

# The Foundation Course Synopsis

## Part One – Doctrine

### Based on the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* – 14 units

1. I believe in God
2. I believe in Jesus Christ
3. I believe in the Holy Spirit
4. The Holy Trinity
5. Prayer
6. The Holy Catholic Church
7. Sacraments of the Church
8. The Eucharist
9. The Sacrament of Confirmation
10. Sacrament of Reconciliation & Anointing of the Sick
11. Sacraments of Marriage and Holy Orders
12. The Church: Leadership & Precepts
13. Our Father: The Lord's Prayer
14. Mary, Mother of God

## PARTS 2a & 2b

### The Word of God in Scripture and Liturgy - 12 + 12 units.

#### (a) Old Testament

1. Word of God: Scripture. Psalms: preliminary.
2. Word of God in Liturgy: Scripture
3. 3 Liturgy of the Word: Easter and Christmas. Canticles.
4. Patriarchs: Covenant.
5. Moses; Exodus; Passover/Paschal Vigil. Sinai

6. Religion of the Israelites: pre-Sacramental signs; Feasts; Sacrifice; Ark
7. Kingdom, David, Solomon, Temple. Presence of God with his people. Penitential Psalms.
8. Divided Kingdom. Prophecy 1: Elijah, Amos, Hosea and the important aspects of religious insight that developed from their inspired speech/activity/personalities
9. Prophecy 2: Southern Kingdom. First Isaiah. Josiah's reform. Jeremiah. Exile. Servant Songs of Isaiah 2 in Liturgy of Passion Sunday and Good Friday.
10. Prophecy 3: Ezekiel. Insights from Exile related to Psalms and Feasts.
11. Wisdom (include Universalism): Song of Songs (Bridal Concept:); Daniel (Son of Man) Messianic prophecies, including Isaiah. Advent/Christmas Liturgy of Word. Christ related Psalms.
12. Creation Genesis Proverbs. Fall set beside Annunciation. Noah. Water. Last Prophet John the Baptist. Developing understanding of Spirit e.g., in Creation.

**(b) New Testament**

1. Preaching the word. Kerygma. Pentecost. Acts. Formation of Gospel Narratives. Epistles.
2. Synoptic Gospels. John the Baptist. Baptism of the Lord. Temptation.
3. Kingdom inaugurated. Miracles. Call of the disciples.
4. Gospel of St John: Cana; Temple; Nicodemus; The Samaritan Woman.
5. Sermon on the Mount. Prayer. the Father. Daily Prayer of the Church.
6. Opposition. Preaching and signs. Feeding of the 5,000.
7. Parables.
8. Challenges to attitudes in Palestine. 'Who do men say that I am?' Passion Predictions. Suffering and cost of discipleship. Transfiguration.
9. Gospel of John: Jesus in Jerusalem; He replaces religion of the Old Law; Gospel of Mark: Events prior to the Passion. Eschatological Discourse.
10. Prologue to the Passion: a) Lazarus and Bethany. b) Last Supper. The Passion, Narrative in Mark's Gospel
11. Post-resurrection understanding of the crucifixion as found especially in the writings of Saints Paul and John. Easter: Resurrection, Exaltation, Ascension.
12. Christ the King. Title Christology in the New Testament. The Good Shepherd. The Book of Revelation. Includes material for Prayer and Meditation

## **Part Three – Life in Christ**

### **CCC & Veritatis Splendor - 12 units**

1. 'What good deed must I do?'
2. God the source of goodness
3. Law and Freedom
4. Natural Law and Conscience
5. Practical Conscience
6. The Ten Commandments
7. 'What do I still lack?'
8. Responding to Grace
9. Rejection of Grace
10. Lo, I am with you always
11. Responsibility
12. 'Follow Me' 'if you wish to be perfect...'

## **Part Four – Sowing the Seed**

### **General Directory for Catechesis - 12 units**

#### **Unit One**

Part A: Introduction

Part B: About Being Catholic – Listen! What is it that God is saying?

#### **Unit Two**

Part A: (Part 1, Chapter 1)

Part B: How does it work in your parish? God's revelation and mandate to teach others

#### **Unit Three**

Part A: (Part 1, Chapter 2)

Part B: Baptism; Church and Systematic Catechesis

#### **Unit Four**

Part A: (Part 1, Chapter 3)

Part B: Initiation; Catechetical Process

**Unit Five**

Part A: (Part 2 Chapter 1)

Part B: Presenting Scripture; Christ the centre of the Gospel Message

**Unit Six**

Part A: (Part 2, Chapter 2)

Part B: Prayer and How to Pray; The Catechism of the Catholic Church

**Unit Seven**

Part A: (Part 3, Chapter 1)

Part B: The Holy Spirit and Confirmation; Divine Teaching

**Unit Eight**

Part A: (Part 3, Chapter 2)

Part B: Approach to Planning; Resources

**Unit Nine**

Part A: (Part 4, Chapter 1-2)

Part B. Plan Session; Catechesis for all the baptised.

**Unit Ten**

Part A: (Part 4 Chapter 3-4)

Part B. Planning a celebration; Devotions and the Mass

**Unit Eleven**

Part A: (Part 5, Chapter 1)

Part B: Christian Life in the Diocese; Diocese and Holy Orders

**Unit Twelve**

(Part 5 Chapter 2-4)

Part B: Analysis

Part A: Catechetical Formation