

4 January 2015

Dear Parents,

We had a great year of Catechetical activities in 2014. Thank you for your support and commitment that you have placed regarding the faith education of your children. We are planning for another faith-filled year and we need your continuous support. Included in this letter is important information regarding Catechism classes.

Catechism Classes begin on **Sunday, January 11, 2015. Registration for pre-school 5 and 6 and for new students begins on the same day.** For registration, please bring along a copy of your child's baptism certificate. Please fill in the Student Registration Form and hand in to the Class teacher. Please take note of the following:

1. **Class times**
English : Sundays, 10.30-12.00pm
Tamil/Mandarin : Sundays, 9.00-10.30am

2. Attendance

Registration in our Catechism Classes program is a commitment to a program of study and a process of faith formation. Catechism classes start each week at 10.30 a.m. Please help your child to be on time and attend classes as often as possible. Consistency and continuity are extremely important for your child during these years. To provide the best learning experience, we teach in units of study that build from week to week through the month, and it is best for the child to be able to experience each week's lesson, if possible. We prepare carefully each week to begin meaningful teaching from the very beginning of the class, and your child's arrival on time helps the whole class to get the most out of the session. Students are expected to attend class regularly and complete class assignments. If a student must miss class, please speak with the Catechist to make arrangements for the missed class. Students must satisfactorily complete a grade level before moving on to the next grade level. To receive the sacraments (1st Holy Communion and Confirmation) students must have successfully achieved 75% class attendance.

3. Absenteeism

Parents are required to write a letter to the class catechist explaining the reason for the child's absenteeism from class once the child returns to class.

4. Parents' commitment to Child's Faith Formation and growth

Catechism Classes affirms the home as the centre of spiritual guidance. Parents are the most important people in a child's life, and learning about God starts in the home. Teaching children about God is a seven-day-a-week effort, not something that is done just an hour or two on Sunday morning. To further help your child, ensure your child's attendance and participation at Catechism classes and other liturgical celebrations. I believe a child who is well connected with life of the Church will seldom pose serious discipline problems. We pledge to do our best to support you in your child's spiritual education, and stand ready to help you at any time.

5. Parents –Teachers Meeting (24th May and 15th Nov)

It's important that you spare some time to meet your child's catechist in their classroom to get an overview of your child's performance in class. In complying to your request, 2 days have been allocated for these meetings.

6. Purchase of Catechism Books

Catechism books will be on sale from the January 4 2015 onwards. Parents are encouraged to purchase the books for their children before attending class. Volunteers from among parents are needed to help in the book sale.

7. 2015 Catechetical Calendar- Dates of classes, activities and holidays

JANUARY		4 Sale of Catechism books begins. Meeting with teachers at 11am	11 Class	1	18 Class	2	25 Class	3
FEBRUARY	1 Class	4	8 Class	5	15 Class	6	22 CNY Holiday	
MARCH	1 Class	7	8 Class	8	15 School Holiday		22 Class	9
APRIL	5 Easter Sunday Holiday		12 Class	10	19 Class	11	26 Class Mass Animation Std 6	12
MAY	3 Class	13	10 Class	14	17 Class	15	24 Class Parents-Teachers Meeting	16
JUNE	7 School Holiday		14 Class	17	21 Sacred Heart Feast Holiday		28 Class	18
JULY	5 Class	19	12 Class	20	19 Class	21	26 Holiday St Anne's Feast	
AUGUST	2 Class	22	9 Class	23	16 Class	24	23 Class	25
SEPTEMBER	6 Class	27	13 OLGH Feast Holiday		20 Catechetical Day / Class	28	27 School Holiday	
OCTOBER	4 Class	29	11 Class	30	18 Year -End Assessment	31	25 Class Mass Animation Form 2	32
NOVEMBER	1 Holiday		8 Class	33	7 Sat - 1 st HC 14 Sat - Form 4 Camp		15 Parents-Teachers Meeting	34
								22 Catechetical Students' Exhibition

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Fr. Christopher W. Soosaipillai
Parish Priest