

# *Light and Life*

Term 2, 2011

## WORLD YOUTH DAY JMJ 2011 MADRID

## *Public School Winners*



Archdiocese of Sydney  
CCD Newsletter

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## FRONT COVER

From left to right: Denis Sylvester, Julie Pham, Victoria Costello and Theresa Maree Coyle.

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Mimi Jane Rivera (02) 9390 5122 for RSVPs

## FAITH EDUCATION OFFICERS

Central	Sarah Christie
Eastern	Robert Milan
Northern	Philomena Middeldorp
Southern	Denise Humphreys
Western	Teresa Culjak

## NEWSLETTER & COVER ARTWORK

Mimi Jane Rivera

## From the Director, Robert Haddad

Dear Catechists,

I hope you all enjoyed a blessed Easter season!



**Curriculum Update** The work continues steadily. Year 5 has now been drafted and edited and has been sent to our graphic artist for completion. There appears little doubt that K-6 will be completed well before the end of 2011.

**Ethics Update** I have received feedback from those FEOs where Ethics classes have commenced in their areas. So far, the impact on our student numbers in Years 5-6 has been minimal (around 40 students). We will continue to monitor the situation from time to time.

**Basic One Success** Basic One accreditation was introduced for the first time at the beginning of this year. The uptake was incredible, with over 200 catechists enrolling into and completing the one day course. This has resulted in boosting the overall percentage of our catechists with some form of accreditation from 40% to 50%.

**Census 2011** I wish to extend a word of thanks to all catechist coordinators who have already completed and submitted their 2011 census statistics. I particularly look forward to the figures from the Eastern Area. Would remaining Coordinators please submit their completed census forms as soon as possible.

**High School Catechist Project** The High School Catechist Project continues to steadily grow. I am pleased to announce that there are now 14 participating Catholic high schools involved and over 220 students teaching or assisting with the provision of SRE in 20 primary schools. Continued expansion is envisaged.

**Community Engagement** Initial contacts have been made with the Australian Catholic University to consider recognising the teaching of SRE as a form of Community Engagement. It is hoped that this would supply many more university students to teach SRE to public schools, especially secondary schools. More to come.

**Denise Humphreys** I would like to wish Denise all the best during her time working on the new sacramental program. I look forward to seeing her return sometime before the Annual Catechist Mass.

Robert Haddad

## From the Faith Education Officers

### EASTERN

#### **Robert Milan**

Thank you to St Andrew's Catholic Church parish priest Fr. Lawrence Cauchi, catechist coordinator Ms Lee Leo and the Malabar catechists for hosting the Eastern Area Mass for 2011. It was a very enjoyable occasion.



I welcome the growing number of high school students from St Clare's Waverley. Feedback received from the 12 students who participated last year in the High School Student Catechist program encouraged 38 students to express interest this year. The enthusiasm and support is greatly appreciated. Unfortunately, the local public school was unable to accommodate all 38 students.

Thanks to Fr Danai Penollar for securing the involvement of Cathedral College Year 11 senior boys and linking them with Woolloomooloo Public School. There are now eight students teaching at the school.

Coming up in Term 3 is the Eastern Area Coordinator Meeting set down for Monday 1 August from 10:00am-12:30pm. It would be wonderful if all coordinators were present.

The Advanced Accreditation Course commences on Monday 8 August at the Polding Centre from 10:00am-2:00pm. All catechists who have completed Basic One and Two and Intermediate Accreditation are welcome to enrol.

As promised at the February Coordinator meeting, I plan to launch the Eastern Area Candle. I will present it at the August Coordinator Meeting instead of the Area Mass as initially planned. The Eastern Area Mass candle will be passed on from host to host, ready for the following year. This is symbolic of the continuity and connection between all the Eastern Area parishes.

I remind catechist coordinators that I am available for parish recruitment drives. I recommend that recruitment be finalised no later than the end of Term 3 and that a member of the catechist team, good at public relations, take the responsibility of recruitment. Coordinators need not feel that all tasks are their sole responsibility. Delegation works wonders in all aspects of team work.

Robert

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### NORTHERN

#### **Philomena Smith**

Greetings to all catechists from the Northern Area. I hope you had a happy and holy Easter. For many of you Term 1 was over before it felt like it began. Now is the time to reflect back on what you have learnt from your classes and start to apply this in your teaching.



There were excellent numbers at the Basic One courses held around the Northern Area, with over 80 catechists being trained or taking it as a refresher. Many thanks go to all the coordinators who assisted with promotion and organisation of the courses and particularly to Merryl Foster from Ryde who taught her own Basic One course.

The High School Catechist Program continues to expand with 27 Year 10 students from St Aloysius College Milson's Point joining to assist as helpers at Neutral Bay Public School.

As many of you know, Adrian and I married the week after Easter, after a long engagement. The day finally came! We like to thank so many of you for all your prayers, cards and gifts. We were very happy to have some of you present at the nuptial mass. The honeymoon was filled with many highlights as we travelled around Europe and the US. Most memorable was the visit to Pope Benedict XVI in Rome at his Wednesday audience in the newlywed section.

I hope to see many of you at the Northern Area Catechist Mass to be celebrated on Friday 24 June, at Holy Name of Mary, Hunters Hill, starting at 11am. I will bring wedding photos for those interested.

God Bless,

Philomena



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## From the Faith Education Officers

### CENTRAL

#### Sarah Christie

Greetings to all in the Central Area!

As we prepare to wrap up another term, I'd like to reflect on the highlights which have made it both busy and rewarding.

I've recently been training a new group of high school catechists to join you as helpers in primary schools. I am pleased to report that De La Salle Revesby has been among the new schools that have signed up for 2011. It is wonderful to see the students embrace the faith and share it with others. I look forward to recognising their efforts in our Annual Mass in September.



In early May, CCD Sydney hosted the CCRESS conference, which saw CCD directors and staff from all the dioceses of NSW come together to discuss the challenges, progressions and aspirations for Catholic Scripture in public schools. Feedback indicates it was a great success, which can hopefully be translated into improving the SRE experience. Following CCRESS, CCD staff participated in a joint CEC/CCRESS/CEO forum, which saw us discuss ways to better Catholic education in both Catholic and public schools.

We've also recently celebrated the Central Area Mass, which was held at St Christopher's in Panania. I'd like to thank the coordinator Doreen Moore, catechist Noelene Byron and parish priest Father Maurice Thompson for helping to plan the event, as well as all those who assisted, participated and attended the Mass and shared lunch. Interestingly, we're booked up until 2013 with parish requests for holding the Mass, so I'd like to think they've been enjoyable experiences that many of you want to be involved in.

It has been a busy term, and much as I'd love to relax for a moment, I'll now turn my attention to making sure the Annual Mass in September is a smooth success. I hope the Holy Spirit can guide my journey, and all of yours, as we prepare to take on another term.

God bless.

Sarah

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### WESTERN

#### Teresa Culjak

Greetings to all in the Western Area!

It's been a very busy past couple of months here at the CCD.

Key developments in the first half of this year included high school catechist training, which saw almost 60 students from Freeman Catholic College, Patrician Brothers College, and All Saints gather together to take part in training for their volunteer work alongside seasoned catechists in public primary schools across the Western Area. The involvement of these schools and students is a testament to their Christian spirit and desire to share the faith, and we are thrilled with the success of the program as it continues to expand into more schools. We are looking forward to officially thanking our new student catechists at the Annual Catechist Mass in September.



It's also pleasing to report that Accreditation Courses have been very successful with almost 20 catechists participating in the AAC held in Term 1. Coordinators were also in training this year, Kerry Kenny, Mary Pankiw, Toni Whitfield, Maureen Wright and Mimi Romeo. With their help almost 50 catechists have now completed the Basic One in the first half of the year, and these coordinators can now continue to train other catechists in their parish in the near future.

We hope to continue to bolster up these numbers and congratulations to all newly accredited catechists. Just a reminder that the Intermediate Accreditation Course will be starting in Term 3 at St Gertrude's Parish.

Finally, a big thank-you to catechist coordinator Yvonne Vitagliani and catechists from Mary Immaculate, Bossley Park, for organising and preparing the Western Area Mass. It was a beautiful Mass and gave us an opportunity to recognise one another's efforts and ask God to bless our ministry before joining for a shared lunch afterwards.

May the Holy Spirit bless and strengthen you in this ministry as builders of a '*New civilisation of Love*.'

Teresa

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## From the Faith Education Officers

### SOUTHERN

#### Denise Humphreys

The Area Mass was once again well attended. Thank you to Tiffany and the choir for the music, and to Fr John, Bertha and the Sutherland catechists for overall organisation, and to the wonderful catechists and priests who attended. I look forward to seeing many of you again at the Annual Catechist Mass on September 25.



Term 3 can sometimes seem the longest term. The students often seem more restless and the end of the year seems a long way off. You need to keep enforcing those classroom rules. Your classroom management needs to be fair, firm and friendly and consistent.

Hopefully, some of the catechists teaching Year 5 and Year 6 classes will start planning and gathering materials for the Archdiocesan Christmas Story Art Competition. Entries must be handed in by the last day of Term 3.

**Sacramental Update.** The guidelines for the preparation of children for First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation have been given to each parish priest in the Archdiocese of Sydney.

These guidelines mention a set of four lessons for each of these sacraments. This is the task that I am working on at present. The lessons for First Reconciliation will be the first to be completed, then first Holy Communion and finally Confirmation.

There will be a Teacher's Manual and Child's Activity Book for each sacrament. The Child's Activity Book will contain information for parents and children. Each of the lessons will have activities to be done during the session and an extension activity to be completed before the next session.

The four lessons for first Reconciliation are well under way and a selection of parishes have agreed to trial these lessons and provide feedback. This process will continue with each of the sacraments.

Denise

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## From the Business Manager

#### Eddie Kropkowski

The annual bulk ordering period for *Christ our Light and Life* curriculum resources has, as usual, been very hectic and productive. Sales of curriculum have increased by over 6,000 books compared to the same period last year, indicating wide acceptance of the revised 3rd Edition. This increase is not just in the Sydney metropolitan area, but also many rural NSW and interstate parishes. Thank you for your cooperation and patience during the busy delivery process.



As you will no doubt be aware, this year will see the finalisation of the revision project for K-6 as well as the secondary program 7-12. An enormous and satisfying achievement for all staff and individuals involved. We are very proud of the success to date and hope that all catechists will find the revised program easier and more effective for use in the classroom.

Quite a lot of parishes still request small top up orders, which, in the end, only adds to the overall cost to the parish. Unfortunately, in some instances this is unavoidable. Next year with the completion of the 3rd edition, minor over ordering in some cases should be considered. By doing so, parishes will save in the long term on delivery and labour costs.

We are saddened by the departure due to ill health, of long standing bookshop staff member, Nella Ruello in April. We wish her all the best for the future. Nella's replacement is Priscilla Donovan from the Holy Family Parish, Menai. Priscilla will assist Eleanor in the bookshop and perform other admin duties. As a past catechist Priscilla is eager to assist with all your enquiries and resource requirements.



New staff member  
Priscilla Donovan

Eddie

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## Cover Story

The Confraternity of Christian Doctrine conducted an essay writing competition for secondary school students in July 2010. Students were invited to write a 300 word essay on *Why I want to attend World Youth Day in Spain*. In all, four contestants were chosen as winners, each receiving a \$2000 voucher from the Director of CCD, Robert Haddad, to subsidise their trip to Spain this coming August. The prize winners were Denis Sylvester (Homebush Boys), Theresa Coyle (South Sydney High), Julie Pham (Canley Vale High) and Victoria Costello (St George Girls High). We congratulate each of our prize winners and wish them all a joyful and fruitful pilgrimage!



# WORLD YOUTH DAY Public School Winners

## LUNCH & LEARN



"Lunch and Learn" helps catechists grow together in their Catholic Faith.

Venue	St Gertrude's Parish 8 Justin Street, Smithfield
Date	<b>5 August 2011</b>
9:15am	Mass
9:45 - 10:30am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
11:00am	<b>Pornography</b> by Bernard Toutounji
12:30-2:00pm	Lunch (Please bring a plate to share)

You are welcome to attend all or part of the program.  
**RSVP Essential:** CCD on 9390 5122

### Area Coordinator Meetings

Area	Date and Time	Venue	FEO
Western	18 Jul (Mon) 10am to 12:30pm	Liverpool Parish	Teresa
Central	22 Jul (Fri) 10am to 12:30pm	Polding Centre	Sarah
Northern	25 Jul (Mon) 10am to 12:30pm	Polding Centre	Philomena
Southern	29 Jul (Fri) 10am to 12:30pm	CCD Miranda	Denise
Eastern	1 Aug (Mon) 10am to 12:30pm	Polding Centre	Robert M

### Accreditation Courses - Term 3, 2011

#### BASIC ONE

None offered during Term 3.

#### BASIC TWO

None offered during Term 3.

#### INTERMEDIATE

Cental	Mondays Jul 18, 25, Aug 1, 8, 15 & 22 10:00am to 2:00pm	S Christie St Therese's Parish 11 Harvey Avenue Padstow
Western	Mondays Aug 22, 29 Sep 5, 12 & 19 10:00am to 2:00pm	T Culjak CCD Smithfield 8 Justin Street Smithfield

#### ADVANCED

Eastern	Mondays Aug 8, 15, 22, 29 & Sep 5 10:00am to 2:00pm	R Milan Polding Centre 133 Liverpool Street Sydney
Northern and Central	Mondays Aug 8, 15, 22, 29, Sep 5 & 12 10:00am to 2:00pm	P Middeldorp and S Christie St Joseph's Maronite 7 Acton Street Croydon

# CCD Calendar

## July 2011

18 Jul (Mon)	10:00am to 12:30pm	Western Area Coordinator's Meeting	Liverpool Parish 48 George Street, Liverpool
18 Jul (Mon)		Start of Term 3	
22 Jul (Fri)	10:00am to 12:30pm	Central Area Coordinator's Meeting	Polding Centre 133 Liverpool St, Sydney
25 Jul (Mon)	10:00am to 12:30pm	Northern Area Coordinator's Meeting	Polding Centre 133 Liverpool St, Sydney
29 Jul (Fri)	10:00am to 12:30pm	Southern Area Coordinator's Meeting	CCD Miranda 50 Kiora Road, Miranda





## August 2011

1 Aug (Mon)	10:00am to 12:30pm	Eastern Area Coordinator's Meeting	Polding Centre 133 Liverpool St, Sydney
8 Aug (Mon)	10:00am to 1:00pm	Church History (CMC MI12), Day 1, Denise Humphreys	CCD Miranda 50 Kiora Road, Miranda
9 Aug (Tues)	10:00am to 2:00pm	The Call to Holiness (CMC MC04), Day 1, Robert Milan	St Gertrude's Parish 6 Justin St, Smithfield
14 Aug (Sun)		WYD11 starts	
15 Aug (Mon)	10:00am to 1:00pm	Church History (CMC MI12), Day 2, Denise Humphreys	CCD Miranda 50 Kiora Road, Miranda
16 Aug (Tues)	10:00am to 2:00pm	The Call to Holiness (CMC MC04), Day 2, Robert Milan	St Gertrude's Parish 6 Justin St, Smithfield
17 Aug (Wed)	10:00am to 2:00pm	Christology (CMC MI11), Day 1, Robert Haddad	Polding Centre 133 Liverpool St, Sydney
21 Aug (Sun)		WYD11 ends	
22 Aug (Mon)	10:00am to 1:00pm	Church History (CMC MI12), Day 3, Denise Humphreys	CCD Miranda 50 Kiora Road, Miranda
24 Aug (Wed)	10:00am to 2:00pm	Christology (CMC MI11), Day 2, Robert Haddad	Polding Centre 133 Liverpool St, Sydney
29 Aug (Mon)	10:00am to 1:00pm	Church History (CMC MI12), Day 4, Denise Humphreys	CCD Miranda 50 Kiora Road, Miranda
30 Aug (Tues)	9:30am to 3:00pm	Moral Theology (CMC MI25), Day 1, Philomena Middeldorp	Polding Centre 133 Liverpool St, Sydney

## September 2011

6 Sep (Tues)	9:30am to 3:00pm	Moral Theology (CMC MI25), Day 2, Philomena Middeldorp	Polding Centre 133 Liverpool St, Sydney
23 Sep (Fri)		End of Term 3	

## Catechist Ministry Certificate Courses - Term 3, 2011

Church History (MI12)		The Call to Holiness (MC04)		Christology (MI11)		Moral Theology (MI25)	
CCD Miranda, 50 Kiora Rd, Miranda		St Gertrude's Parish 6 Justin St, Smithfield		Polding Centre 133 Liverpool St, Sydney		Polding Centre 133 Liverpool St, Sydney	
<b>Denise Humphreys</b> Mondays 10:00am – 1:00pm August 8, 15, 22, 29		<b>Robert Milan</b> Tuesdays 10:00am – 2:00pm August 9 and 16		<b>Robert Haddad</b> Wednesdays 10:00am – 2:00pm August 17 and 24		<b>Philomena Middeldorp</b> Tuesdays 9:30am – 3:00pm August 30 and Sept 6	

# CATECHIST GATHERING UPDATE



On 9 May 2011, a group of 95 catechists gathered at Polding Centre to hear two presentations on the life of Blessed Pope John Paul II and issues relating to Special Religious Education (SRE) in New South Wales.

The presentation on Pope John Paul II was given by Mr Eamonn Keane, a teacher from Redfield College, Dural. Eamonn has studied and spoken on Pope John Paul II on many occasions in the past and delighted the catechists with a thorough and enthusiastic overview of his life and achievements, including his writings, teachings, spirituality and international journeys. Much of what Eamonn said struck a deep chord with the catechists, most of whom share his love of the Eucharist and of Mary. All believed Eamonn did a remarkable job considering the limited time he had to speak.

Eamonn Keane will be presenting a comprehensive CMC course on the Life of Pope John Paul II on July 12 and 13, 10.00 am to 3.00 pm, at the Polding Centre. Bookings can be made with Mimi Rivera on 9390 5122.

The second presentation saw the Directors of CCD from the dioceses of Sydney, Maitland-Newcastle and Wollongong, namely Robert Haddad, John Donnelly

and Jude Hennessy, each give a ten minute overview on the future of secondary catechesis, school chaplaincy and the impact of the Ethics course. Robert spoke specifically on the hope of having more students from the Australian Catholic University teaching SRE as part of their Community Engagement Program. John spoke on the increased funding from the Federal Government now available for school chaplains and the potential this offers for more Catholics to be involved in public schools. Jude provided a chronological overview relating to the introduction of Ethics in 2010 and where the situation now stands. Afterwards, the catechists had the opportunity to ask questions and relate their specific experiences and current concerns about teaching SRE.

Catechists were appreciative of the opportunity to learn more concerning the immediate future of SRE and openly share their experiences with others.

**Top Left:** Eamonn Keane gives a concise summary of the teachings of Blessed Pope John Paul II and its impact to the modern world.

**Bottom Left:** CCD Directors John Donnelly and Jude Hennessy .

**Below:** Jude Hennessy responds to a question in the open forum.



*This year's Archdiocesan Art Competition commences early.*

## Archdiocesan Art Competition The Christmas Story



Year 5 and Year 6 class artwork submissions for the Christmas Story are due on September 23, 2011, the last day of Term 3.

Catechists, please plan your Christmas lessons sooner and gather materials for this exciting competition. Artwork can be prepared on A3 cartridge paper 110 gsm or up to the maximum size of 80cm x 120cm. Artworks can be in landscape or portrait mode. Each artwork entry must have the following information attached:



- Child's full name
- School's full name and suburb
- Child's age and class
- Artwork title
- Brief explanation on the artwork



The artworks should be sent or hand delivered by September 23, 2011 to:

- Your Area Faith Education Officer (FEO), or
- CCD City Office, 6th Floor, Polding Centre or
- Miranda CCD Office, 50 Kiora Road Miranda

See below for further competition details.

1. The subject matter is drawn from the Sydney Religious Education Curriculum:

### Year 5:

'Prepare the Way' Isaiah 40: 3-5  
'The Birth of Jesus and the Visit of the Shepherds' Luke 2:9-14  
'The Birth of Jesus and Visit of the Magi' Matthew 1:18-2:12

### Year 6:

'The Annunciation' Luke 1:26-36  
'The Birth of Jesus' Matthew 1:18-25

2. All artworks selected for the exhibition will be displayed in St Mary's Cathedral from 27 November 2011 to Epiphany Sunday, 8 January 2012.

3. All exhibitors will receive the Cardinal's and Executive Director's Certificate of Artistic Achievement. Artworks will be judged artistically as well as the student's original personal self-reflection of the chosen Scripture.
4. The title and brief explanation is an important component of the judging criteria. The student's intention for the artwork, media selected and scriptural connection are especially important.
5. All successful exhibitors eligible for prizes will be notified through their school. Their invitations to the official opening of the exhibition, on Sunday 27 November at St Mary's Cathedral Crypt, will include family members and school staff.

# Area Masses 2011

Below are highlights from the two catechist masses held so far for the Central and Southern Areas in the parishes of St Christopher's (Panania) and St Patrick's (Sutherland).

Both Masses were very well attended and congratulations should be extended to Fr Maurice Thompson, Fr John Knight and their respective catechist coordinators Doreen Moore and Bertha Fsadni for their fine work in hosting these two successful events.



Southern Area Mass was celebrated by Fr John Knight PP (Sutherland) with Fr Kim Ha & Mgr Kerry Bayada (Caringbah), Fr Thomas Kurunthanam (Cronulla), Fr Mani Manala (Hurstville) and Fr Michael Court (Engadine).



Attendees of the May 18, 2011 Central Area Mass gather for a group photo.



Central Area coordinators enthrone the Bible.



Southern Area catechists lead the Prayers of the Faithful.



Catechists from Panania during the offertory procession.



Fr Maurice Thompson gave an inspiring homily.



Southern Area catechists gather for a group photo after their Area Mass, May 20, 2011.

**To aid the work of catechists in public schools  
buy tickets through your Catechist Coordinator,  
on-line at [cwf.org.au](http://cwf.org.au) or ring 1800 753 959.  
Quote "CCD" as referrer.**



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Public school classrooms are being equipped with smart interactive whiteboards. This new technology can be used by our catechists to enhance their lessons to students.

CCD would like to purchase the latest model smart boards to train catechists. As this is an out-of-budget cost, CCD needs to raise funds through the sale of raffle tickets.

The CWF offered CCD tickets to sell in a new raffle. CCD will receive 50% of proceeds from tickets sold by catechists.

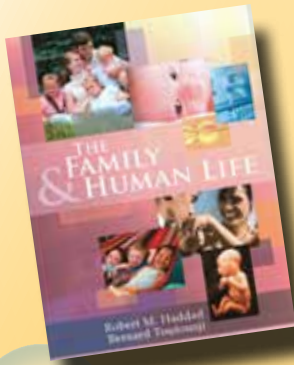
**If each catechist sold at least one book of tickets we would raise sufficient funds.**

Your Coordinator will give you a book of raffle books to sell. Tickets are \$2 each, 3 for \$5 and books of 15 are \$25. \$8,500 worth of shopping vouchers are offered as prizes. CWF offers a \$100 Gift Voucher prize to the person selling the most tickets.

CWF Raffle entries should be received **directly by CWF by 14 July 2011**. Prizes for the raffle will be drawn on 21 July 2011 at Polding Centre Level 5, 133 Liverpool St Sydney. All are welcome to attend the draw.

**To request extra books of tickets or to clarify questions about the raffle please feel free to contact Mari Palomares on (02) 9390 5934.**

# New Releases



**\$15.00**

## **The Family and Human Life** *by Robert M Haddad and Bernard Toutounji*

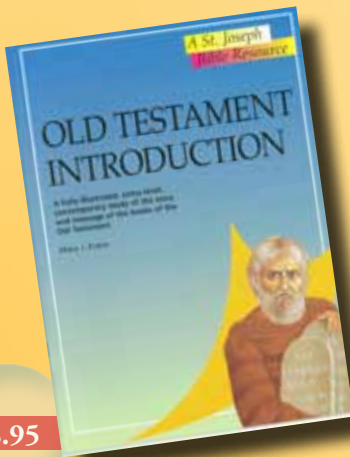
As humanity begins the Third Millennium, we continue to witness the culmination of a long historical process which has been transforming western and Christian society.



**\$1.95**

## **Understanding the Revised Mass Texts** *by Paul Turner*

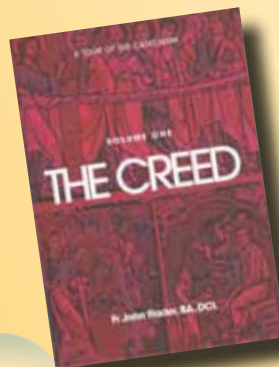
This booklet provides a brief yet deep explanation of how and why the prayers and responses of the Mass are changing. It will help readers understand the new words so that they are better able to participate at Mass.



**\$8.95**

## **Old Testament Introduction** *by Mary J Evans*

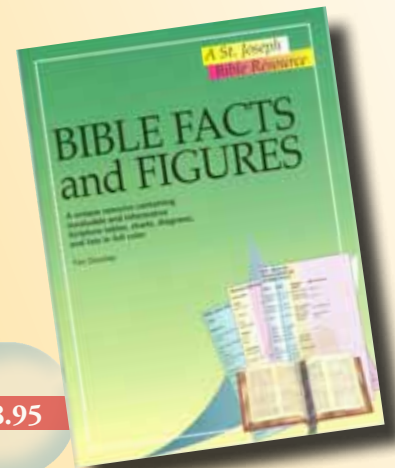
This introductory guide gives an outline of Old Testament history and literature and an account of Old Testament teachings. It aims to provide a context in which the Old Testament can be better understood and appreciated.



**\$29.95**

## **The Creed (Volume 1)** *by Fr John Flader, BA, DCL*

In a tour of the Catechism, Fr Flader unpacks the essentials and explains them in a way that everyone can understand. The book is a must for teachers, catechists, parents, converts and students who want to know what the Church teaches.



**\$8.95**

## **Bible Facts and Figures** *by Tim Dowley*

This concise reference offers a treasury of Biblical information, including time-charts and diagrams, Bible background features and useful verse-finders.

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Eleanor Emmerson



Priscilla Donovan

**Conditions apply.** Birthday Vouchers cannot be used in conjunction with *Christ our Light and Life*, *To Know Worship and Love*, Text Books, Big Books, Sacramental Programs and already discounted stock. The voucher can be used within a year of the catechist's birthday.