



THE CATECHIST NEWSLETTER

Dear Catechists,

This is being written, having just returned from a very fruitful pilgrimage with my lovely wife, to the Holy Land and Rome. It was a deep and rich experience where there was much to learn and much to encounter.

Foremost, was the reminder of the real existence of Jesus Christ, in particular seeing the archaeological and historical evidence, even beyond the Bible, that He lived on earth and did the things we read about in scripture. One particularly moving place visited was the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. It is a massive old building that covers Calvary, the resurrection tomb and other amazing places. We were able to visit these places where Jesus actually lived, hear good information about them and have extended times of prayer.

When we travelled onto Rome, you were all prayed for in a special way at Mass and in St Peter's Basilica. Again, I was very conscious of the important mission we have of proclaiming the truth and love of Jesus. As we know, His life also involved suffering, a reality that we remember in a special way at this time of the year. Jesus, who lived, suffered, died and rose again.

Perhaps too, in the suffering that many of us are experiencing with the many things happening in our Church, it may be

good, again to focus on the suffering Christ. As we do this we also remember the power of His resurrection, this is a power that has the capacity to turn all things to good. And in a very practical way, if the current media focus on the Church is impacting you or your mission in any way, please feel free to contact your coordinator, Priest or myself for support

A focus in this Term's newsletter is on Mary the Mother of Jesus. May in the Catholic Church is known as the month of Mary and it is a time where we remember her life and the extraordinary gift that she brought into the world. We don't worship Mary, but honour her as a great role model and intercessor for us all (Heb12:1).

Because Mary is present in the Bible you are able to use these resources in one of your lessons if you would like to. Those catechists using the 'Jesus Christ our Light and Life' curriculum will find a nice link with some of your lessons.

You will also find a very good document on self care. This has been created for Christian Ministers, however, it can be used within the lives many of us find ourselves. From what I have observed, those who use these principles, have fruitful lives and do so with joy. I highly recommend this to you

Thanks again and blessings,

Matt



*Let the little children come to me
(Mtt:19.14)*



St James, Adelong, NSW



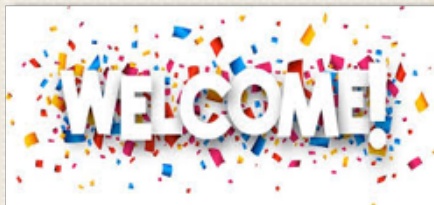
Deacon Matt and Cathy in
Jerusalem

In This Mailout

We Will Flourish - a resource created for Ministers of Religion, however very applicable for our mission as Catechists.

Teaching Resources - for you on Mary the Mother of God and the Rosary.

Youth Magazine - Thanks again to the producers of 'Kingdom Revelator' for this great resource.



To our new volunteers

Samantha McCubbin - Ungarie

Cate Webb - Holy Rosary, Watson



May 4, Saturday - Hayden Hall, Manuka

May 6, Monday - Bermagui

May 30, Thursday - Nimmitabel

May 31, Friday - Young

June 1, Saturday - Tumut

From Pope Francis

Pope Francis warned Wednesday that pride is the most dangerous attitude in the Christian life, pointing out that even the holiest of people have received everything from God.

"Before God we are all sinners," Francis said. "If we say we are without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us," he said quoting the first epistle of John.

The pope said that pride is "the most dangerous attitude of every Christian life," warning that arrogance can "also infect people who live an intense religious life."

We love because we have been loved

"There are glaring sins that make noise, and there are also devious sins, which lurk in the heart without us even realising it. The worst of these is pride," Francis said.

The sin of pride divides people and makes us presume to be better than others, he explained. "We always remain children who owe everything to the Father."

Pope Francis called this principle the "mystery of the moon," which has no light of its own, but reflects the light of the sun.

"We love because we have been loved we forgive because we have been forgiven," he said. "None of us shines with our own light." The pope said that understanding this can give us a greater empathy for others.

(www.catholicnewsagency.com)

Catechists Self Reflection

NSW Catechists are now required to participate in some form of teaching reflection. This can be done by using the template sent earlier in the year or asking a colleague or teacher to sit in on a class. ACT Catechists are welcome to participate in this, if they choose.

Working With Children Check's and Working With Vulnerable People Card

Throughout 2019 your Children's Check or Working with Vulnerable People Card may need to be renewed. Could you please notify us when this occurs and remember that you must not work with children unless the details are current.



Great Websites

There are many excellent websites for Catechists. In this section, we will feature some of them;

Living By Design

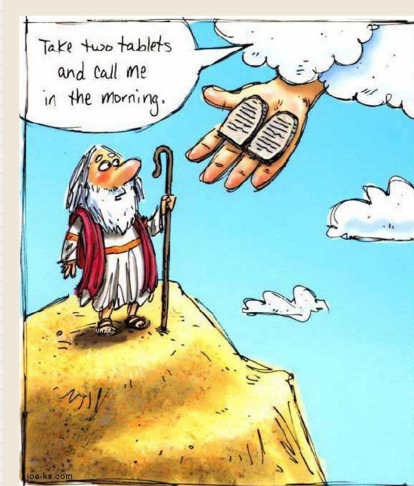
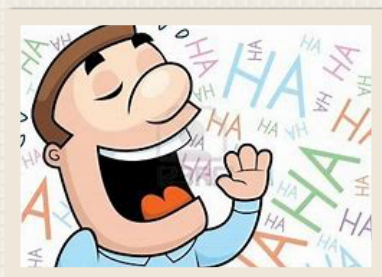
www.livingbydesign.org/
self-care-christian-women/

Great ideas on how look after yourselves and others.



St Peter's Basilica, last week!

Some Humour





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