

Course III. The Mission of Jesus Christ-The Paschal Mystery

		CONFORMITY Yes/No/Partial	REQUIRED CHANGES Recommendations and Suggestions
1.	I. The Goodness of Creation and Our Fall from Grace A. The Creation of the World and our first parents (CCC 54, 279-282). 1. Revelation as found in the book of Genesis.		
2.	a. Understanding literary forms in Scripture (CCC 289).		
3.	b. Genesis 1–11 conveys religious truth rather than science (CCC 283-289). c. The book reveals truth about which science and history can only speculate.		
4.	d. Scripture’s use of figurative and symbolic language in Genesis 1–11 (CCC 362, 375, 390, 396).		
5.	2. The Trinitarian God is the Creator of all; all creation reflects the glory of God (CCC 290-295, 301).		
6.	3. God created all that is, seen and unseen. a. Unseen or invisible world: angels (CCC 325-336). b. Seen or visible world (CCC 349-357).		
7.	4. Human beings as the summit of creation. 5. Created in the image and likeness of God (CCC 356-359, 1700-1706).		
8.	1) God made them male and female (CCC 369-373, 1605, 1702, 2331). 6. Dignity of both men and women: similarities and differences (CCC 2333-2336).		
9.	1) Contributions to the world and to the Church (CCC 2346-2347).		
10.	2) Human persons are a body-soul unity; this reflects the physical and spiritual realities in the world (CCC 356-368).		
11.	3) God’s plan: original holiness and original justice (CCC 374-379).		

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12.	<p>B. The fall from grace: Original Sin (Gn 3; Rom 5:12; CCC 55, 309-314, 385-390, 1707).</p> <p>1) The full meaning of the doctrine of Original Sin is revealed only in the light of the Death and Resurrection of Jesus. It is essential to belief in the mystery of Christ. The whole of human history is marked by the sin of the first parents (CCC 1708).</p>		
13.	C. The fall of the angels (CCC 391-395).		
14.	<p>1. The rebellion of Adam and Eve and its consequences.</p> <p>D. The rebellion of Adam and Eve was a sin of disobedience toward God, a rejection of a God-centered life and the choice of a self-centered life (CCC 396-398).</p>		
15.	1. The consequences of Adam and Eve's sin: loss of paradise, original grace, original holiness, and original justice (CCC 399-401).		
16.	2. Original Sin and its consequences for all: suffering, death, a tendency toward sin, need for salvation (CCC 402-409).		
17.	<p>II. The Promise of a Messiah</p> <p>A. The first prophecy of the Messiah, God's promise to redeem the world (Gn 3:15; CCC 410).</p> <p>1. God's immediate response to Adam and Eve's sin is to promise redemption; this is the <i>Proto-Evangelium</i>, the first announcement of the Good News (CCC 410-412).</p>		
18.	2. Promise endures despite the escalation of sin (the Book of Genesis: the murder of Abel, the Tower of Babel, the Flood) (CCC 55-64).		
19.	<p>B. Longing for the fulfillment of the promise (CCC 121-123).</p> <p>1. God's covenants with Old Testament peoples (CCC 129-130).</p> <p>a. The covenants are solemn commitments between God and human beings (CCC 56).</p>		

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20.	b. God made a covenant with Noah, with Abraham, and with Moses (CCC 56-64).		
21.	c. Each of these covenants foreshadows the Paschal Mystery (CCC 129).		
22.	2. The people of ancient Israel entrusted with knowledge of God's promise.		
23.	3. Judges, kings, and prophets: reminding the people of ancient Israel about the promise.		
24.	4. The promise to David.		
25.	5. The "suffering servant" passages in Isaiah.		
26.	C. The promise of redemption is fulfilled in Jesus (CCC 422-451). 1. The Gospels recognize Jesus as the fulfillment of the promise.		
27.	a. The Annunciation: Mary's "yes" to God, her consent to be the Mother of God (<i>Theotokos</i>) (Lk 1:38; CCC 484-489).		
28.	b. The dream of St. Joseph; the role of St. Joseph in the life of Jesus and Mary (CCC 496-507).		
29.	c. The Gospels apply the ancient prophecies to Jesus (CCC 522-524).		
30.	2. Why the Word became flesh (the Incarnation) (CCC 525-528, 456-478). a. To save us by reconciling us with God, who loved us and sent his Son to be the expiation for our sins (CCC 457).		
31.	b. That we might come to know the depth of God's love for us (CCC 458).		
32.	c. To be our model of holiness (CCC 459).		

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33.	d. To make us partakers of the divine nature (CCC 457-460).		
34.	e. To destroy the power of the Devil (1 Jn 3:8).		
35.	3. Christ's whole life was a mystery of redemption (CCC 535-618). a. By becoming poor he enriched us with his poverty.		
36.	b. In his hidden life his obedience atoned for our disobedience.		
37.	c. In his preached word he purified our consciences.		
38.	d. In his compassion and in his healings and exorcisms he bore our infirmities.		
39.	e. In his Cross and Resurrection he justified us (CCC 517).		
40.	4. Christ's whole earthly life—words, deeds, silences, sufferings—is a Revelation of the Father. Even the least characteristics of the mysteries of Jesus' life manifest God's love among us (CCC 516).		
41.	III. Christ Our Light: Redemption Unfolds A. The Baptism of Jesus and Jesus' triple temptation (CCC 538-540).		
42.	B. The miracle at the wedding feast of Cana (CCC 2618). The announcement of the Kingdom through parables and miracles (CCC 541-550).		
43.	C. The announcement of the Kingdom through parables and miracles (CCC 541-550).		
44.	D. Transfiguration at Mount Tabor (CCC 554-556).		
45.	E. Jesus institutes the Sacrament of the Eucharist (CCC 611, 1337-1344).		

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46.	IV. Redemption Through the Paschal Mystery A. The Passion and Death of Jesus (CCC 595-618). 1. The mystery of redemptive love and suffering on the cross.		
47.	a. Overcoming temptation by Satan.		
48.	b. Events of the Passion . . . the Suffering Servant.		
49.	c. The Kenosis: Philippians 2:5-11.		
50.	B. The Resurrection of Jesus: redemption accomplished and the promise fulfilled (CCC 631-658). 1. A historical event involving Christ's physical body. a. Testified to by those who saw the Risen Jesus. b. Verified by the empty tomb.		
51.	2. A transcendent event in which Jesus is no longer bound by space and time. a. The Resurrection is not a resuscitation or a return to earthly life.		
52.	3. The significance of Christ's Resurrection. a. Confirmation of Jesus' divinity and of his words and teachings (CCC 651, 653).		
53.	b. Fulfillment of the promises in the Old Testament and of Jesus' earthly promises (CCC 652).		
54.	c. A promise of our own resurrection (1 Cor 15).		
55.	4. We participate in the mystery of redemption through the sacramental life of the Church, especially the Holy Eucharist.		
56.	C. The Ascension and glorification of Jesus culminating in the sending of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost (CCC 659-667). 1. The Ascension marks the entrance of Jesus' humanity into heaven (CCC 659).		

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57.	2. Jesus' promise to be with us forever (Mt 28:20); the sending of the Holy Spirit as part of the promise.		
58.	3. Where Jesus has gone, we hope to follow; Mary, through her Assumption into heaven body and soul, is an anticipation of the resurrection of others who will follow (CCC 963-970).		
59.	V. Moral Implications for the Life of a Believer A. Christ was put to death for our sins and was raised for our justification (Rom 4:25; CCC 598).		
60.	1. Eternal life with God in heaven is God's desire for us (CCC 1691-1698).		
61.	2. We need to accept and live the grace of redemption (CCC 1803). a. By practicing the virtues of faith, hope, and love (CCC 1812-1832).		
62.	3. By praying for the coming of the Kingdom of God and by working toward that goal.		
63.	4. Death and our judgment by God (CCC 678-679, 1006-1014). 5. Immediate or particular judgment (CCC 1021).		
64.	6. The resurrection of the body and the Last Judgment (CCC 988-1004).		
65.	7. Heaven, hell, purgatory (CCC 1023-1037).		
66.	8. Universal call to holiness of life (CCC 826, 2012-2014, 2028, 2045, 2813).		
67.	9. We are made in the image of God: intellect and free will (CCC 1703-1706).		
68.	10. Personal response to God's call is shown in our way of life (CCC 2002).		
69.	11. Holy Spirit and grace enable us to live holiness of life (CCC 1704).		

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70.	12. Essential elements of a life growing in holiness: interiority or reflection, self-examination, and introspection (CCC 1779).		
71.	13. We grow in holiness of life in and through the Church (CCC 2045).		
72.	B. Living as a disciple of Jesus. 1. Adherence to Jesus and acceptance of his teaching (CCC 520, 618, 767, 1693).		
73.	C. Conversion of heart and life, and the formation of conscience (CCC 1248).		
74.	D. Worshiping and loving God as Jesus taught (CCC 618, 767).		
75.	E. Living a sacramental life and a life of prayer (CCC 562, 915, 1816, 1823, 1986, 2262, 2347, 2427, 2466, 2612).		
76.	F. Putting Jesus' moral and spiritual teaching into practice.		
77.	G. Serving the poor and marginalized.		
78.	H. Fulfilling responsibility for the mission of evangelization.		
79.	I. Fulfilling responsibility for stewardship.		
80.	VI. Prayer in the Life of a Believer A. God calls every individual to a vital relationship with him experienced in prayer (CCC 2558).		
81.	VII. Developing intimacy and communion with Jesus Christ through prayer is an essential aspect in the life of a believer or disciple (CT 5; GDC 80; NDC, §19B; CCC 2560).		
82.	A. Scripture is a source and guide for prayer (CCC 2567-2589, 2653-2654). VIII. Scripture is a source, in that many prayers come out of the Bible or are partly based on Scriptural passages or events: Mass prayers and dialogues, psalms and canticles, Our Father, Hail Mary, <i>Angelus</i> (CCC 2673-2679).		

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83.	A. Scripture is a guide, in that it gives us models of praying in biblical figures and teaches us about prayer.		
84.	B. <i>Lectio divina</i> is a way of praying on the Word of God.		
85.	C. Expressions of prayer can be vocal, meditative, or contemplative (CCC 2700-2724).		
86.	D. The forms of prayer are blessing, adoration, petition, intercession, thanksgiving, and praise (CCC 2626-2649).		
87.	E. Prayer requires effort and commitment (CCC 2729-2745).		
88.	F. The Lord's Prayer forms a basis for the Church's understanding of the value of prayer (CCC 2759-2865).		
89.	IX. Challenges A. Why would God the Father allow his Son, Jesus, to suffer and die the way he did (CCC 599-609)? B. God the Father allowed Jesus Christ, his Son, to suffer and die the way he did because of his love for all human beings; in that love, he wants us to live eternally with him in heaven. His Passion reveals the depth of the Father's love in helping all people to not be overcome by the magnitude of evil, sin, and death.		
90.	X. Because of Adam and Eve's sin, all human beings are born with a wounded human nature due to the absence of the life of Christ's grace, and so we could not live eternally with God unless we were redeemed (CCC 402-406).		
91.	XI. God the Father allowed his Son, Jesus, to suffer and die because Jesus' sacrifice destroyed the power of sin and restored us to friendship with God.		
92.	XII. In part, the Father allowed Jesus to suffer and die the way he did in order to show us the gravity and seriousness of sin.		

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93.	<p>A. Why are followers of Jesus Christ sometimes so willing to make sacrifices and to accept pain and suffering, especially in witness to Christ and their faith?</p> <p>1. Christians are willing to make sacrifices and undergo suffering patiently for a number of reasons.</p> <p>XIII. They are following the example of Jesus Christ, who through his suffering and Death gained salvation for us (CCC 1505).</p>		
94.	<p>A. Jesus Christ also predicted that people would suffer for their faith and promised that he would be with them in their suffering. Knowing this, believers try to accept suffering patiently, to trust in God, and to pray for his grace to sustain them. They rely on the Holy Spirit's gift of fortitude to grow in the virtue of fortitude (CCC 1808, 1831).</p>		
95.	<p>B. Followers of Jesus Christ know that suffering is never in vain because it can help one move toward Heaven and eternal life. In our suffering, we can help make up to some degree for the hurt and harm we cause by our sin.</p>		
96.	<p>C. Finally, the suffering, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus teaches us to look beyond the sufferings of this world to the promise of eternal life with God in heaven (CCC 1521).</p>		
97.	<p>D. Christ strengthens the person to undergo suffering and thereby become more like Christ himself. Our suffering, when united with his own, can become a means of purification and of salvation for us and for others (CCC 618, 1505).</p>		
98.	<p>E. Isn't making sacrifices and putting up with suffering a sign of weakness (CCC 1808, 1831)?</p> <p>F. No. Making sacrifices and putting up with suffering requires a great deal of courage and strength. Jesus teaches us, by example, about the value of unselfish living and the courage and strength that requires. It takes grace and personal holiness to live as Jesus Christ has taught us.</p>		

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99.	<p>1. Jesus shows us through the whole Paschal Mystery (suffering, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension) that giving of ourselves is the path to eternal life and happiness (CCC 571-655).</p> <p>G. He gives us the example of accepting the Father's will even when it involves suffering.</p>		
100.	<p>1. Jesus teaches us both in word and by example to refrain from revenge and to forgive those who hurt or sin against us (CCC 2842-2845).</p>		
101.	<p>2. Suffering is necessary to develop our maturity in Christ and to love our neighbor as Christ loves him (Col 1:24; CCC 1808, 1831).</p>		
102.	<p>H. In the end, isn't it really only the final result that matters?</p> <p>1. No. Every moral choice that a person makes has an effect on the person and society (CCC 1749-1756).</p>		
103.	<p>2. A good end never justifies an evil means (CCC 1753).</p> <p>I. One must never do evil just so that good may come of it (CCC 1789).</p>		