CATECHIST NEWS

Dear Catechists,

Welcome to the Feb/March issue of the Catechist Newsletter.

A very warm welcome also to the many new volunteers who have attended training and will be praying with and teaching our parish children in their local public schools very soon.

This edition of the newsletter is jam packed with lots of information - we hope you enjoy reading the articles.

Of particular note, our initial training units, 1.4 and 1.5 have been changed to address training course feedback from new volunteers asking for even more classroom management and in-class skills.

May God bless your wonderful outreach in schools this year.

From your CCD Parish Catechist Support Team

*CCD NEWSLETTER INFORMATION/LINKS ARE FOR CATECHIST PERSONAL USE ONLY

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Photo by Giovanni Portelli. Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP with the 2020 Service Award Recipients.





Meet the CCD Team

Meet the great people that work at CCD Sydney. Each month we will feature one of our staff in this newsletter.

This month we meet Priscilla Donovan - Bookshop Assistant for the Mustard Seed Bookshop. Priscilla commenced working at the CCD bookshop in 2011 (previously known as Sydney Catholic Books & Resources) and now is a valuable member of the Mustard Seed Bookshop since 2017. You may have spoken to Priscilla when ordering COLAL books or sacramental workbooks, or when calling the CCD office for any queries.

In my spare time I enjoy walking, scrapbooking and gardening.

My coffee order is a long black with a dash of lactose-free milk.

My ideal travel destination - too many to pick just one! Remembering we live in the greatest travel destination in the world - Australia!

The best gift you could give me is more years with my dearly departed parents....oh and world peace!!

Three saints I would invite to dinner are St Joseph, St Ann, and St Thomas More.

My favourite Bible verse is John 6:35 "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."







Catechist Coordinator Reminders

- Green Authorisation Cards if you have a new priest this year, new green cards must be signed by your new priest to be issued to all catechists.
- Training Course changes to units 1.4 and 1.5 to focus on more classroom management and practical in class skills - see training course outline on page 19.
- New Recruits check on your new catechists to see if they have any questions. Pass on the CCD E-newsletter for up-to-date news, events and classroom tips: https://ccd.sydneycatholic.org/publications/newsletter/

Teacher Manuals - ensure catechists teaching Kindy, Year 1 and Year 2 have been given an updated Teacher's Manual (now 4th Edition) to go with the three (3) new Activity Books, which are now in colour with revised lessons.

SAVE THE DATES:

Eastern/Northern Area Coordinator Meeting: Monday 5 July 2021 at Polding Centre, 133 Liverpool St, Sydney.

Southern Area Coordinator Meeting: Friday 2 July 2021 at Brighton or Thursday 8 July 2021 at Miranda.

Other area meetings will be advised.

Frequently asked questions about training:

Q. I am "only" a catechist helper. What training must I do?

Both Catechists and Catechist Helpers are SRE Teachers and must be trained in Safeguarding, Classroom Management and Using the Curriculum in accordance with Archdiocesan and NSW Department of Education (DoE) requirements. Refer to the Training Course Outline on page 19 for further details.

Q. I am a qualified teacher. What training must I do?

Qualified teachers need to undertake initial and ongoing training that is specific to SRE, as do all SRE teachers (Catechist and Helpers), in accordance with Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney's annual assurance to the NSW DoE.

Q. Why must I complete 'Using the Authorised Curriculum' face-to-face?

The face-to-face training provides hands-on training in the use of the Teacher's Manual and Activity Book related to the year group you are teaching or assisting.

Christ Our Light and Life SRE Curriculum - Teachers Manuals and Activity Books

Curriculum Update for 2021:

Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 activity books are now in colour. Both teachers manuals and activity books have been revised to a 4th Edition.





Genuine Olive Wood Timber crosses
"Made in Italy"
now available at
The Mustard Seed Bookshop:

approx. 21cm \$28.95 approx. 10cm \$14.95

Ideal for your prayer place!

For all book orders and merchandise queries contact: books@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

Phone queries to:
Priscilla or Eleanor on 9307 8340
ccd.sydneycatholic.org
www.mustardseed.org.au



"It's more than just teaching, it's a ministry."

Do you want to learn the art of Youth Ministry and incorporate your new skills in the classroom?

The Sydney Catholic Youth office will be conducting a Youth Ministry workshop for all our High School Catechists and those who have a desire to teach High School students.

Learn the skills of engaging young people in ministry and effectively sharing your personal testimony.

This is a series of FOUR workshops, with the first held on Friday 29 January 2021.

Next workshops will be held on:

Friday 9 April 2021

Friday 2 July 2021

Friday 24 September 2021

Come and join us and equip yourself for the new year.

For further details and bookings email: Vincent.Haber@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au



FEAST DAYS

8 March St John of God

9 March St Frances of Rome

> 17 March St Patrick

18 March St Cyril of Jerusalem

> 19 March St Joseph

25 March
The Annunciation of the

28 March Palm Sunday

"God loves each of us as if there were only one of us" St Augustine

CCD on Youtube

Have you seen our new CCD recruitment videos? Follow the links below:

Video 1 - https://youtu.be/IOtaDbCaVTo

Video 2 - https://youtu.be/dfkSB9IPIDk

Video 3 - https://youtu.be/oVIB7-NUfu0









CCD Faith Formation Series via Zoom



FAITH FORMATION SESSIONS 10.30AM - 11.30AM

RSVP IS ESSENTIAL
BY EMAILING
ANITA LEE:

anita.lee@ccdsydney. catholic.edu.au



Course Training Dates

SRE TRAINING

1.1 - The Role of the SRE Catechist in the Church and the Public School and SRE Safeguarding

Monday 1 Mar Ryde

Saturday 13 Mar 9.45am-1pm WEBINAR via Zoom

Monday 19 April Lidcombe

Tuesday 20 April City
Tuesday 13 July City



Catechists that completed safeguarding in 2017 are now due for the refresher training. See dates below.

Thursday 18 Mar 9.45am-11am City

Wednesday 14 April 9.45am-11am WEBINAR via Zoom
Thursday 27 May 9.45am-11am WEBINAR via Zoom
Monday 21 June 9.45am-11am WEBINAR via Zoom
Monday 30 August 9.45am-11am WEBINAR via Zoom

1.2 - Using The Authorised Curriculum

Monday 1 March

Tuesday 2 March

Monday 8 March

Ryde

Saturday 20 March 9.45am-1pm WEBINAR via Zoom

Friday 19 April Miranda

Monday 26 April Lidcombe

Tuesday 27 April City
Tuesday 20 July City



All courses
commence at
9.45am and
conclude at
2.15pm - unless
specified

Bookings essential due to capacity restrictions

Course Training Dates

SRE TRAINING

1.3 - Classroom Management

Monday 1 March Moorebank

Monday 1 March City

Wednesday 3 March
Saturday 6 March
Monday 8 March
Bass Hill
Tuesday 9 March
Randwick
Monday 15 March
Ryde

Saturday 27 March 9.45am-1pm WEBINAR via Zoom

Monday 3 May Lidcombe

Tuesday 4 May City
Tuesday 27 July City

1.4 - Classroom Management - Insights & Upskilling

Wednesday 21 Apr
Saturday 1 May
Miranda
Wednesday 5 May
Summer Hill
Monday 10 May
Lidcombe
Friday 28 May
Revesby
Monday 31 May
Ryde
Monday 7 June
Bass Hill

1.5 - Classroom Skills and Resources

Wednesday 5 May Brighton
Wednesday 12 May Summer Hill

Saturday 15 May
Miranda
Monday 17 May
Lidcombe
Friday 4 June
Revesby
Monday 7 June
Ryde
Monday 21 June
Bass Hill

Brighton: St Thomas More Parish Hall, 298 Bay Street, Brighton-Le-Sands

City: Polding Centre, 133 Liverpool St, Sydney

Dulwich Hill: St Paul of the Cross, 532 New Canterbury Rd, Dulwich Hill

Five Dock: All Hallows Parish, 2 Halley Street, FiveDock

Lidcombe: St Joachim's Parish Hall, 31-33 John Street, Lidcombe

Miranda: CCD Centre, 50 Kiora Rd, Miranda

Moorebank:St Joseph's Parish Hall, 231 Newbridge Rd, MoorebankRevesby:St Luke the Evangelist Parish, 1 Beaconsfield St, RevesbyRandwick:The Parish & National Shrine of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart

193 Avoca St, Randwick

Ryde: St Charles Borromeo Parish, 582 Victoria Rd, Ryde Summer Hill: St Patrick's Parish, 5 Drynan St, Summer Hill



All courses
commence at
9.45am and
conclude at
2.15pm - unless
specified

Bookings essential due to capacity restrictions

Course Training Dates

SRE TRAINING

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

2.1	Monday 3 May	Mooorebank
2.2	Monday 10 May	Moorebank
2.3	Monday 17 May	Moorebank
2.4	Monday 24 May	Moorebank
2.5	Monday 31 May	Moorebank

Note: this series of Level 2 will be held during school holidays

2.1	Monday 28 June	City
2.2	Wednesday 30 June	City
2.3	Friday 2 July	City
2.4	Tuesday 6 July	City
2.5	Thursday 8 July	City

Monday 12 July	Dulwich Hill
Monday 19 July	Dulwich Hill
Monday 26 July	Dulwich Hill
Monday 2 August	Dulwich Hill
Monday 9 August	Dulwich Hill
	Monday 19 July Monday 26 July Monday 2 August

2.1	Thursday 22 July	Miranda
2.2	Thursday 29 July	Miranda
2.3	Thursday 5 August	Miranda
2.4	Thursday 12 August	Miranda
2.5	Thursday 19 August	Miranda

Level 3 - Holy Spirit Gathering a People for God

3.1	Friday 23 July	City
3.2	Friday 30 July	City
3.3	Friday 6 August	City
3.4	Friday 13 August	City
3.5	Friday 20 August	Citv

Please contact your FEO if you have any questions regarding the above training dates.

RSVP is essential for all training sessions as Covid-19 restrictions apply.

Bookings: office@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

OR Phone: 9307 8330

Remember to include: your full name, email address, contact phone number (preferably mobile number), home address (to send out booklets for Webinars via Zoom), Parish name, date and time of training.



Bookings essential due to capacity restrictions



2020 CCRESS Conference

Last November from 17-19 November the CCRESS conference was held in the Diocese of Armidale.

CCRESS conferences are held in May and November each year and the various dioceses across NSW take turns in hosting. The next conference will be held in May 2021, and will take place here in the Archdiocese of Sydney.

Each NSW-ACT Catholic Diocese provides a ministry to families, who choose Special Religious Education (SRE) for their children in public schools, through sending volunteer Parish Catechists and Helpers, who are trained as SRE teachers, to hand on Jesus's Good News. Therefore, CCRESS exists to assist our NSW-ACT Bishops by supporting their commitment to provide trained and resourced Catechists as SRE teachers and by collaborating with SRE Providers of other faiths, the NSW Department of Education and our politicians to uphold religious choice of families.

For more information on CCRESS, see: https://www.ccress.org.au/



CCRESS representatives from our NSW-ACT Catholic Dioceses gathered in Armidale.

2020 Annual Archdiocesan Catechist Mass celebrated on Sunday 7 February 2021 at St Mary's Cathedral Sydney













Congratulations to all our Service Award recipients.

We are grateful for the services of all our SRE Catechists who selflessly volunteer their time and talents in spreading the good news to students in Public Schools and their families.

May God bless you all.

Thank you to Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP for celebrating our Annual Catechist Mass and for his words of affirmation and support.

Read the full homily here:

https://www.sydneycatholic.org/homilies/2021/homily-for-mass-of-the-5th-sunday-ordinary-time-year-b/?fbclid=IwAR0VyWGJ8cDw648SmVye5ZtjNJX5UnEgWrwAbPrylFc0LfqauZuqQgWAQX0

Spotlight on Jamelie Morabito - Denistone Parish

Jamelie, our team's longest-serving catechist, has chalked up a an incredible 40 years in Year 2. Jamelie said she never graduated to Year 3!

Her contribution was acknowledged at St Mary's Cathedral with many other catechists, on Sunday 7 February 2021. Under Jamelie's watchful eye, the children have enjoyed her joyful and enthusiastic personality and the treats she occasionally brought to enrich her lessons. Jamelie recalled how years ago she could hand out jelly rings when teaching about the Marriage Feast at Cana and spearmint leaves for St Patrick's Day. Those days are sadly past.

Still, as energetic and most recently as a helper in Year 2, it has taken Covid to slow down her catechetic program. So, for the time being, Jamelie is resting from her role until things settle down. Her friends at Denistone Parish wish her well and congratulate her on the outstanding commitment she has shown to the children at Denistone East.

Written by Louise Brady.





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 reinventing the wheel.
- 3. In Kindy 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, i.e. how they enter the classroom, move from one activity to the next, distribute books, set up the prayer place, 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.
- 7. 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. Read your teacher's manual, whether it is new or familiar to you. You need to be familiar with each lesson and be aware of the lesson's aim, the 'TO REMEMBER'.
- 9. Always have a backup plan in case the technology fails.
- 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.

Time Management Tip

Anne Carruthers, a catechist from the Western Area, sets her phone alarm five minutes before the end of the lesson. This routine allows her to conclude the lesson with prayer and the *To Remember*.



Classroom Rules

- I Listen and follow instructions
- I allow one person to speak at a time
- I raise my hand and wait to speak
- I use all equipment safely
- I speak politely and use my manners







Catechist Corner

Social Media and Photos/Videos

From our initial induction/refresher 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 in the Department's 'Code of Conduct Procedures'.

Simply put:

- no photos/videos to be taken of students
- no "be-friending" on private social media accounts

Project Compassion

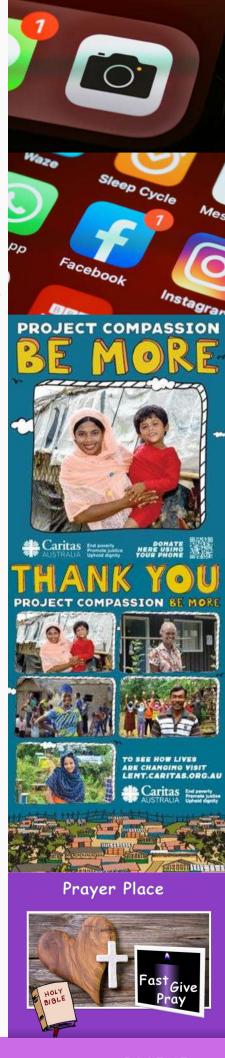
We do not collect Project Compassion fundraising money from students in public schools. Rather we raise their awareness of the needs of others, via teaching our authorised curriculum. If students say they do want to contribute, catechists simply direct them to ask their parents/carers to go to their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

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.

Resource

PRINT, LAMINATE AND DISPLAY!

For Term 1 when teaching Lent, here is a prayer place resource you can print and laminate in A4 or A3 size to display in a prominent place in the classroom (see page 18 for a printable copy).



LITURGICAL CALENDAR DATES

March

7th 3rd Sunday of Lent 14th 4th Sunday of Lent 17th St Patrick's Day 19th Feast of St Joseph 21st 5th Sunday of Lent

25th The Annunciation of the Lord

28th Passion of the Lord – Palm Sunday

April

1st The Lord's Supper – Holy Thursday

2nd Good Friday
3rd Easter Vigil

4th Easter Sunday

11th 2nd Sunday of Easter18th 3rd Sunday of Easter

25th 4th Sunday of Easter / ANZAC Day

TEACHING LENT & HOLY WEEK LESSONS

Lent is a time the Church prepares to celebrate the great feast of Easter. Use a purple prayer cloth – purple because we are preparing for a feast. 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. Part of this is reproduced below:

Kindergarten

- Holy Week: the washing of the feet and the Last Supper.
- Easter Sunday: we celebrate Jesus rising to a new life.

Year 1

- 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.

Tip:
Plan ahead
to cover
The Holy Week
lessons leading
up to the
end of Term 1 (ie
last day of Term
is Thursday 1
April)

Year 2

- 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.

Year 3

- 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.

Year 4

- Lent: a time for change almsgiving and making sacrifices.
- Holy Week : the Stations of the Cross.
- Rejoice Jesus is risen.

Year 5

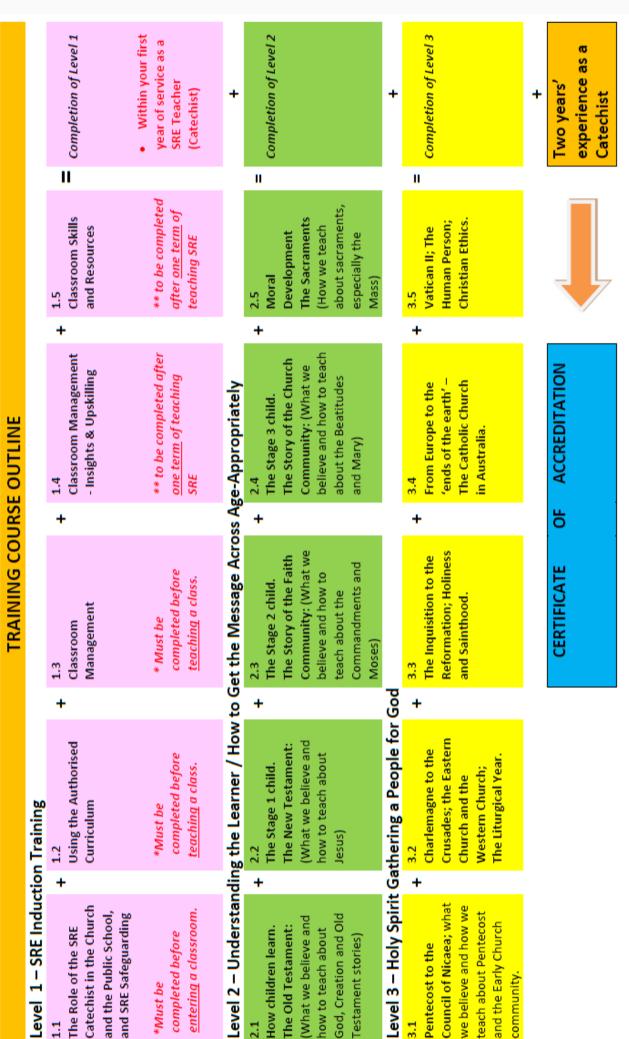
- During Lent we are called to reach out to others as Jesus did.
- Lent is the season of forty days when we prepare to celebrate the death and Resurrection of the Lord Jesus during Holy Week and Easter.
- In Holy Week we remember the rejection, suffering, death and Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ.
- The Easter vigil is the most important liturgy of the Church.

Year 6

- 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.



https://ccd.sydneycatholic.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Training-course-outline-FEB-2021.pdf



Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD Sydney)/Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney/Version Feb 2021

Contact Us

For all general enquiries, please contact the CCD office on 9307 8330. If the office is unattended, kindly leave a message and your call will be attended to as soon as practical. Alternatively, your Faith Education Officer can be contacted via email as listed below.

CCD TEAM AND CONTACT DETAILS

CCD DIRECTOR: Doug Mawhinney Email: office@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

CCD OFFICE/ADMINISTRATION: Laura Argiro Mon/Tue/Wed

Verna Wing Wed/Thur/Fri

Email: office@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

FAITH EDUCATION OFFICERS (FEOs)

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

NORTHERN AREA: Anita Lee

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

SOUTHERN AREA:

denise.humphreys@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au Denise Humphreys

Josie D'acciaro josie@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

Please note new email for Josie

Christine Zakaria

WESTERN AREA:

Teresa Culjak teresa.culjak@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au Vincent Haber vincent.haber@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO CATECHISTS

The CCD PO BOX is no longer in use.

All mail is to be addressed to:

CCD Sydney, Level 6, Polding Centre, 133 Liverpool Street, **SYDNEY NSW 2000.**



ccd_sydney



CCD Sydney -Catholic Scripture in Public Schools

Level 6, Polding Centre, **133 Liverpool Street** SYDNEY NSW 2000

Phone: 9307 8330

Website: ccd.sydneycatholic.org