**Killaloe Catechists #2 – Nenagh session 1 – Prayers, Summary, Questions**

 **Focusing Prayer**

Lord, as we prepare to begin our meeting, we recall your promise to be present when two or three are gathered in your name.

We know that without you here among us, and within each one of us, we will labour in vain.

*Response: Unite us, Lord, in your Spirit.*

We rejoice that we are blessed and called together to work in your name.

We pray that we will respond generously to this opportunity to serve you, and that we will grow in our Christian calling.

*Response: Unite us, Lord, in your Spirit.*

**Main points to summarise this evening’s talk – mostly questions**

Is the Sunday Mass of any importance in our lives?

Does it matter if we don’t go?

What’s in the Mass for me? What good will it do?

What’s involved in taking my faith seriously?

What might happen if I ran into Jesus? Or if he ran into me? How would I like it? Would I recognise him – or he me?

Can’t I just go to Mass, listen and join in the prayers? Or say my Rosary? Isn’t that enough?

Most of Mass is boring anyway. I only go because in some way I feel obliged. Is Sunday Mass really such an obligation that I’m committing mortal sin by not going?

The Sign of the Cross: there’s a lot more to it than I thought.

Going to Mass with one arm as long as the other! What could I bring to God anyway? Do I really need to be here?

Questions we might consider

1. Do we have a sense of belonging in our Church? What could we do to improve this sense? Do we want this sense – of having some kind of relationship with our fellow Catholics?
2. What do you think is the real reason that so many people don’t go to Mass on Sunday? Do you yourself actually **want** to go to Mass? does that matter?
3. Is Mass boring? What makes it so?
4. What might we be able to do ourselves to prepare for Mass so we’d actually look forward to going? Do I actually want to run into God? Are we allowed to enjoy our prayers?

*Next session in our series – Liturgy of the Word*

 *God’s word, not man’s – Great Reading, Great Listening*

*Wednesday Nov. 15th at 8.00 pm until 9.15 pm at the Pastoral Centre*

Closing Prayer

God our Father, in your loving providence

you have brought us together this evening

to find joy in communion with one another,

and to know you in our joy.

Fill us we pray with the Spirit of your Son.

Give us confidence as you call us to build up the Body of Christ.

Help us to see in our everyday lives the moments and opportunities for caring and confirming and reconciling.

Bless us with the patience to overcome frustration, and bless us with hope as we journey together.

We make this prayer with confidence and through the intercession of our Blessed Lady. Amen.