Effective Classroom Management, Lesson Instruction, and Evangelization for Religious Education

The Servants of the Pierced Hearts of Jesus and Mary

Made by Sr. Kristi Marie, SCTJM
Do have a behavior management system.

- Establish clear rules from the beginning.

- Virtue Catcher

- Post schedule of day.
Do use classroom time effectively.

Don’t waste class time taking attendance.
Do use classroom time effectively.

Don’t do complicated projects that don’t necessarily meet your lesson objective.
Do have a clear, higher level thinking lesson objectives.
Bloom's Taxonomy Verbs

When developing curriculum for your class, keep this list nearby. This will help you determine the level of response you are anticipating from your students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Verbs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge</td>
<td>Count, Define, Describe, Draw, Find, Identify, Label, List, Match, Name, Quote, Recall, Recite, Sequence, Tell, Write</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehension</td>
<td>Conclude, Demonstrate, Discuss, Explain, Generalize, Identify, Illustrate, Interpret, Paraphrase, Predict, Report, Restate, Review, Summarize, Tell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application</td>
<td>Apply, Change, Choose, Compute, Dramatize, Interview, Prepare, Produce, Role-play, Select, Show, Transfer, Use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analysis</td>
<td>Analyze, Characterize, Classify, Compare, Contrast, Debate, Deduce, Diagram, Differentiate, Discriminate, Distinguish, Examine, Outline, Relate, Research, Separate,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synthesis</td>
<td>Compose, Construct, Create, Design, Develop, Integrate, Invent, Make, Organize, Perform, Plan, Produce, Propose, Rewrite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluation</td>
<td>Appraise, Argue, Assess, Choose, Conclude, Critic, Decide, Evaluate, Judge, Justify, Predict, Prioritize, Prove, Rank, Rate, Select,</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Allow the Holy Spirit to show you how you can simply enhance the lesson.

The Students will be able to describe the story of the exodus, the multiplication of the loaves and the Last Supper.
The Students will be able to **Compare and Contrast** the stories of the exodus, the multiplication of the loaves and the Last Supper.
Effective Instruction

Feeding the 5 Thousand

- Jesus multiplies the bread and fish to feed the crowds.
- The story is in all four Gospels.
- God provides bread to satisfy bodily hunger.
- They remind us of the Eucharist and God sends manna from heaven to feed the Israelites in the desert.

The Exodus

- Old Testament Story
- God sends manna from heaven
- They remind us of the Eucharist and God provides bread for us
- New Testament Story
- Miracle done by Jesus
- They remind us that God is with us in the Eucharist and Jesus is the true Bread of Life.

The Last Supper

- Jesus gives us spiritual food in the Eucharist.
- Whoever eats this bread will live forever.
- Jesus said "Do this in Memory of Me!"
The Students will be able to Compare and Contrast and justify their comparisons of the stories of the exodus, the multiplication of the loaves and the Last Supper.
Effective Evangelization

“Mary, the first bearer of the Good News”

The Gospel of St. Luke
1:39-45
Mary Visits Elizabeth

39 At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, 40 where she entered Zechariah’s home and greeted Elizabeth. 41 When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. 42 In a loud voice she exclaimed: “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! 43 But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? 44 As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. 45 Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!”
Mary: The Evangelizer par-excellence

In this Gospel, we see Mary setting out across the hill country, full of the Holy Spirit, bearing Christ presence with the intention to serve Her relative in need. Mother Adela Galindo, Foundress of SCTJM explains, “[Mary] our Mother, the first bearer of the Good news of Christ, the first evangelizer and formator of the human heart, is the star of the New Evangelization [who] has called us to go out with promptitude full of the life of Christ to cross the mountains of humanity.”

1 Mother Adela Galindo, Foundress SCTJM, El Corazón de María Escuela Del Evangelio y Camino de Santidad, July 1, 2011.
“Mary got ready....”

It is important to note that Mary sets out, after She had received Christ within from the Annunciation. Likewise, we cannot bring the presence of Christ to others unless we ourselves have had an intimate encounter with him. We, as catechists, cannot expect to bring the children to come to know Jesus, If we ourselves do not know him.

"The Church is an evangelizer, but she begins by being evangelized herself."*4

Is prayer a priority in my life? Do my lessons flow from my life of prayer or my own projects and motives? What can I do to better evangelize myself?

*4Synod of Bishops XIII Ordinary General Assembly, The New Evangelization for the Transmission of the Christian Faith, 37
“...and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea.”

One lesson Mary, teaches us is not to waste time. We need to stir in our own soul the urgency of evangelization. As Saint John Paul II explains in his encyclical, *Redemptoris Missio*, “The mission of Christ the redeemer, which is entrusted to the Church is still very far from completion....this mission is still only beginning.” If we do not reach out to these children now, then society, a culture that has eclipsed God will.

If we allow Him, the presence of Christ within us, driven by the Holy Spirit will always draw us into a mission of charity. Mary set out on the mission of charity to help her aged cousin. Our mission as catechist, although different in our purpose, has the same motor of charity behind it. Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI expresses the relationship between charity and education very beautifully, stating that, “Charity calls the educator to recognize that the profound responsibility to lead the young to truth is nothing less than an act of love. Indeed, the dignity of education lies in fostering the true perfection and happiness of those to be educated.”

3 Pope Benedict XVI, Meeting With Catholic Educators Conference Hall of the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. April 17, 2008.
In Her first evangelizing mission, Our Lady made a difficult journey to serve to Her aged and pregnant cousin, Elizabeth, but Scripture tells us that the child John within the womb of St. Elizabeth was the first recipient of the Good News. The child perceived the Divine Presence within Our Lady and this caused Him to “leap with joy.”

Our Lady first evangelized to a child! You are like Mary, you are like Mother Church when you teach the children in your class. Present the Gospel in such a way that they too will leap with joy!
It was Christ’s presence in Mary which the child John recognized in his mother’s womb. Mary was like the first Monstrance bearing the presence of the Lord. Likewise, when we receive Holy Communion, we too become monstrances. St. John Paul II explains, “Only in deep communion with [the Eucharist] will catechists find light and strength for an authentic, desirable renewal of catechesis.”

Above all, the catechist must guide the children to understand God’s love for them. Having a true encounter with Jesus must be the focus. Saint John Paul II explains, “The definitive aim of catechesis is to put people not only in touch but in communion, in intimacy, with Jesus Christ: Only He can lead us to the love of the Father in the Spirit and make us share in the life of the Holy Trinity.”

Pope Francis stresses that above all, the first proclamation of the Good News must be repeated constantly: “Jesus Christ loves you; he gave his life to save you; and now he is living at your side every day to enlighten, strengthen and free you.”

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Mary did not need to even say a word. She was so beautifully transparent, that simply Her presence communicated Jesus. Mary teaches us, that beyond our words, our lessons, our activities, simply our witness is what will most impact the lives of the children we teach. Are we joyful witnesses? Like Our Lady during the Visitation, Catechesis must share the joy of Christ they bear within them to the children they have come to serve. Like Our Lady, they must sing their own Magnificent, personally proclaiming all that God has done in their lives and his “faithfulness and mercy towards all generations.” (Luke 1:50)
Pope Francis has taught the faithful that, "What is said of the Church can be said also of Our Lady and what is said of Our Lady can also be said of the Church." Both Mary and the Church are called "Mother", a mother who not only embraces her children after baptism, but also teaches and forms humanity. Thus, catechizes and education which nourishes and matures the children of God are part of the essence of the Church and an element of evangelization.

Catechists, like Mary, you are evangelizers!
Images

01: http://www.catholic-convert.com/wp-content/uploads/maryandelizabethf-500x370.jpg
03a: http://shiftinglight.com/daily-paintings/080706.jpg
03b: http://maristlaitynz.org/pics/272-m.jpg
04: Painting was done by a Sister of SCTJM
06a: https://mattanslow.files.wordpress.com/2011/12/magnificat.png
07: http://dayoftheunbornchild.com/Dav%20Of%20The%20Unborn%20Child-Feast%20Of%20The%20Annunciation_files/image004.gif
09: http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-GLADAwGRzAE/T8eYuI8sW8I/AAAAAAAABAw/Cds7KFaXs8c/s1600/Zefferelli+Visitation+16.jpg
10: http://blogs.nd.edu/oblation/files/2014/08/Mary-of-Nazareth-Nativity.jpg