Foundational Courses

Christian Formation Course

The Christian Formation Course is a face-to-face learning experience that allows participants to explore their life’s journey and their faith within the Christian Tradition. This one-year course introduces participants to scripture, theology, church history, sacramental life and spirituality.

UNITS (THREE HOURS/UNIT)

1. Journey of Faith
   Human relating and basic communication; Reflection on life experiences in the light of faith; participants’ experience of encountering God in life and their own faith journey

2. Revelation of God
   Images of God; Essence of revelation: Overview of Vatican II’s Dei Verbum: Christ – the Word of God – present in the living Tradition; Revelation vs Fundamentalism

3. Revelation in Scripture: Old Testament
   The world of the OT; The experience of exodus and the covenant; The experience of exile as a lens to interpret the story; Prophetic voices that shaped the chosen people.

   The scope and purpose of the NT; Paul: Apostle to the Gentiles; Gospel portraits of Jesus of Nazareth, the Christ of Faith; interconnecting scripture, prayer and daily life.

5. People of God
   Contemporary Church – the centrality of Vatican II; Lumen Gentium; Mystery, Communio, People of God; Authority; Priesthood of all; Role of the Laity

6. The Church from Age to Age
   The Beginning: Through the Dark Ages to the Age of Faith; Middle Ages; Reformation and beyond: New beginnings and old prejudices; The Modern Age

7. Sacramental Life of the Church
   The sacramental nature of human life; Foundations for Sacramental theology in the Paschal Mystery; Sacraments of Initiation; Other Sacraments

8. Liturgical Life of the Church
   Some key liturgical documents, the building blocks of Catholic liturgy; principles and norms; symbol and ritual; structure and elements; some rites of the Church