



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION IV-A CALABARZON
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF BATANGAS

Advisory No. **103**, s. 2026

June 19, 2026

In compliance with DepEd Order (DO) No. 8, s. 2013
this advisory is issued not for endorsement per DO 28, s. 2001,
but only for the information of DepEd officials,
personnel/staff, as well as the concerned public.
(Visit www.deped.gov.ph)

**CONDUCT OF CATECHETICAL INSTRUCTION FOR ELEMENTARY AND
SECONDARY STUDENTS IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL**

This advisory is issued to provide guidance to all public schools and personnel regarding engagements with the Archdiocese of Lipa, Commission on Catechesis a private, faith-based organization that conducts religious and values-oriented programs for children.

In line with existing Department of Education policies, all concerned are hereby reminded of the following:

1. Public schools shall maintain religious neutrality and uphold the constitutional provision on the separation of Church and State. Any activity conducted within school premises must not favor or endorse any particular religious group. More so, Aal school-based activities must promote inclusivity, respect diversity, and align with DepEd's mandate of providing equitable and non-sectarian education.
2. Participation in or accommodation of activities initiated by private organizations, including Archdiocese of Lipa, Commission on Catechesis, shall not be interpreted as official endorsement by the Department.
3. Consistent with DepEd Order No. 40, s. 2012 (Child Protection Policy), any participation of learners must be Strictly voluntary; With written parental/guardian consent; and Free from coercion or undue influence.
4. Activities organized by external groups shall not disrupt regular classes or diminish instructional time in line with DepEd Order No. 9, s. 2005 (Time-on-Task Policy)
5. Further, in line with DepEd Order No. 009, s. 2026, otherwise known as the Guidelines on the Implementation of the Three-Term School Calendar in Basic Education, teachers shall not be interrupted during actual class hours to ensure the continuity of teaching and learning.
6. All field offices and schools are advised to exercise due diligence and ensure that any engagement with Archdiocese of Lipa, Commission on Catechesis or similar organizations strictly complies with DepEd policies and prioritizes the best interest of learners.



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For strict compliance.

MLJCB/ CONDUCT OF CATECHETICAL INSTRUCTION FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY STUDENTS IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL/R2-152632



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ARCHDIOCESE OF LIPA

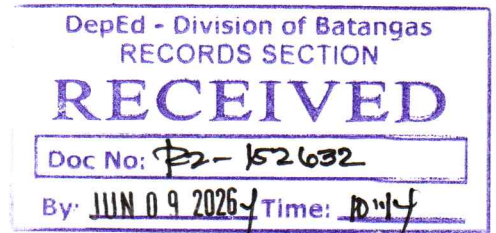
Commission on Catechesis

MCSH Convent Compound, City Park Subdivision, Sabang, Lipa City 4217 Batangas, PHILIPPINES
Mobile Number: 09069393587



June 5, 2026

DR. MARITES A. IBANEZ, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent
SDO Batangas Province
Batangas Provincial Sports Complex,
Batangas City, Batangas 4200



Dear Dr. Marites,

Greetings of peace in Christ!

In line with Article XIV, Section 3(3) of the 1987 Philippine Constitution, which provides that: "At the option expressed in writing by the parents or guardians, religion shall be allowed to be taught to their children or wards in public elementary and high schools within the regular class hours by instructors designated or approved by the religious authorities of the religion to which the children or wards belong, without additional cost to the Government", we respectfully request permission from your good office for our duly designated catechists to conduct catechetical instruction for elementary and secondary students in the public schools under the care of our parishes this school year 2026-2027.

Trusting in your favorable consideration of this request, I remain,

Yours in Christ,


Rev. Fr. LORENZO MARTIN J. ZARA
Director, Commission on Catechesis