Holy Week.
- Easter Sunday: we celebrate Jesus rising to a new life.
- Lent: we prepare for Easter.
- Holy Week: we remember Jesus' love for us.
- Jesus is the light of the world.
- Easter Sunday: we celebrate Jesus rising to new life.

### STAGE TWO (Year 3 and Year 4)

- Lent: we try to do something in our lives to bring us closer to Jesus.
- Holy Week: Jesus teaches us how much he loves us.
- Jesus rose from the dead on Easter Sunday.
- Lent: a time for change - almsgiving and making sacrifices.
- Holy Week: the Stations of the Cross.
- Rejoice Jesus is risen.

### STAGE THREE (Year 5 and Year 6)

- During Lent we are called to reach out to others as Jesus did.
- Lent is the season of forty days when we prepare to celebrate the death and Resurrection of the Lord Jesus during Holy Week and Easter.
- In Holy Week we remember the rejection, suffering, death and Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ.
- The Easter vigil is the most important liturgy of the Church calendar.
- Lent a time for sacrifice.
- Lent a time for change.
- In Lent, the Church calls us to pray more, to make sacrifices and to give to the poor.
- On Holy Thursday we remember the Last Supper.
- In Holy Week the Church remembers that Jesus, in being faithful to his mission suffered and was crucified.
- Hope in the Risen Lord.



## SCHOOLS

### PROJECT COMPASSION



## Raising awareness of Care and Compassion

The *Christ our Light and Life* (COLAL) Teacher's Manual sets out how to introduce children to reflect upon doing good works and caring for others in age-appropriate ways

In the COLAL curriculum, there are Lenten lessons that feature *Project Compassion* (See Year 5 Lesson 4; Year 6 Lesson 2).

Each year *Project Compassion* is run by a Catholic aid agency called *Caritas*.

The word 'Caritas' is a Latin word that means 'Love + Compassion'.

The Caritas aid agency helps to support long-term development programs in impoverished communities in Africa, Asia, Indigenous Australia and the Pacific. *Caritas* works to help people to rediscover their dignity by taking greater control over their lives in overcoming poverty.

**IMPORTANT:** we DO NOT collect Project Compassion fundraising money from our students in public schools.

Instead, we raise awareness of the need to care for others, ourselves and our environment.

To help us raise awareness, *Caritas* has provided school-age-appropriate **Prayer and Reflection** resources on their website <https://lent.caritas.org.au/page/schools> which the following page of computer screen images show.

If a student in your Scripture asks you if they can contribute to *Project Compassion*, you can help them to pray a prayer with the whole class; you could then suggest that they talk with their parents about how their family cares for each other and helps people in their neighbourhood; and, that their parents can help them to find out more about *Project Compassion* through their local parish church community.





## FOR STUDENTS



[F-2 Stories](#)  
[3-4 Project Compassion Passport](#)  
[3-4 Passport Hub](#)  
[5-6 Project Compassion Passport](#)  
[5-6 Passport Hub](#)  
[7-10 Workbook](#)  
[2-10 Country Study Hub](#)

## FOR TEACHERS



[Lower Primary Handbook](#)  
[Middle Primary Handbook](#)  
[Upper Primary Handbook](#)  
[Secondary Handbook](#)  
[Beyond RE Ideas](#)

## PRAYER AND REFLECTION



### ASH WEDNESDAY LITURGY

[Primary \(E-6\)](#)  
[Secondary \(7-12\)](#)



### REFLECTION

[Reflection Slideshow](#)  
[Scripture Reflections for Teachers](#)



### WAY OF THE CROSS REFLECTION

[Primary \(E-6\)](#)  
[Secondary \(7-12\)](#)

## ALL PURPOSE RESOURCES



### CATECHIST RESOURCES

[Primary \(E-6\) \(COMING SOON\)](#)  
[Secondary \(7-12\) \(COMING SOON\)](#)



### FACES OF PROJECT COMPASSION

[Primary \(E-6\)](#)  
[Secondary \(7-12\)](#)



### GENERAL RESOURCES

[Bulletin Notices](#)  
[School's Guide](#)  
[Fundraising Booklet \(COMING SOON\)](#)

# 10 Essential Tips for Understanding Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

Sue Larkey  
**TOP TIPS**



1. Students with ASD don't have to look at you all the time.  
**Reason:** They find looking and listening at the same time hard to do.
2. Give them time to answer any of your questions.  
**Reason:** They have slower processing time. Sometimes it can take them up to a minute to formulate the answer in the correct sequence.
3. If they feel pressured they will answer with stock standard answers.  
**Reason:** They know it will get them out of trouble quickly. This may include: "I don't know", "yes", "maybe" and often this isn't their true answer!
4. They often don't "generalise" information between people and places.  
**Reason:** Homework for teacher 'x' is in the yellow basket but for teacher 'y' it's to be placed in the green basket.
5. They find organisation of their school equipment very difficult.  
**Reason:** They are best with one folder with everything inside. Limit the number of pencils, pens etc.
6. Limit their choices and be very specific with choices.  
**Reason:** They find choices overwhelming and are often concerned with making wrong choice due to their difficulty with problem solving.
7. Be as clear, concise and concrete as possible.  
**Reason:** People with ASD have difficulty with abstract thinking.
8. Avoid verbal overload.  
**Reason:** They are visual learners and verbal information takes them longer to process and retain.
9. Avoid verbal arguments by redirecting them to what they should be doing. E.g. "Start your work".  
**Reason:** They often enjoy verbal arguments.
10. Simple changes in the environment can make a big difference to a child's engagement and learning outcomes.  
**Reason:** People with ASD have sensory processing difficulties and this can cause behaviour



## RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

### The Ultimate Guide to School and Home

By Sue Larkey and Anna Tullemans



### The Essential Guide to Secondary School

By Sue Larkey and Anna Tullemans



### Teacher Assistants Big Red Book of Ideas

By Sue Larkey and Anna Tullemans



For more tip sheets, to sign up for a free newsletter or request a free catalogue, visit: [www.suelarkey.com](http://www.suelarkey.com)



# Top 12 Tips to Set Up for Success

Sue Larkey  
**TOP TIPS**



1. Understand the child's difference (strengths and challenges), accept their different way of thinking, learning, socialising, etc .
2. Break it down. Break tasks down into smaller parts and give them each step sequentially. If possible, give them a checklist to mark off as they do each step. Do NOT expect the children to multitask! Allow them extra time to get it done, but let them finish! It is important to finish one task before going to another.
3. Slow it down. Be aware of communication difficulties. Allow time to process verbal information, use visuals, and don't overload them with verbal information.
4. Use their special interests to motivate and engage – their strengths are motivated by their interest.
5. Show them what is expected and what is happening, then they have less need to fight for control (i.e. schedules, routines, timers).
6. Be careful how you use words, their literalness can mean they misunderstand you. Avoid words like 'could', 'would', 'can' as they perceive them as a choice, e.g. "Can you start work" can be seen as a choice.
7. Use visuals to support learning: schedules, photos, pictures, symbols, timetables, highlight key information, mind maps, etc.
8. Prepare by previewing. If possible 'preview' the learning ahead of time, to give a mental framework of what is being presented or what is next.
9. Check in regularly – don't wait for the student to ask for help – check in (learning, social and behaviour).
10. Computers and iPads are enabling for so many people with ASD, they can help build connections and confidence.
11. They find it hard to see things from other people's perspective. This is known as 'theory of mind'. They might also find it hard to understand and predict other people's behaviour, and to understand how their behaviour affects others.
12. They often find it hard to recognise facial expressions and the emotions behind them. They may miss facial cues from adults about behaviour, or social cues from peers.

## RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

### The Ultimate Guide to School and Home

By Sue Larkey and Anna Tullemans



### The Essential Guide to Secondary School

By Sue Larkey and Anna Tullemans



### Making it a Success

By Sue Larkey



For more tip sheets, to sign up for a free newsletter or request a free catalogue, visit: [www.suelarkey.com](http://www.suelarkey.com)

 **Sue Larkey**  
LEARNING MEDIA



# Catechist Reflection

*A Reflection you could use at your catechist meeting...*

**'Let the children come to me' - Luke 7:16**

**PRAYER PLACE:** Lay out a green cloth for Ordinary Time. You will need a bible, a teacher's manual and the Parish candle. (Light the Parish candle.)

**LEADER:** As we prepare to go about our work as catechists, let us reflect for a moment on the emphasis the Scriptures place on children. (Place the Bible on the Prayer Place.) In the book of Proverbs, the writer repeatedly addresses young people.

**READER: Proverbs 2**

"My child, learn what I teach you and never forget what I tell you to do. Listen to what is wise and try to understand it. Yes, beg for knowledge; plead for insight."

**LEADER:** Let us pray that we may be effective teachers of God's Word.

**PRAYER 1:** For each of us gathered here. May our hearts and minds be filled with the fruits of the spirit; love, joy, peace and patience as we bring the message of God's love to the students we teach. Help us to be good role models to our students. We pray to the Lord.

**ALL:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**READER: Luke 18: 15-17**

Some people brought their babies to Jesus for him to place his hands on them. The disciples saw them



and scolded them for doing so, but Jesus called the children to him and said, "Let the children come to me and do not stop them, because the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Remember this! Whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it."

**PRAYER 2:** For the students we teach. Lord open the minds and hearts of your children to receive your Word. May they grow in holiness, knowledge of your love so as to become ambassadors of your love and peace. We pray to the Lord.

**ALL:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**PRAYER 3:** For the parents of the students we teach. We pray Lord that they may find strength and encouragement in you as they help their children grow to Christian adulthood. We pray to the Lord.

**ALL:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**LEADER:** Loving Father, we thank you for calling us to be Special Religious Educators. Send your Holy Spirit to guide us as we teach in Jesus' name.


**ALL:** Amen



# Ideas for Class Lessons

## STOP

Stop the bad habits  
Look and listen instead




look

listen

? What is the problem?  
What are the feelings?

## THINK

Think about options and consequences




Cool  
Weak  
AGGRO

Friendly  
Cooperative

? What could you try?  
What might happen then?

## DO

Choose option with best consequences  
Fine-tune your body to do it




face

voice






distance

? What is the best option?  
How would you do it?

## Give Me Five



### The 5L's of Listening

1		<b>LEGS</b>	Legs together or crossed and still
2		<b>LAP</b>	Hands together or beside you and still
3		<b>LIPS</b>	Mouths quiet, no sounds or talking
4		<b>LOOK</b>	Eyes looking at the person who is talking
5		<b>LISTEN</b>	Ears listening to the person who is talking

## Voice Levels

5	<b>Emergency Only</b> <i>Screaming</i>	
4	<b>Outside Voice</b> <i>For the playground</i>	
3	<b>Presenting Voice</b> <i>The whole class can hear you</i>	
2	<b>Table Talk</b> <i>Only a few people can hear you</i>	
1	<b>Whisper Voice</b> <i>Only one person can hear you</i>	
0	<b>No Voice</b> <i>Silent</i>	



# TRAINING COURSE OUTLINE

## Level 1 – SRE Induction Training \*\*\*

**1.1 \***  
SRE Safeguarding;  
The role of the SRE  
Catechist in the Church  
and the Public School.  
(online option available  
upon request)  
*\*Level 1.1 must be  
completed before  
entering a classroom.*

**1.2 \*\***  
Using the authorised  
curriculum  
*\*\* Level 1.2 must be  
completed before  
teaching a class.*

**1.3**  
Classroom  
management  
*\*\* Level 1.3 must be  
completed before  
teaching a class.*

**1.4**  
The Bible

**1.5**  
Classroom skills.  
Awareness of the  
child in the  
classroom.

**Completion of Level 1**  
*\*\*\* within your first  
year of service as a  
SRE Teacher  
(Catechist).*

## Level 2 – Understanding the Learner / How to Get the Message Across Age-Appropriately

**2.1**  
How children learn.  
The Old Testament:  
(What we believe and  
how to teach about  
God, Creation and Old  
Testament stories)

**2.2**  
The Stage 1 child.  
The New Testament:  
(What we believe and  
how to teach about  
Jesus)

**2.3**  
The Stage 2 child.  
The Story of the Faith  
Community: (What  
we believe and how  
to teach about the  
Commandments and  
Moses)

**2.4**  
The Stage 3 child.  
The story of the Church  
community: (What we  
believe and how to teach  
about the Beatitudes  
and Mary)

**2.5**  
Moral  
development  
The Sacraments  
(How we teach  
about sacraments,  
especially the  
Mass)

**Completion of Level 2**

## Level 3 – Holy Spirit Gathering a People for God

**3.1**  
Pentecost to the  
Council of Nicaea; what  
we believe and how we  
teach about Pentecost  
and the Early Church  
community.

**3.2**  
Charlemagne to the  
Crusades; the Eastern  
Church and the  
Western Church;  
The Liturgical Year.

**3.3**  
The Inquisition to the  
Reformation;  
Holiness and  
Sainthood.

**3.4**  
From Europe to the  
'ends of the earth' –  
The Catholic Church  
in Australia.

**3.5**  
Vatican II ; The  
Human Person;  
Christian Ethics.

**Completion of Level 3**



Supporting  
Parish Catechists

**CERTIFICATE OF ACCREDITATION**



**Two years' experience as a Catechist**



# NSW Special Religious Education Teacher Training for Catholic SRE Parish Catechists and Helpers

## TERM 1 & 2 - 2020

### LEVEL 1 - SRE INDUCTION TRAINING

1.1 - SAFEGUARDING & ROLE OF THE SRE CATECHIST	
Wednesday 5 February 2020	Brighton-Le-Sands
Friday 7 February 2020	Enfield
Monday 10 February 2020	Moorebank
Tuesday 11 February 2020	City, Polding Centre
Tuesday 11 February 2020 (6.30pm-9.30pm)	Bonnyrigg
Saturday 7 March 2020	Miranda
Tuesday 14 April 2020	City, Polding Centre
Friday 1 May 2020	Smithfield
Friday 22 May 2020	Miranda
Thursday 11 June 2020	City, Polding Centre
1.2 - USING THE AUTHORISED CURRICULUM	
Wednesday 12 February 2020	Brighton-Le-Sands
Friday 14 February 2020	Enfield
Monday 17 February 2020	Moorebank
Tuesday 18 February 2020	City, Polding Centre
Saturday 14 March 2020	Miranda
Wednesday 15 April 2020	City, Polding Centre
Friday 8 May 2020	Smithfield
Friday 29 May 2020	Miranda
Thursday 18 June 2020	City, Polding Centre
1.3 - CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT	
Wednesday 19 February 2020	Brighton-Le-Sands
Friday 21 February 2020	Enfield
Monday 24 February 2020	Moorebank
Tuesday 25 February 2020	City, Polding Centre
Saturday 21 March 2020	Miranda
Friday 17 April 2020	City, Polding Centre
Friday 15 May 2020	Smithfield
Friday 5 June 2020	Miranda
Thursday 25 June 2020	City, Polding Centre

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1.4 - THE BIBLE	
Friday 28 February 2020	Enfield
Monday 2 March 2020	Moorebank
Tuesday 3 March 2020	City, Polding Centre
Wednesday 4 March 2020	Brighton-Le-Sands
Saturday 28 March 2020	Miranda
Tuesday 21 April 2020	City, Polding Centre
Friday 12 June 2020	Miranda
1.5 - CLASSROOM SKILLS AND RESOURCES	
Friday 6 March 2020	Enfield
Monday 9 March 2020	Moorebank
Tuesday 10 March 2020	City, Polding Centre
Wednesday 11 March 2020	Brighton-Le-Sands
Saturday 4 April 2020	Miranda
Thursday 23 April 2020	City, Polding Centre
Friday 19 June 2020	Miranda

## LEVEL 2 - UNDERSTANDING THE LEARNER / HOW TO GET THE MESSAGE ACROSS AGE-APPROPRIATELY

2.1 - HOW CHILDREN LEARN / THE OLD TESTAMENT	
Tuesday 3 March 2020	Miranda
Monday 16 March 2020	Ryde
Monday 4 May 2020	Hoxton Park
Monday 6 July 2020	City, Polding Centre
2.2 - THE STAGE 1 CHILD/THE NEW TESTAMENT	
Tuesday 10 March 2020	Miranda
Monday 23 March 2020	Ryde
Monday 11 May 2020	Hoxton Park
Wednesday 8 July 2020	City, Polding Centre
2.3 - THE STAGE 2 CHILD/THE STORY OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY	
Tuesday 17 March 2020	Miranda
Monday 30 March 2020	Ryde
Monday 18 May 2020	Hoxton Park
Friday 10 July 2020	City, Polding Centre
2.4 - THE STAGE 3 CHILD/THE STORY OF THE CHURCH COMMUNITY	
Tuesday 24 March 2020	Miranda
Monday 6 April 2020	Ryde
Monday 25 May 2020	Hoxton Park
Monday 13 July 2020	City, Polding Centre
2.5 - MORAL DEVELOPMENT/THE SACRAMENTS	
Tuesday 31 March 2020	Miranda
Monday 20 April 2020	Ryde
Monday 1 June 2020	Hoxton Park
Wednesday 15 July 2020	City, Polding Centre

## LEVEL 3 - HOLY SPIRIT GATHERING A PEOPLE FOR GOD

3.1 - PENTECOST TO THE COUNCIL OF NICAEA	
Wednesday 13 May 2020	Earwood
3.2 - CHARLEMAGNE TO THE CRUSADES, EASTERN CHURCH AND WESTERN CHURCH; THE LITURGICAL YEAR	
Wednesday 20 May 2020	Earwood
3.3 - THE INQUISITION TO THE REFORMATION; HOLINESS AND SAINTHOOD	
Wednesday 27 May 2020	Earwood
3.4 - FROM EUROPE TO THE 'ENDS OF THE EARTH' - THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA	
Wednesday 3 June 2020	Earwood
3.5 - VATICAN II; THE HUMAN PERSON; CHRISTIAN ETHICS	
Wednesday 10 June 2020	Earwood

### COURSES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE - **BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL**

To book, please contact the CCD Office

**Email:** [office@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au) **or phone** 9307 8330 **or online** [ccd.sydneycatholic.org](http://ccd.sydneycatholic.org)

**Courses run from 9.45am - 2.15pm unless otherwise noted or advised.** Please bring your own lunch.  
Tea and coffee will be provided.

COURSE LOCATIONS	
Bonnyrigg	St John The Baptist, (Green Meeting Room) 45 Mount St, Bonnyrigg Heights
Brighton-Le-Sands	St Thomas More, Parish Hall, 298 Bay St, Brighton-Le-Sands
City	Polding Centre, 133 Liverpool St, Sydney
Earwood	Our Lady of Lourdes, Parish Lobby, 280 Homer St, Earwood
Enfield	St Joseph's Parish, 126 Liverpool Rd, Enfield (carpark entry via Baker St)
Hoxton Park	Good Shepherd Parish Office, 21 Twentieth Ave, Hoxton Park
Miranda	CCD Centre, 50 Kiora Rd, Miranda
Moorebank	St Joseph's, Parish Hall, 231 Newbridge Rd, Moorebank
Ryde	St Charles Borromeo Church Hall, 2a Charles St, Ryde
Smithfield	St Gertrude's Parish Office, 6 Justin Street, Smithfield

CCD CALENDAR	
Tuesday 28 January 2020	Eastern & Northern Area Coordinator Meeting 10.00am - 12.30pm, Polding Centre, 133 Liverpool Street, Sydney
Wednesday 29 January 2020	First day of Term 1 (students return)
Wednesday 29 January 2020	Southern Area Coordinator Meeting - 10.00am - 12.30pm St Thomas More, Parish Hall, 298 Bay St, Brighton-Le-Sands
Friday 31 January 2020	Western Area Coordinator Meeting - 10.00am - 12.30pm Our Lady of the Rosary Parish Hall, 18 Vine St, Fairfield
Sunday 2 February 2020	Catechist Sunday
Monday 3 February 2020	Central Area Coordinator Meeting - 10.00am - 12.30pm St Joseph's Parish, 126 Liverpool Rd, Enfield (carpark entry via Baker St)
Wednesday 26 February 2020	Ash Wednesday

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



## CCD CALENDAR CONTINUED

Friday 27 March 2020	Catechist Gathering - 10.00am – 2.00pm St Joachim's Parish Hall, 31-33 John St, Lidcombe
Sunday 5 April 2020	Palm Sunday
Thursday 9 April 2020	Holy Thursday
Thursday 9 April 2020	Last day of Term 1
Friday 10 April 2020	Good Friday
Sunday 12 April 2020	Easter Sunday
Monday 13 April 2020	Easter Monday
Saturday 25 April 2020	Anzac Day
Tuesday 28 April 2020	Start of term 2 (students return)
Friday 15 May 2020	Southern Area Mass - 11.00am Our Lady of Fatima, 825 Forest Rd, Peakhurst
Sunday 31 May 2020	Pentecost Sunday
Friday 3 July 2020	Last day of Term 2
Monday 6 July 2020	Northern Area Mass - 11.00am St Fiacre's, Catherine Street, Leichhardt
Friday 10 July 2020	Central Area Coordinator Meeting - 10.00am – 12.30pm St Joseph's Parish, 126 Liverpool Rd, Enfield (carpark entry via Baker St)
Thursday 9 July 2020	Southern Area Coordinator Meeting - 10.00am – 12.30pm CCD Miranda, 50 Kiora Rd, Miranda
Monday 20 July 2020	Eastern and Northern Areas Coordinator Meeting - 10.00am to 12.30pm Polding Centre, 133 Liverpool Street, Sydney
Friday 24 July 2020	Western Area Coordinator Meeting - 10.00am – 2.30pm Our Lady of the Rosary Parish Hall, 18 Vine Street, Fairfield
Sunday 27 September 2020	Annual Catechist Mass – 2pm St Mary's Cathedral

## As we begin 2020 ...



Vincent Haber, ACYF Perth director, returning from the far West to our West in early February 2020.

**In welcoming back Vincent Haber to the CCD from directing the December 2019 Australian Catholic Youth Festival in Perth, we continue the Festival's prayer ...**

*Holy Spirit, Breath of God,  
you come to us in the stillness and  
silence of this great south Land.  
Give us the courage to open our hears  
and ears, to listen to your voice as we  
seek to foster the growth of our Church  
in Australia.*

*Grant us the desire to know Jesus and  
say our 'Yes' to his invitation to spread  
the joy of the Gospel.*

*We ask for the gift of hope as you  
guide us in our search for purpose and  
meaning in our lives.*

*We pray together as young people that  
we may love and care for all of creation.*

*We make this prayer through Jesus  
Christ our Lord, our brother and our  
companion, who lives with you and the  
Father forever and ever. Amen.*

# CCD Jubilee Year

## 60 Years in Australia

*In Australia, the CCD today is a parish support agency with a long history that reveals the importance of catechesis and ongoing renewal for mission.*

Many other "historical soundings" point to the important place of catechesis in renewal; for instance, French philosopher-theologian, Jean Gerson (1363-1429), asserted that Church renewal begins with the religious instruction of the young and, later, apostolic religious orders, such as the Marists in the early-mid 1800s, reached out and catechised whole families through teaching children when, after the French revolutions, up to four generations had not been sent a priest.

### CCD's Historical Context: 1536-1962

**1536:** CCD has its origins in 16th Century Milan, Italy. Abbate Castellino da Castello founded the Society of Christian Doctrine to enable laity to catechise other laity in response to a religious-social upheaval issuing from "over the Alps" – a "reformation" – that challenged the inappropriate selling of blessings and how God is present to us through the sacraments.

This initiative was supported by the Archbishop of Milan, Saint Charles Borromeo, who directed that this work take part in all parishes in his Archdiocese.

#### Early 1560s:

- a wealthy Milanese nobleman, Marco de Sadis-Cusani, joined by a number of associates, priests and laymen, took the Society of Christian Doctrine to Rome to instruct both children and adults.
- This was greatly extended by Henri Pietra of Piacenza who left his business, became a priest, and, with help from Saint Philip Neri, brought many to encounter God. The Society then became known as the "Confraternity of Christian Doctrine"

**1571:** Pope Pius V calls for the CCD to be established in every Parish.

**1686:** Pope Innocent XI's encyclical again

recommends the establishment of CCD to all Bishops.

**1905:** Pope Pius X, Acerbo Nimis, calls for the CCD "to be canonically established in each and every parish ... in all dioceses of the world" in acknowledging clerical scarcity and the importance of catechetical formation of clergy and lay catechists.

**1920s-1930s:** Pope Pius X, concerned that the catechetical provisions of The Code of Canon Law (1917) were not being adopted, reiterates the call for the catechetical movement to be promoted universally – see Orben Catholicum (1923) and Provido sane consilio (1935).

### Foundations of CCD in Australia

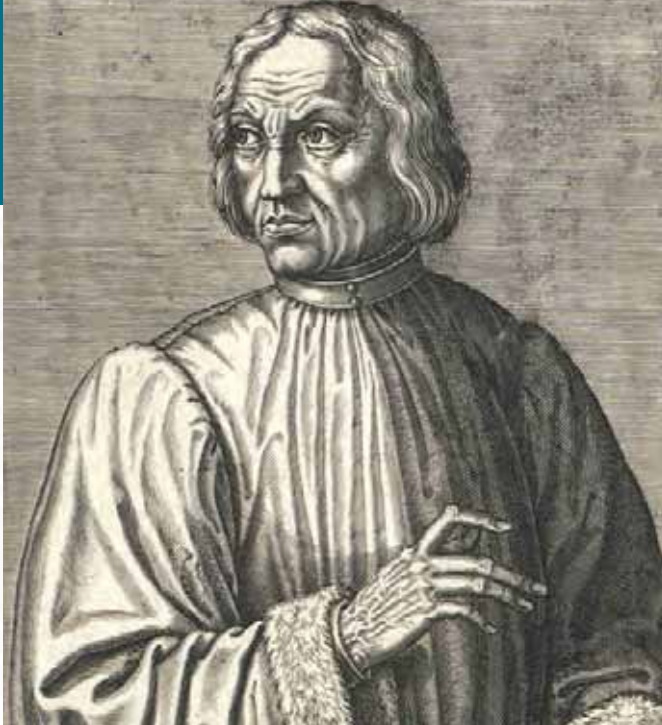
When English settlers arrived in Botany Bay, a significant number of their convict prisoners were Irish Catholics, who were banned from practicing their faith.

Over the years, Catholics in Australia – convicts and free people combined – petitioned the government for priests to attend to their sacramental and service needs. There were riots, floggings and rebellions, but eventually they were able to build a Cathedral in Sydney and churches in other parts of the colony.

When Archbishop Bede Polding, the first Bishop of Australia arrived, he split the colony into dioceses including Sydney, Parramatta, Campbelltown, Maitland, Bathurst, Goulburn and more – many of which remain today.

Teaching children was the responsibility of local priests who travelled around to communities to teach and minister. As the colony grew beyond a settlement for convicts, the government took more of an interest in children's education and passed the Public Instruction Act 1880 that made education a state matter – it had to be free, non-church and compulsory. Time was set aside for Special Religious Education (taught by the clergy), but as the Catholic education system grew, Catholics were directed by the Bishops to send their children to Catholic schools;





French philosopher-theologian, Jean Gerson (1363-1429)

if this was not practical, due to distance for instance, dispensation had to be sought from their Parish Priest.

The historical information below demonstrates how SRE continues as a partnership between Church and State that benefits our multicultural, multi-faith society today.

## Australian pastoral context of Catholic students in State Schools

**Context:** to favour the establishment of a Catholic school system in Australia, Catholic clergy were not allowed to teach religion in State Schools, given Cardinal Moran's concern for the spiritual welfare of Catholic children.

**1918:** The Sisters of Charity establish the Teresians, a group of lay women to help prepare state school Catholic children to receive the sacraments.

**1934:** Australian Bishops officially lift the prohibition on lay Catholic catechists entering State schools whilst clergy are still prohibited. Catholic parents who enroll their child in a state school where a Catholic school is available are deemed guilty of a mortal sin.

**1936:** Acknowledgement of pastoral needs of Catholic students in state schools is highlighted by Rev O'Connor, Sydney Archdiocese's Inspector of Schools.

**1938:** Archbishop Kelly provides indulgences for CCD to be established in Sydney parishes in accordance with the 1917 Code of Canon Law, no. 711 §2.

**1945:** The Catholic Weekly reports that over 300 Catechist Guild teachers are giving religious instruction to 5,465 Catholic students in State schools.

**1951:** Diocesan Synod of Sydney reiterates the

policy of the past 70 years: "Parents who send their children to non-Catholic schools without the requisite permission are guilty of grave sin" (NB: the context is concern for children's spiritual welfare).

**28 Sept 1955:** Sydney Archdiocese survey reveals 18,000 Catholic children attend State Schools.

**20 Dec 1955:** At the Sydney Archdiocese Clergy Conference, Cardinal Gilroy states: "Every Public School must be visited regularly. Instruction should also be given outside school hours if practicable."

**26 June 1957:** Cardinal Gilroy calls for the CCD to be officially (re-) established in the Archdiocese of Sydney

**1958:** Sydney's Auxiliary Bishop (later Cardinal) James Freeman was tasked with the establishment of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine in Sydney, which then spread throughout Australia.

**1960:** CCD archives: "The Cardinal asked that thought be given to ways of improving the catechetics at Manly [Seminary]."

Fr Ron Hine, CCD Secretariat, requests Fr James Madden, Seminary Rector, to consider introducing a catechetics course for seminarians. Fr Hine sees the need to complete theoretical training with practical catechetical experience.

**1962:** Cardinal Gilroy to Fr Ron Hine, "I am deeply grateful for all that you personally have done to assist the young priests to teach Catechism. This is a most important exercise of Sacred Ministry" (Gilroy, 1962).

## CCD today

CCD (Sydney) supports 1900 Parish catechists who teach 27,000 students in 330 schools around the Archdiocese.

CCD Faith Education Officers (FEOs) liaise with parishes and public schools to uphold both child safety and educational requirements of our Archdiocese and government to enable us to pray with and teach children in our public schools.

To uphold and develop these requirements, in consultation with the NSW Department of Education, CCD Sydney collaborates with the eleven other NSW Catholic dioceses who form the Catholic Conference of Religious Educators in State Schools (CCRESS), the Inter-Church Commission of Religious Educators in State Schools (ICCOREIS) and the All Faiths SRE group. CCD agencies also collaborate nationally via the National CCD forum.



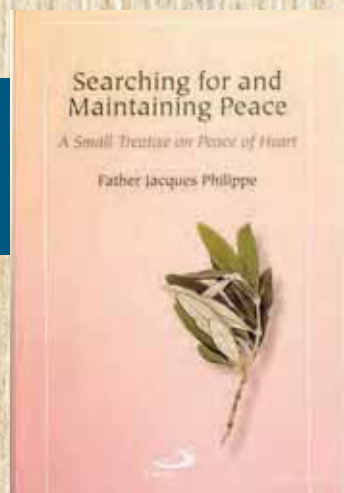
# Meet **your** 2020 Mustard Seed Customer Service team

You should by now have received all the Catechist resources required to start the year off! If you've placed your order but, still not received it, please call us and we can track it.

We also have the Burning Bush Merit stickers and just released our posters of the Our Father & Hail Mary. These are only \$2.45 each.



From left: Atef, Grace, Eleanor, Dominic and Priscilla



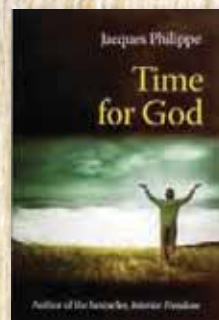
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