

**Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines**  
 EPISCOPAL COMMISSION ON CATECHESIS AND CATHOLIC EDUCATION

**Update on the Writing of the National Catechetical Directory for the Philippines**

June 01, 2023

*Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, The Eternal High Priest*


During the last term of Most Rev. Roberto Mallari as ECCCE Chair, he commissioned Rev. Msgr. Pedro Gerardo O. Santos to take charge of the Revision of Catechism for Filipino Catholics (CFC). Msgr. Gerry was given the free hand to select members of the Technical Working Group (TWG). On the initial meeting of the members of the TWG, brought by the release of the Directory for Catechesis 2020, an inspiration of writing a New National Catechetical Directory should take precedence before revising the CFC. Since then, the group had regular Thursday evening meetings for the preparations of formulating the NCDP. Appointment letters were sent to the major superiors and direct heads of the committee members. The Directory for Catechesis 2020 authored by the Pontifical Council for New Evangelization will serve as the main reference for the formulation of the storyline of NCDP, as well as the survey questionnaire to be given to the Diocesan Catechetical Ministries all over the country. Msgr. Gerry pointed out that the new NCDP will be written and authored primarily by the Bishops of the Philippines.

With the continuous guidance and support of the ECCCE Chair, His Excellency Most Rev. Elmer Mangalino, (December 2021) and now with Most Rev. Daniel Presto, the work of the Local Church continues to progress in the spirit of Synodality for the writing of the new NCDP. Below is the progress report from the Secretariat of the Ad Hoc Committee on the writing of the New National Catechetical Directory for the Philippines.

Date	Target/s
Every Thursday at 8PM	Each week, or whenever deemed necessary, a Zoom Meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee Members is being conducted.
December 7, 2021	A Pilot Testing of the Survey Questionnaire to the catechists enrolled at De La Salle University on Certificate on Catechetical Leadership and Supervision was held.
January 28, 2022	Presentation of the 10-minute AVP to the Plenary of CBCP on the writing of the NCDP 3.
February 3, 2022	A Meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee Members with Most Rev. Elmer Mangalino was conducted. Concerns with regard the Pilot Testing was relayed.
February 9, 2022	A special Zoom Meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee Members with Most. Rev. Gilbert Garcera on issues on inculturation was held.
April 5, 2022	Review of the Survey Questionnaire with (ECCCE Bishop Members) Most Rev. Elmer Mangalino, Most Rev. Rex Alarcon, Most Rev. Daniel Presto together with the NCDP Ad Hoc Committee Members was made.
April 24, 2022	Letters of Invitation to the specific writers of NCDP was sent by the ECCCE.
April 28, 2022	Sending of Appointment Letters to the Ad Hoc Committee Members.
May 5, 2022	Incorporating all the comments, suggestions of the Most Rev. Mangalino and ECCCE Bishop Members to the presentation of the Survey Questionnaire on Inculturation and the possibility of extending the survey questionnaire to the Catholic Schools was pointed.
May 19, 2022	Items of the survey Questionnaire reformulated in accordance with the suggestions made by Most Rev. Rex Alarcon and Most Rev. Daniel Presto on vernacular language (translation) and the sense of Synodality was also taken into consideration.
May 23, 2022	Meeting for the National Orientation of NCDP 3 / Tasking Opening Remarks: Most Rev. Jose Elmer Mangalino Roll Call: Fr. Ernesto de Leon Rationale – Msgr. Gerardo Santos, OP Story line – Fr. Renato de Guzman Infographics – Br. Felix Marvin Cajanding AVP – Fr. Renato De Guman & Br. Felix Marvin Cajanding Presentation of survey questionnaire – Dr. Lysander Rivera, Br. Felix Cajanding, and Sr. Rhea Castillo, OP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All translation concerns shall be directly coordinated with Ms. Annalee, ECCCE Secretary.</li> <li>• All drafting of letters to the Catechetical Directors, translators – c/o Br. Felix signed by Msgr. Santos.</li> <li>• NCDP General Orientation Letters – c/o ECCCE</li> </ul>
May 23 – 27, 2022	Making of Video c/o Fr. Degz and Br. Felix with the Video editors Drafting of the letters for the translators, Invitation to the Catechetical Directors/Coordinators

June 3, 2022	Phase two of the Pilot testing of the survey Questionnaire to the students of CCLS / Considering their comments with regards to the translations.
June 10, 2022	Submission of the Translated Questionnaire to the Ad Hoc Committee for the finalization of the Google Form
June 13, 2022	NCDP 3 AD HOC Committee Meeting with Most Rev. Elmer Mangalinao, ECCCE Bishop Members, Fr. Ernesto de Leon and Sr. Beth Butay, MCST for the presentation of the AVP. (The AVP presented by the team was approved.)
June 13-17, 2022	Revision of the AVP based on suggestions and comments.
June 21, 2022 at 9:00 – 11:00 AM	NCDP General Orientation for Luzon Catechetical Directors and Coordinators
June 22, 2022 at 9:00 – 11:00 AM	NCDP General Orientation for Visayas and Mindanao Catechetical Directors and Coordinators
July 07 and 08, 2022	Presentation of ECCCE to CBCP about the NCDP 3
August 4, 2022	Meeting with His Excellency, Most Rev. Elmer Mangalinao, DD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Approval of the Proposed Budget of P2,000,000. One million pesos will be taken care of ECCCE thru the Executive Secretary, Fr. Ernesto de Leon. The other one million pesos will be taken from other sources.</li> </ul>
August 11, 2022	Paralleling of NCS 1 and NCDP 3 Survey Questionnaire, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Situationer of NCS1 #s 23&amp;24, 26-28, 31-33, 34-35</li> <li>➤ Catechetical Content #s 39-41, 42-59</li> <li>➤ Catechized #s 12-13</li> <li>➤ Process 3s 30, 33-49</li> <li>➤ Socio –Demographic #s 51</li> <li>➤ Catechetical Leader #s 11, 12, 13, 14 &amp; 16</li> </ul> E-copy of the Shape of Religious Education was provided by Rev. Fr. Salvatorre Putzu, SDB.
August 19, 2022	Meeting with the Writers: August 19, 2022 @ 8:00 PM NCDP Ad Hoc Committee Meeting <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Template for writing the NCDP 3 <p>Font: Times New Roman  Font Size: 12  Spacing 1.5  Margin 2.54 (normal)  Orientation: Portrait  Content: Topic assigned in the light of Directory for Catechesis 2022  Nota Bene: Indicate all sources with proper citations either footnote or end note, KT 8th Edition</p> </li> <li>2. ECCCE has to give DC copy for all the writers</li> <li>3. Presentation of the List of Writers</li> <li>4. Program for the Orientation of the Writers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Attendance: 19 writers</li> <li>➤ Perspective Setting: Msgr. Gerardo Santos (inclusion of the Ministerium Antiquum, set of criteria to institutionalize the ministry, a system of certification for the catechetical ministry. The formulation of NCDP 3 Survey Questionnaire is guided by the Synodal Act and this will comprise as a Magisterial Document.</li> <li>➤ Explanation of the Writing Process: Fr. Renato de Guzman, SDB (storyline), the language has to be simple and NCDP is address to the Bishops and meant for the catechists</li> <li>➤ Timeline for the Writing of NCDP</li> <li>➤ Open Forum</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Catechists to be formed with New Evangelization</li> <li>b) Fr. Norman asked that the data will be handed by a group for interpretation <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Dr. Linda Tacorda asked if there's an evaluation of the 1984 and 2007 National Catechetical Directory for the Philippines. How do we live our Christian life with Christian faith? How's the setting of the phase of the renewed catechesis? How competent are our catechetical Leaders? How well should they be prepared? Have we evaluated ourselves the principles of NCDP?</li> <li>b) Dr. Nati Pagadut suggested that there can be two writers in a topic, and there should be an editor.</li> <li>c) Fr. Jesus Miranda suggested to include gender fluid issues, someone has a psychological background</li> <li>d) Sr. Cecilia Espenilla shared about the prevalence of false news as distortion of truth. The NCDP is a set of principles that should inspire us to in particular issues.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

	<p>e) Fr. Salvatore Putzu suggested to have guidelines for the Revision of CFC</p> <p>f) Sr. Waltrud of Mother of Life mentioned about some challenges for the young people which are fundamentals in our lives?</p> <p>g) Fr. Juny Miranda suggested to have the Bishops who are experts in catechesis</p> <p>h) Fr. Sal reminded that the Holy Spirit's guidance in the working of NCDP with new things and new ideas</p> <p>i) Msgr. Gerry emphasized that the writers will be doing the NCDP in the spirit of synodality</p> <p>Other Concerns</p> <p>a) Consider National Catechetical Study of UST</p> <p>b) Comments of experts</p> <p>c) A topic to have 2 contributors</p> <p>d) Survey Questionnaire Responses' Deadline</p> <p>e) Writers' Deadline of the topic assigned</p>
September 2022	<p>Updating of the NCDP 3 Survey Questionnaire (Responses of the different Dioceses)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Some writers were able to submit their respective write-ups/contributions to the office of the ECCCE.</li> <li>2. The Ad Hoc Committee was able to do a synodal paralleling of the questionnaires from the recent NCS of UST.</li> <li>3. Collation of both the manual and g-forms responses were collated.</li> </ol> <p>Per item translation to pie chart was suggested for an easy interpretation of data. A request for a formal meeting with Most Rev. Daniel Presto, Fr. Ernersto de Leon, and Sr. Elizabeth Butay, MCST was made.</p>
October 2022	The effort of ECCCE is essential in the formulation of NCDP, thus, submitted works by the authors have to be acknowledged.
October 14, 2022	Updates on NCDP Survey Questionnaire Respondents
October 20, 2022	Assignment for the Results, Analysis and Interpretation of Data
November 3, 2022	<p>As of October 20, 2022 (NCDP Survey Questionnaire)</p> <p>Respondents: 13, 210 (G-Forms and Manual Survey)</p> <p>Archdioceses: 11 out of 16</p> <p>Dioceses: 36 out of 58</p> <p>Apostolic Vicariates: 1 out of 7</p> <p>Prelatures: 1 out 4</p> <p>Military Ordinariate: 1 out 1</p> <p>➤ Presentation of the Results of Data</p>
November 10, 2022	<p>Presentation of the Analysis and Interpretation of Data in the light of Directory for Catechesis</p> <p>A pastoral interpretation be included in using the old NCDP</p>
December 5, 2022	<p>A new framework in interpreting the study (Pastoral interpretation)</p> <p>Following the framework of DC2020, the Proposed structure of NCDP 3 is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Catechists</li> <li>2) Nature of Catechesis</li> <li>3) Programs</li> <li>4) Organization</li> <li>5) (Implementing Guidelines of Antiquum Ministerium)</li> </ol>
January 5, 2023	"Catechumenal Process" is the reference in writing the NCDP 3
January 12, 2023 (Meeting with Bp. Elmer)	<p>Update on the writing of NCDP 3 will be submitted to His Excellency, Most Rev. Jose Elmer I. Mangalinao, D.D.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NCDP 3 "Bunga ng Synodality"</li> <li>- NCDP 3 is concise, inculturated, and pastoral in nature.</li> <li>- NCDP 3 Writing continues even if it has no budget allotted for it.</li> </ul> <p>The report of Most Rev. Jose Elmer Mangalinao, DD to the CBCP Assembly in January 2023 consists of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) AVP Presentation of NCDP 3 (Rationale, History)</li> <li>b) Updates of TWG NCDP 3</li> <li>c) AVP Presentation of Antiquum Ministerium</li> </ol> <p>Short report of the Antiquum Ministerium (Missio Canonica, the Foundation of NACPhil, Proposed formulation of the Guidelines of the Acceptance of Catechist to be prepared by the Regional Catechetical Leaders</p>
February 1, 2023	TWG Face to Face Meeting with ECCCE Staff (Laguna)
February 4, 2023	A Draft Letter of Appointment for Mo. Jesusa Enginco, OP to be part of ECCCE and PHILCARE was submitted to the ECCCE Office.

February 13, 2023	During the regular meeting, a new time table was finalized, in direction with the presentation of the First Chapter on the upcoming CBCP Plenary Meeting on July this year.
February 25, 2023	A google drive was made for a faster collaboration in the editing of the First chapter of the NCDP III.
March 09, 2023	Fr. Degz presented an updated template on how the First Chapter will be written.
March 23, 2023	Sr. Rhea presented the analysis of the survey questionnaire. This will be published as a preliminary document during the writing of NCDP III.
April 2023	Work in Progress (Weekly Zoom Meeting)
May 2023	Work in Progress (Weekly Zoom Meeting)
May 18, 2023	TWG Meeting with ECCCE Bishops and Assist. Exec. Sec. via zoom. Attendees: Their Excellencies, Bp. Daniel Presto, Bp. Rex Alarcon, Bp. Francis De Leon, Sr. Elizabeth Butay, and the TWG.
May 26, 2023	Face to Face Meeting and Editing of the First Chapter of NCDP 3 at 3 <sup>rd</sup> Flr. Conference Room, Yuchengco Bldg., De La Salle University Manila. 
	7:30pm - Updating of the TWG with Bp. Danny Presto via zoom.
June 01, 2023	Edited file of NCDP 3 Chapter 1 was sent to ECCCE for review of chosen experts in the field of Catechesis.

May the Good Lord who begun the work in us bring it to fulfillment.  
Live Jesus in our hearts, forever!

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*(sgd)*

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