



Subcommittee on the Catechism

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September 27, 2013

Dear Catechetical Publishers,

The Subcommittee on the Catechism has been reviewing texts meant for sacramental preparation since the time that the review process first began in 1996. The general Protocol has been employed in this process, but we have sometimes heard from publishers that the use of the general Protocol leaves open the question as to how much of the Protocol is necessary for the completeness of a sacramental preparation text.

At the annual meeting on September 5, 2013, of the Subcommittee on the Catechism and catechetical publishers, we announced the creation of new Sacramental Preparation Protocols to address the question of completeness. These new Sacramental Preparation Protocols have been derived from the existing general Protocol and from the Secondary Level Protocol.

These new Protocols are a working instrument with one purpose: to facilitate the writing and reviewing of sacramental preparatory texts in the future. They are not meant to be applied retroactively to existing texts previously found in conformity. They are not intended to create a new review process. They do not create a new category for a declaration of conformity, but leave unchanged the existing category for Sacramental Preparation Materials.

There are three Sacramental Preparation Protocols:

- The first is for sacramental preparation for First Penance and First Holy Communion in the second grade.
- The second is for sacramental preparation for First Penance and First Holy Communion in the sixth grade or above.
- The third is for the sacramental preparation for Confirmation. This one is derived from the general Protocol, from the Secondary Level Protocol Core Course V (“The Sacraments as Privileged Encounters with Jesus Christ”) and from Core Course III (“The Mission of Jesus Christ -The Paschal Mystery”).

It is our hope that these new protocols will ease the work of publishing sacramental preparation materials, as well as offer greater consistency to our review process. If you have any questions or are in need of assistance, please contact the staff to the Subcommittee on the Catechism.

Thank you for your continued collaboration in the work of catechesis. May the Lord guide and bless your efforts.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair
Chairman

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