

## Catechetical Ministry during LOCKDOWN

My dear Catechetical Coordinators,

Greetings in this Holy Season of Easter. Hope you are all at home and staying safe. The present lockdown happened in a blink of an eye and our lifestyle is drastically changed by COVID-19. But nevertheless, our faith in the Risen Lord makes us face all challenges with hope. With all the reality we are facing a lot of new adaptation is required of us and it is never going to be the same as usual. So in regards to the Catechetical Ministry, we are required to continue our mission in a new way. On-line teaching has begun in some churches, and not all parishioner has access to such technology. So I would like to propose 4 options that could be taken up to address this situation.

### OPTION 1

The online teaching platform to be used by catechist to connect with the children. Though Zooming is a free and popular platform, it is vulnerable to bombing by uninvited intruders. So we would like to recommend CISCO WIBEX (RM650 a year). If the parish is able to sponsor the program then all catechist can get on-line with their children and teach.

### OPTION 2

The YouTube has a lot of Catechetical material and many Catholic catechist are also teaching the faith. Please find possible videos or materials to assist children by posting to them every Sunday via what's app or other social media possible.

### OPTION 3

Parents are the primary catechist for the family and it is their fundamental duty to teach the faith. So if every parent could teach one chapter every week, as all the children got their catechism book by just reading the text and explaining, catechesis will go on as usual.

### OPTION 4

Lastly we also have our own Penang Diocese Catechetical Commission Facebook, which is constantly updated every day in matters pertaining to faith. This also is available for catechetical purpose. "**Penang Diocese Catechetical Commission**".

We hope these options will assist the ministry during the lockdown. If you have better option please recommend to other parishes too. Again thank you for your commitment.

Enjoy life and God bless.

**Rev Fr Mark Michael (Penang Diocese Catechetical Commission Head)**