



Diocese of Brisbane

Dear Participant

Greetings to you!

Thank you for your application to participate in our Diocese of Brisbane 'Catechism Program'. Your registration for the next on-line sessions of catechism will be confirmed once you have written to the bishop.

Please note the following for your information and action:

1. If you have not already written a 'Letter of Introduction, please write one and forward it to the District Office, preferably by email to archbne@greekorthodox.org.au
2. Your 'Letter of Introduction' must be addressed to: **His Grace Bishop Bartholomew of Brisbane**. In this letter, please share something of your background, your past involvement in religious faith, and why you wish to become an Orthodox Christian.
3. You will be required to take part in the eight-week on-line catechism program; details can be found below. This course is free.
4. The catechism program (including the on-line sessions) will be between four to six months duration to give you time to pray, contemplate and reflect on this important step in your life.
5. Please maintain regular contact with the Parish Priest who referred you to this catechism program. Your Parish Priest is not only responsible to support you through your catechism, but he will also take on the role of your 'Spiritual Father'. Try to nurture this relationship well beyond your reception into the Church.
6. You are required to attend Orthodox Church services and to discuss your faith journey with your Parish Priest. Your catechism will end with a service of your reception into the Orthodox Church either through Baptism and/or Chrismation.
7. The Online catechism sessions will be held using 'Zoom'. The priests presenting the Zoom Sessions will invite you to the various sessions of the programme and communicate with you concerning the details of each session.
8. After you complete the sessions of the on-line catechism course, you will receive further guidance from your Parish Priest who will organise your reception into the Orthodox Church at the right time.

9. All eight sessions of the on-line course and the other aspects of the catechism programme are compulsory, and you are expected to participate in every session.

10. The Course

Week One 'An Introduction to the Person of Jesus Christ and the Christian Faith'

Week Two 'The Sacraments as an Extension of Christ's Ministry'

Week Three 'The Holy Trinity, the Virgin Mary, the Human Person, and the World'

Week Four 'An Historical Outline of the Orthodox Church from the Time of the Apostles to its ministry in Australia'

Week Five 'Baptism and Marriage (with a focus on Ethos and Practice)'

Week Six 'A FACE TO FACE SESSION AT YOUR LOCAL CHURCH – 'CHURCH ETIQUETTE AND TOUR OF THE CHURCH'. This will be organised by your Parish Priest

Week Seven 'The Nicæan Creed'

Week Eight 'An Introduction to Orthodox Spirituality and Prayer'

Thank you for your effort and every strength to you on your journey in faith.

Prayerfully Yours,



Very Reverend Father Romanos Stergiou

Catechism Coordinator

Email :father@gocstanna.org