



Office of Religious Education
Eparchy of St. Maron of Brooklyn
2040 Wehrle Drive, Williamsville, NY 14221
Telephone: (716) 634-0669
Fax: (716) 634-0674

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Dear Brother Priests:

Catechetical Sunday is celebrated this year on September 21. The Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis adopted the theme that the Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, has chosen for the Twelfth Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops which will take place in Rome, October of 2008: **“The Word of God in the Life and Mission of the Church.”** For us Maronites, September 21st this year is actually the second Sunday of the Holy Cross. Since we are celebrating Catechetical Sunday, we will follow the theme that was chosen by the Holy Father. You may use the Maronite Lectionary for that particular Sunday and base your sermon on the chosen theme of Catechetical Sunday.

Provided in the Catechetical Packet are seven different articles of theological, pastoral, and scriptural reflections which may serve as helpful resources for your sermon. They are as follows:

- ✠ *The Word of God in the Life and Mission of the Church: A Theological Reflection*, Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis, USCCB, Publication No. 7-028.
- ✠ *I Hear a Symphony: the many Meanings of ‘The Word of God’*, by Dr. Scott Hahn.
- ✠ *The Basics of Biblical Literacy*, by Timothy Michael Milinovich.
- ✠ *The Senses of Scripture*, by Dr. Pauline Viviano.
- ✠ *The Word of God as the Foundation of the Church’s Mission*, by Dr. Peter Williamson.
- ✠ *For the Pastor: Engaging Your Parish More Actively in the Word of God*, Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis, USCCB, Publication No. 7-028.
- ✠ *How to Make the Word of God Part of the Life and Mission of the Parish*, Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis, USCCB, Publication No. 7-028.

The enclosed CD contains the entire packet. Adobe Acrobat is necessary in order to open the pdf files of this disc and it works both on a PC or a Mac. If, for one reason or another, you were not able to print Catechetical Sunday materials from the CD, you can download them from the Eparchial website at www.stmaron.org after August 11th, or you may call the Office of Religious Education to request a hard copy.

Let us strive to actively involve our parish families in **“The Word of God...”** Assuring you of my continued support, I remain

Fraternally yours in The Word of God,

Rev. Georges Y. El-Khalli, Ph.D.
Eparchial Director of Religious Education