Fides Quaerens Intellectum
(Faith Seeking Understanding)

Parents Meeting
Wednesday 25 September 2013
Christ Reveals Man to Himself

In reality it is only in the mystery of the Word made flesh that the mystery of humanity truly becomes clear. For Adam, the first man, was a type of him who was to come, Christ the Lord. Christ, the new Adam, in the very revelation of the mystery of the Father and of his love, fully reveals humanity to itself and brings to light its very high calling.

(Gaudium et Spes, 22)
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† The Redeemer of Man, Jesus Christ, is the centre of the universe and of history.

† Jesus mission of redemption was to show us the Face of the Father and live.

† It is only in and through Jesus Christ that we can know who we are: Sons and daughters of God the Father.

† It is only in and through Jesus that we discover our high calling to communion with God. → To be son/daughter of the Father.

† If human beings are the only creatures on earth that God has wanted for their own sake, they can fully discover their true selves only in self-giving” (Gaudium et Spes, 24)

† “Man must lose himself, to find himself.” (Luke 17:33)
What is Catechesis?
What is Catechesis?

The word catechesis comes from the Greek meaning "to echo the teaching" meaning that catechesis or the teaching of the faith is an interactive process in which the Word of God re-sounds between and among the proclaimer, the one receiving the message, and the Holy Spirit!

- *Catechesis* is an education in the faith of children, young people and adults which includes especially the teaching of Christian doctrine imparted, generally speaking, in an organic and systematic way, with a view to initiating the hearers into the fullness of Christian life. (CCC 5)  
  (Quoting John Paul II, *Apostolic Exhortation Catechesi Tradendae* 18)
What is Catechesis?

- Catechesis is a life-long process of initial conversion, formation, education, and on-going conversion.

- Through word, worship, service and community, it seeks to lead all God's people to an ever deepening relationship with God who reveals himself in Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.

- Catechesis is nothing other than the process of transmitting the Gospel, as the Christian community has received it, understands it, celebrates it, lives it and communicates it in many ways. (General Directory for Catechesis #105)
What is Catechesis?

Jesus empowered the Church to continue His mission when He said, go, therefore and make disciples of all the nations. Baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to carry out everything I have commanded you. And know that I am with you always, until the end of time. (Mt. 28:18-20)

• Catechesis takes many forms and includes the initiation of adults, youth and children as well as the intentional and systematic effort to enable all to grow in faith and discipleship.

• To put people in communion with Jesus Christ.
Salvation History
God Plan of Love
Almighty God - The Blessed Trinity
A community of Persons
The mystery of the Most Holy Trinity is the central mystery of the Christian faith and life. It is the mystery of God in Himself. It is therefore the source of all the other mysteries of faith, the light that enlightens them. The whole history of salvation is identical with the history of the way and the means by which the one true God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, reveals Himself to us “and reconciles and unites with Himself those who turn away from sin”. (CCC 234).
God the Father
Many religions invoke God as ‘Father”. ... In Israel God is called Father inasmuch as Creator of the World. Even more, God is Father because of the covenant and the gift of the law to Israel, ‘His first born son’.  

(CCC 238)
God the Son - Jesus Christ
God the Son - Jesus Christ

Foundation:

Jesus is the second Person of the Blessed Trinity. Jesus is the Word of God. Jesus Christ is truly God and man. Through the Original Sin, we were separated from God. Jesus came into the world to save us from sin and to reconcile us with the Father.
God The Holy Spirit
God The Holy Spirit

Foundation:

The Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Blessed Trinity and is the bond of love between the Father and the Son. Through His grace, the Holy Spirit is the first to awaken faith in us, which allows us to know and love the Father and the Son. “The Holy Spirit is the source and giver of all holiness”.

(CCC 749)