



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION III
SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE OF BATAAN

JUL 04 2025

DIVISION ADVISORY
No. 153, s. 2025

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Chief Education Supervisors
Education Program Supervisors
Public Schools District Supervisors
Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

This Office informs all concerned that the Diocesan Catechetical Ministry, Diocese of Balanga will be holding catechism classes in public elementary and secondary schools starting this August 2025.

The field is reminded of the provisions of DepEd Order No. 49, s. 2009 titled "Reiterating the Revised Rules and Regulations on the Teaching of Religion in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools".

No. 1 - (d) of the said Order states:

"The religious teachers/instructors who teach religion classes in the public elementary and high schools shall be formally sourced or recruited by the respective principal or school head in accordance with the corresponding request for optional religious instruction. After their designation or nomination by their respective religious authorities, said teachers shall submit to the school head their proper authorization papers and request for time allocation and schedule for the optional religious instruction."

No. 1 – (e) further states at the last part:

"No student/pupil shall be allowed or permitted to attend religious instruction classes without written application and duly accomplished request of his/her parent/guardian."



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No. 1 – (j) of this Order also clarifies that:

Optional religious instruction and Values Education are separate, different, and distinct subjects. As such they shall be allotted separate class hours...

For more information, attached is the letter from Rev. Fr. Ernesto B. De Leon, Director, Diocesan Catechetical Ministry, Diocese of Balanga.

CAROLINA S. VIOLETA, EdD, CESO V

Schools Division Superintendent

In compliance with DepEd Order No. 8 s. 2013, this Division Advisory is issued not for endorsement per D.O. 28 s. 2001 only for the information of DepEd Officials, personnel as well as the concerned public.

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July 4, 2025



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"We Must Honor"



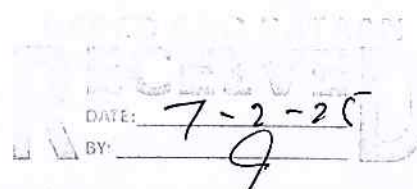


DIOCESAN CATECHETICAL MINISTRY DIOCESE OF BALANGA

ST. JOSEPH CATHEDRAL G/F, BALANGA CITY, BATAAN

02 July 2025

DR. CAROLINA S. VIOLETA, Ed. D.
School Division Superintendent
Office of the Schools Division Superintendent
Division of Bataan
DepEd-Bataan Division Office
Kabukiran, Calaylayan, Abucay, Bataan



Dear Dr. Violeta,

Grace and peace!

Pope Leo XIV recently said that *"in a time of great fragmentation, it is necessary to return to the foundation of our faith, to the kerygma. This is the first major commitment that motivates all the others: to bring Christ 'into the veins' of humanity"*. Recognizing that catechesis is an echo of the kerygma, whose active figure is the Lord Jesus, may I have the pleasure again of requesting for your endorsement for the Diocesan Catechetical Ministry to hold catechism classes in our public elementary and secondary schools this Academic year 2025-2026 in the entire province and diocese. Our catechists will start going to our schools beginning August armed with your kind permission/endorsement. As in the past, the Franciscan Immaculatine Sisters (FIS), Daughters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (DHS) as well as the priests and seminarians of the Marian Missionaries of the Holy Cross (MMHC) will be assigned to our public secondary schools for the Catechetical and Youth Ministry in the campus.

Thank you even now for your kind support to this important ministry, our ecclesial act in itself which will certainly help our children, our youth *"feel the growing desire to get to know our Lord Jesus Christ, expressing a first inclination toward the Gospel"* (Directory for Catechesis 2020, 34) towards the realization and profound understanding that the *"kerygma together with their personal faith has a clear social content"* (DC 60), integrating it into the veins of their everyday lives.

May the Good Lord bless all your endeavors.

Sincerely yours,

REV. FR. ERNESTO B. DE LEON
Director, Diocesan Catechetical Ministry



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DIOCESE OF BALANGA

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