

MODULE 2

UNDERSTANDING, PRAYING AND LIVING THE SCRIPTURES

COURSE OVERVIEW

This module engages participants in the scriptures, exploring their inspiration, canonisation, unity and how to interpret scripture within the Catholic tradition. This module will also provide participants with introductions to various books within the canon as well as theological principals that inform the Catholic reading of scripture. Beyond the mechanics, this module provides an experience of listening to the voice of God in scripture, ensuring that scripture moves beyond mere text to being experienced as God's word to us.

PRESENTED BY



**DCN. PETER
PELLICAAN PHD**

Executive Director
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**ARCHBISHOP
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The **Archdiocesan Centre for Catholic Formation** exists to facilitate a **deeper experience of God in the Catholic tradition**. It provides four core modules in Catholic Foundations as well as supplementary guest lectures, short courses, retreats and one-off events.

UNDERSTANDING, PRAYING AND LIVING THE SCRIPTURES

WEEK 1

Can We Trust the Scriptures?

Is the bible, and specifically the New Testament, a reliable source? Should we trust it? How does it compare with other historical sources from the same era?

WEEK 2

Ecclesial Exegesis: Interpreting Scripture with the Church

Scripture can be interpreted in many ways, and when interpreted in isolation from the Church, it can lead to division. How do we interpret scripture within the tradition of the Church?

WEEK 3

The Unity of the Two Testaments

Marcion is infamous for rejecting the Old Testament as though it portrayed an entirely different God than in the New Testament. What is it that unites these two Testaments and how can they be understood as an ongoing and deepening revelation of God?

WEEK 4

The 'Grand Narrative' – Stories Within a Larger Story

The bible is loaded with stories – but what's the overarching story in scripture, how do the many stories in the bible sit within this larger story, and how does narrative serve to reveal God?

WEEK 5

The Gospels: Matthew, Mark and John

What are the Gospels? Why do they take mainstage in our liturgies? What are the differences between Matthew, Mark's and John's approach?

WEEK 6

The Letters

There are various letters to various communities in the New Testament. How do we understand these letters in context, taking into account their authors and the communities they're addressing?

STARTING 4 AUGUST 2025



WEEK 7

Luke and the Acts of the Apostles

Luke wrote both the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles. What does Luke-Acts teach us about Jesus and the early Church?

WEEK 8

Biblical Foundations for Catholic Doctrines

At times the Catholic tradition is criticised as being un-biblical. What are the biblical foundations for Catholic teachings such as: the papacy, purgatory, the role of Mary and the sacrament of confession.

WEEK 9

Scripture in the Liturgy and the Role of the Lector

The Mass is both the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. What is the role of scripture in the Mass and how does it lead us to the Eucharist? What does it mean to proclaim the word of God in the Mass as a lector?

WEEK 10

The Sacramentality of Scripture

Scripture in the Catholic tradition is more than text on a page, it is sacramental. What does this mean and how can we engage this sacramental text in our prayer life at home?

WHO'S IT FOR?

This course is designed with all baptised Catholics in mind, particularly:

- Those who want to grow deeper in their love for God and others
- Those preparing for the ministries of lector, acolyte and catechist
- Those who are parish staff or volunteers who do not have any formal theological qualifications
- Those who want to share their faith with others.

MONDAYS | 7-9PM

XAVIER HALL, HOLY SPIRIT SEMINARY

WEEK 1

MON 4 AUGUST

Can We Trust
the Scriptures?

WEEK 2

MON 11 AUGUST

Ecclesial Exegesis:
Interpreting Scripture
with the Church

WEEK 3

MON 18 AUGUST

The Unity of the
Two Testaments

WEEK 4

MON 25 AUGUST

The 'Grand Narrative'
- Stories Within
a Larger Story

WEEK 5

MON 1 SEPTEMBER

The Gospels:
Matthew, Mark
and John

WEEK 6

MON 8 SEPTEMBER

The Letters

WEEK 7

MON 15 SEPTEMBER

Luke and the Acts
of the Apostles

WEEK 8

MON 22 SEPTEMBER

Biblical Foundations
for Catholic Doctrines

WEEK 9

MON 13 OCTOBER

Scripture in the
Liturgy and the Role
of the Lector

WEEK 10

MON 20 OCTOBER

The Sacramentality
of Scripture



SCAN FOR MORE
INFORMATION AND
TO REGISTER BEFORE
1 AUGUST 2025

COST: \$250 per person or \$150 per person for groups of 5 or more.

Regional hubs available.