

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FAITH EDUCATORS (CATECHISTS AND PARENTS)

Dear Catechists and Parents,

Kindly take note of the following points:

1. These outlines are not meant to be given to students for self-study. They are written primarily to aid faith educators (catechists and parents) in their lesson preparation.
2. The outlines contain important contents that need to be unpacked for students in their learning of the lessons. In other words, these outlines greatly help but do not replace the need for proper lesson preparation.
3. The outlines are written based on a detailed curriculum that has been prepared to ensure that all important aspects of faith are covered for students from age 7 (Primary 1) to age 16 (Secondary 4).
4. The outlines are prepared based on an entire narrative of the Christian Story. Within the framework of this Christian Story (or Salvation History), contents covered in the *Malaysian Catechetical Series* and other important references (such as Scripture, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, and other Church documents) are incorporated into it at the various appropriate points of the framework.
5. For the benefit of many urban young people, some Scriptural interpretations and apologetics are also included in the lessons. Whether or not we care to acknowledge it, the proliferation of ideas, good and bad, on the media has radically transformed the way our young people engage in discourses on matters of life and faith. To provide merely bare basic information for them may be to answer questions that they are not asking. If we do not seek to provide credible answers to their questions, we may be dismayed at answers they obtain from unfamiliar sources.
6. The outlines are prepared based on three cycles of catechism teaching/learning, and then a season of preparation (catechesis) for the Sacrament of Confirmation:

Basic Cycle	:	Ages 7 to 9
Intermediate Cycle	:	Ages 10 to 12
Advanced Cycle	:	Ages 13 to 16

Each cycle subsequent to the basic cycle focuses on a deepening of the knowledge, understanding, and relevant interpretations of the cycle(s) before it.

7. The lessons that are relevant to your students and children are as follows:

Age 7	:	Lesson 1 to 17 (Basic cycle)
Age 8	:	Lesson 18 to 35 (Basic cycle)
Age 9	:	Lesson 36 to 51 (Basic cycle)
Age 10	:	Lesson 1 to 17 (Intermediate cycle)
Age 11	:	Lesson 18 to 35 (Intermediate cycle)
Age 12	:	Lesson 36 to 51 (Intermediate cycle)
Age 13	:	Lesson 1 to 17 (Advanced cycle)
Age 14	:	Lesson 18 to 35 (Advanced cycle)
Age 15	:	Lesson 36 to 51 (Advanced cycle)
Age 16	:	Lesson 52 to 63 (Advanced cycle)

8. All passages from Sacred Scripture are quoted from the *New Jerusalem Bible*. CCC stands for the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. CIC stands for the *1983 Code of Canon Law*. Where other Church documents are cited, the names of those documents are fully mentioned.

The preparation of this series of catechetical lessons has been deeply heartfelt for me. I have prepared these lessons not merely as a theologian or an academician. As a father myself, I have made it a point to include into these lessons everything that I desire for my son to know as he grows in the faith of the Holy Catholic Church.

I prayerfully commend these lessons to you and hope that you will find them helpful in your role as witnesses of the faith to the students, your children.

Most sincerely,

Sherman Kuek OFS

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Cornelius Cardinal Sim Professor of Theology and Dialogue

Nihil obstat

+ Rt Rev. Paul Tan Chee Ing, SJ
Bishop Emeritus of Melaka Johor
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