**Killaloe Catechists #3 – Nenagh session 2 – 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 –**

The flow/rhythm of the Mass:

* Assembling
* Glorifying
* Listening
* Offering
* Adoring
* Communing
* Sharing

Our role: to attend to God’s word so as to ensure it is not wasted

The Bible – really a library of over 70 different books between OT and NT

OT written over 1500/2000 years, NT written in less than 100 years, between approx. 65 and 150 AD

Many different types of writing in OT – myth, historical narrative, laws, poetry, prophecy – to be proclaimed differently, and understood differently

Foundational books of our faith in the OT the five books of Torah (also called the Pentateuch), followed by the Historical Books, the Wisdom books and then the Prophets.

NT – the four Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John; then the Acts of the Apostles (also written by St Luke), the 13 letters of St Paul, Letter to the Hebrews, the seven letters of James, Peter, John and Jude, and the Book of Revelation.

Bible texts presented at Mass over a three year cycle – year A, year B (starting on first Sunday of Advent this year) and year C. Each year has one of the Synoptic Gospels for Sunday reading – year B will be Mark.

Liturgy of Word concludes with the Creed – I believe, not we believe.

Questions we might consider

1. Is the flow or rhythm chart of the Mass helpful?
2. Do I have any experience of knowing or even thinking that God was talking to me?
3. Is God real for me? Approachable? Reliable?
4. Do you feel moved by the scriptures to believe that Jesus is indeed the Son of God, and that we who come to believe will have life in his name? What does “life in his name” mean?
5. What should be done so that the Scripture is presented more fruitfully at Mass?

*Next session in our series – Liturgy of the Eucharist: My Lord and my God!*

*Wednesday Nov. 22nd 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.