

SECTION TWO

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

GLOSSARY

- **Church:** The worldwide body of Christians known as the community of disciples, the Body of Christ, the People of God, the Temple of the Holy Spirit.
- **Christian Spirituality:** Life in the Holy Spirit who incorporates the Christian into the Body of Jesus Christ, through whom the Christian has access to God the Father in a life of faith, hope, love, and service.
- **Creation:** The original and ongoing act of God by which reality is produced and sustained from nothingness.
- **Ecumenism:** The movement which seeks to achieve unity of Christians within the Church and ultimately of humankind throughout the 'whole wide world' (the literal meaning of the word).
- **Faith:** The gift of God by which we freely accept God's self-communication in Christ.
- **Gospel:** The 'good news' proclaimed by Jesus Christ and thereafter by the Apostles and the Church. The Gospel is interpreted and recorded in the four Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.
- **Kingdom of God:** The reign, or rule, of God. It is the transforming presence of God in the heart, in groups, in the world at large, renewing and reconciling all things. It is both a process and the reality toward which the process is moving. Thus, it is 'already' and 'not yet'.
- **Intercultural:** Intercultural describes communities in which there is a deep understanding and respect for all cultures. Intercultural communication focuses on the mutual exchange of ideas and cultural norms and the development of deep relationships. In an intercultural society, no one is left unchanged because everyone learns from one another and grows together.
- **Inter-religious Dialogue:** Inter-religious dialogue is best defined as intentional encounter and interaction among members of different religions as members of different religions. There is quite a variety of types of interreligious dialogue, with no overall agreement about what these types are: official or institutional dialogue between or among elites chosen by their religions as official representatives, parliamentary-style dialogue, verbal dialogue, inter-visitation, spiritual dialogue, practical dialogue, and internal dialogue.
- **Multicultural:** Multicultural refers to a society that contains several cultural or ethnic groups. People live alongside one another, but each cultural group does not necessarily have engaging interactions with each other. For example, in a multicultural neighbourhood people may frequent ethnic grocery stores and restaurants without really interacting with their neighbours from other countries.
- **Philosophy:** The intellectual discipline concerned with the ultimate meaning of reality, but without assuming responsibility (as theology does) for articulating that meaning in terms of particular religious traditions.
- **Religion:** The external, social, institutionalised expression of our faith in God.
- **Sacrament:** In general, any visible sign of God's invisible presence. Specifically, a sign through which the Church manifests and celebrates its faith and communicates the saving grace of God. In Catholic doctrine there are seven: Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Penance, Marriage, Holy Order, and the Anointing of the Sick.