



SERVANT OF GOD
FATHER JOHN A. HARDON, S.J.

“ Because the whole Church is of its nature missionary, and the work of evangelization is to be considered a fundamental duty of the people of God, all Christ’s faithful must be conscious of the responsibility to play their part in missionary activity. ”

Code of Canon Law 781

Marian Catechist Apostolate

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Order courses from
Eternal Life (800) 842-2871

Father Hardon’s Catholic Home Study Courses

Please read the entire General Guidelines before beginning your course.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

The home study courses developed by Servant of God Father John A. Hardon, S.J. are intended to assist individuals to internalize the truths of the Catholic Faith, to grow in relationship with the Person of Christ, to apply the concepts learned to daily life and, finally, to hand on the Faith to others.

REQUIREMENTS

AGE

These courses are most appropriate for adults 18 years and older. Other programs exist that are more appropriate for children and teens.

PRAYERFUL STUDY

Prayerful study of each of the courses in the presence of the Most Blessed Sacrament is highly recommended. Some things can only be understood when we are deeply in love with Christ, Who is the source of our understanding of the truths of the Catholic Faith. Frequent prayer and study before the Blessed Sacrament will foster a deeper, more personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Father Hardon often recommended such prayer and study as an indispensable means to receive light for the mind and strength for the will.

INDEPENDENT RESEARCH AND STUDY

The questions in these courses are both thought-provoking and challenging. Feel free to consult any and all reliable and orthodox sources. Especially useful are the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, magisterial documents of the Church, and any books or articles written by Servant of God Father John A. Hardon, S.J. The tests are open book; however, they must be taken alone, with no help from spouses, friends, study group members or anyone else.

We learn and internalize what is studied most effectively by means of personal study and research. In other words, the process of independently studying the courses and researching the answers will most help us to grow in our knowledge and love of the Catholic Faith. Little or no internalization will take place if someone else simply provides us with the answers.

There is no time limit for the completion of the courses; however, it is a good idea, for the sake of continuity, to work consistently until each course is completed. No additional tuition or fees are required of those who take a long break in their studies.

GROUPS AND ONE-ON-ONE SESSIONS

Following independent study and completion of the open book tests, it may be beneficial to be involved in a study group or in a one-on-one discussion with a group leader.

A group leader may be either a priest or qualified Marian Catechist.* The role of the group leader is to provide explanations for questions that were answered incorrectly, for a fuller understanding of the Catholic Faith. Before meeting with a group leader, each participant is to answer the questions and mail the answer sheets to Inter Mirifica for grading. The answers, as recorded by the student in the *Workbook*, can be used for any subsequent review. If you would like to know if there is a study group in your area, or if you would like to request one-on-one assistance, please contact the Marian Catechist Apostolate at (608) 782-0011.

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

A Certificate of Completion is awarded with the approbation of His Eminence Raymond Leo Cardinal Burke, International Director of the Marian Catechist Apostolate, to those who have completed a course according to the guidelines and have achieved an overall average score of 75% or higher. The Certificate may be used for diocesan certification, subject to approval by diocesan authorities.

ESSAY FOR COURSE THREE: MASTERS OF THE SPIRITUAL LIFE

After completing the last test for the *Masters of the Spiritual Life Course*, the final assignment is a five-hundred-word essay about any of the Masters studied in the course. Simply tell, in your own words, what you have learned from reading the Spiritual Master of your choice. Your essay will be returned to you, along with your Certificate of Completion, provided you have received an overall average score of 75% or higher.

**Learn more about the Marian Catechist Apostolate on page 5.*