

## ARCHDIOCES OF GOA AND DAMAN, INDIA

### CURRICULUM FOR THE TWO YEAR THEOLOGY COURSE FOR LAY FAITHFUL CONDUCTED BY THE OFFICE OF THE THEOLOGICAL AND PASTORAL FORMATION OF THE LAITY

#### YEAR I

1. **Theology for the laity:** Vision, objectives, parameters. Lay Vocation and Church documents/Church in India (CBCI) on formation and mission of the laity.
2. **Introduction to Theology** – The Nature, Object and Necessity of doing theology, Disciplinary divisions, Basic principles, Approaches/Models and styles of theologizing. Sources of Theology, Development and pluralism in theology, Theology in the Indian context.
3. **Revelation and Faith** - General Introduction, Biblical Understanding of Christian Revelation, Revelation Theology of Vatican II (Dei Verbum), Private and Public Revelations, Criteria to ascertain the authenticity of Revelation, Jesus, the climax of Christian Revelation, Crisis of Faith – Globalization, Science and Technology, Faith, as response to the revealing God, Understanding of Faith (Biblical), Act of Faith, Qualities of Faith, Faith and Salvation, Faith and healings/miracles/suffering.
4. **General Introduction to the Bible** - the process of formation of scripture, language, inspiration, inerrancy, Various translations, Biblical Canon, Difference between the Catholic and other Bibles, the Church's teaching on the importance of the Word of God and on interpreting the Bible, Scripture and Tradition (Dei Verbum, Verbum Domini),
5. **Old Testament**
  - a) History, Periods, Beliefs, Traditions, Festivals and Major Events, Sacrifices and Offerings.
  - b) The Pentateuch – Structure, composition and theology.
  - c) The Prophets and their Message
6. **New Testament**
  - a) General introduction, social, political and religious background of the Gospels.
  - b) Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and Acts
7. **The Doctrine of God** – This unit will explore some general issues relating to the doctrine of God, concentrating upon a series of questions of particular relevance to the modern period: questions raised by the rise of feminism, a new concern for suffering of the world, and increased anxiety concerning the environment. Is God Male? A personal God, Can God

suffer?, The omnipotence of God, God's Action in the World, God as Creator, Theodicies: The Problem of Evil

7.1 The Doctrine of the Trinity – The Origins of the Christian Doctrine of the Trinity, The Biblical Foundations of the Doctrine of the Trinity, The Historical Development, The *Filioque* Controversy.

7.2 The Doctrine of the Person of Christ – The Place of Jesus Christ in Christian Theology, New Testament Christological Titles, Christological models – Classic and Contemporary.

7.3 The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit – Models of the Holy Spirit, The debate over the divinity of the Holy Spirit, The functions of the Holy Spirit.

8. **History of the Church** – Early, Medieval, Reformation, An overview of Christianity in India and Goa.

9. **The Doctrine of the Church** – Biblical Models of the Church (the Old and New Testament), The Early Development of Ecclesiology, Early Protestant Doctrines of the Church, Christ and the Church: Some twentieth century Themes – Christ is present sacramentally, Christ is present through the word, Christ is present through the Spirit – The Second Vatican Council on the Church - the Trinitarian origin, Church as Mystery, Sacrament, Communion, People of God, Charismatic Community, The “Notes” of the Church – One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic.

10. **Christian Worship**, Liturgy

10.1 Introduction to Sacraments.- The Early development of Sacramental Theology, The Definition of Sacrament, The Donatist Controversy: Sacramental Efficacy, Christ the Sacrament of Encounter with God (Dei Verbum), The Multiple Functions of the Sacraments.

11. **Moral Theology** – Moral life as response to God's call

12. **Documents of Vatican II, Some recent Encyclicals/Apostolic Exhortations**

13. **Mary in the Church**, Marian Dogmas, Popular devotions

## YEAR II

1. Psalms, Wisdom Literature, Historical Books

2. Gospel of John, Revelation and Johannine Letters

3. Paul and his Letters – New Creation in Christ

4. Non-Pauline Letters

5. Sacraments of Initiation, Healing, Mission.
6. Theology of Marriage
7. Introduction to the Canon Law
8. Social Teachings of the Church
9. Other Faiths and Inter-Religious Dialogue
10. Divisions in the Church of Christ and Ecumenism
11. New Religious Movements (Sects)
12. Diocesan Pastoral Plan – Parish Councils, Small Christian Communities.
13. Associations, Movements, Charisms in the Church.
14. Discipleship in the New Testament
15. Lay Vocation and Mission of the Church in the World
16. Theology of Politics
17. Leadership and its functions in the Church
15. Some Moral Issues and the Christian Perspective (Abortion, Euthanasia, IVF, Cloning)
16. The Church and the Poor, Women, Caste, Ecology, theology of tourism
17. The Last Things
18. Social Anthropology/Anthropology of Religion