

CEC E-Newsletter

Catholic Education Center, llc

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www.catholiceducationcenter.com



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Imitating Christ the Teacher

As teachers of the Faith, we strive to serve Christ and His Church by teaching the Word of God to the children of God. It is a humbling ministry—one that Christ Himself has called us to do!

As Catechists, we lead our students to communion with Christ and to become His disciples. We teach the life of Christ, the teachings of Christ and the love of Christ. What greater model to imitate as a teacher, than Christ Himself?

“Christ’s whole earthly life—his words and deeds, his silences and sufferings, indeed his manner of being and speaking—is Revelation of the Father” (CCC 516). So, too, we must strive to communicate God’s revelation through our

example and teaching of the Faith.

Christ’s words communicate the Truth. As teachers, we must teach the Truth transmitted by the Word of God found in Scripture and Tradition, and in the Divine Person of Jesus Christ. The Catechism of the Catholic Church is our guide. We should also open the Scriptures and read them to our students so that they may benefit from the proclamation of God’s Word.

Christ’s deeds spoke to us as well. We immediately think of His miracles, but the very fact that God the Son became Man to suffer and die so that we might be united with Him forever speaks volumes of God’s love for each one of us! We

should, by our words and example, teach God’s great love for our students.

Jesus’ manner of being and speaking teach us how to love as He loves. To teach discipleship; therefore we must be disciples ourselves. We must walk in Christ’s footsteps and carry our crosses. We must know our Lord (through study), unite ourselves with our Lord (especially through prayer and the Sacraments) and closely imitate Him to bear witness to our students.

Our Lord understands that being a teacher is not easy—it is a lot of work and long hours to proclaim the Good News to all the earth. But Jesus has assured us that as we teach the Faith, “I am with you always” (Mt. 28:20), and we will find no greater joy than union with Christ the Teacher.

Suggested Websites

New English Mass Translation (Advent 2011):

<http://www.usccb.org/romanmissal/resources.shtml>

Mass Readings:

<http://www.usccb.org/nab/>

Saint of the Day:

<http://www.americancatholic.org/Features/Saints/bydate.aspx?>

Free Classroom Resources:

http://www.catholicmom.com/catholic_kids.htm

Upcoming On Site Training Opportunities

CAT101: Catholic Education: What Every Teacher Needs to Know will be offered at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church (1427 W. Braddock Rd., Alexandria, VA, 22302; Tel: 703-998-6100 x 12) on September 11, October 2 and October 16 (9:30-12:30 each

day). This is a live version of the 10-class online course. To complete the course on site, you must attend all three dates. If you cannot attend one of the dates, you may complete the coursework online. You may register at the door, but please call ahead to reserve a space.

To book on site training at your parish or school, call Colette Lienhard at the Catholic Education Center, llc at 703-785-2319 or book online at:

www.catholiceducationcenter.com



Online course are a great way to continue your formation! You will have 12 weeks to complete 10 1-hour classes. You can work at your own speed when it fits your schedule.

The CAT100-Series (CAT101-CAT105) is designed to assist Teachers of the Faith obtain Basic Catechist Certification.

The CAT200-Series (CAT201-CAT205) provides Teachers of the Faith opportunities to continue their formation and obtain Advanced Catechist Certification.

We plan to continue expanding our course offerings in the future!

Online Catechist Formation Course Offerings by

CAT101: Catholic Education: What Every Teacher Needs to Know!

CAT101 Provides a general overview of the ministry of catechesis and the key doctrines of our Faith.

- Class 1: An Introduction to Teaching the Faith
- Class 2: Teaching Methods and Classroom Management
- Class 3: The Catechism and Scripture (An Overview)
- Class 4: The Old Testament: Key Figures and Events
- Class 5: The New Testament: Key Figures and Events
- Class 6: What To Teach (Pt 1): The Creed
- Class 7: What To Teach (Pt 2): The Sacraments
- Class 8: What To Teach (Pt 3): The Moral Life
- Class 9: What To Teach (Pt 4): Prayer
- Class 10: The Ministry of Catechesis

CAT102: The Creed

CAT102 presents in detail the doctrines contained in the Apostles Creed as well as suggestions for teaching these doctrines in the classroom.

- Class 1: I believe in God
- Class 2: The Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth
- Class 3: I believe in Jesus Christ, His Only Son, Our Lord
- Class 4: Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary
- Class 5: Jesus suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried
- Class 6: Jesus descended to the dead, on the third day He rose again. He ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
- Class 7: Jesus will come again to judge the living and the dead
- Class 8: I believe in the Holy Spirit
- Class 9: I believe in the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints
- Class 10: I believe in the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting.

CAT103: The Sacraments

CAT103 presents the Church's teaching on the Liturgy and Sacraments, as well as classroom suggestions for teaching the Sacraments and the new Translation of the Novus Ordo Mass.

- Class 1: Sacraments and the Liturgy
- Class 2: Baptism
- Class 3: Eucharist
- Class 4: The Mass
- Class 5: Confirmation
- Class 6: Penance
- Class 7: Anointing of the Sick
- Class 8: Holy Orders
- Class 9: Matrimony
- Class 10: Sacramentals

CAT104: The Moral Life

CAT104 presents the Moral Life as understood in the Christian context.

- Class 1: Called to Holiness
- Class 2: The Moral Life
- Class 3: Commandments 1-3
- Class 4: Commandment 4
- Class 5: Commandment 5
- Class 6: Commandments 6 & 9
- Class 7: Commandments 7 & 10
- Class 8: Commandment 8
- Class 9: Virtue and Vice
- Class 10: Beatitudes

CAT105: The Life of Prayer

CAT105 presents the Church's teaching on prayer as well as various devotions that are celebrated throughout the liturgical year.

- Class 1: Prayer (An Overview)
- Class 2: The Our Father
- Class 3: The Hail Mary
- Class 4: The Rosary
- Class 5: Stations of the Cross
- Class 6: Divine Mercy
- Class 7: Devotions for Advent and Christmas
- Class 8: Devotions for Lent and Easter
- Class 9: Marian Devotions
- Class 10: Devotions for Catechists

**For more information, or to register to go:
www.catholiceducationcenter.com**

the Catholic Education Center, LLC

CAT201: The General Directory for Catechesis
CAT201 reviews the content of the General Directory for Catechesis and discusses the ministry of Catechesis within the mission of the Church.

- Class 1: Preaching the Gospel
- Class 2: Evangelization
- Class 3: Catechesis
- Class 4: Norms and Criteria
- Class 5: Pedagogy and Methodology
- Class 6: Those to be Catechized
- Class 7: Catechesis in Special Situations
- Class 8: The Ministry of Catechesis
- Class 9: Loci and Means of Catechesis
- Class 10: Organizing Catechesis

NEW COURSES FALL 2010!

The Catholic Education Center, LLC has expanded its course offerings to assist teachers in obtaining hours towards their Advanced Catechist Certification. We hope to add more courses in the near future!

CAT202: The Teaching Church – Pt 1

- Class 1: Catechesis in the Old Testament
- Class 2: Catechesis in the New Testament
- Class 3: Didache
- Class 4: The Heresy of Gnosticism
- Class 5: The Canon of Scriptures (and St. Jerome)
- Class 6: Catechesis and Apostolic Fathers (St. Clement of Rome, St. Irenaeus of Antioch, and St. Polycarp)
- Class 7: The Apologists (Part 1 of 3) (St. Justin Martyr)
- Class 8: The Apologists (Part 2 of 3) (St. Irenaeus of Lyons, Tertullian, and Origen)
- Class 9: The Apologists (Part 3 of 3) (St. Hippolytus)
- Class 10: Classroom Applications

CAT203: The Teaching Church – Pt 2

- Class 1: The Heresy of Arianism
- Class 2: Foes of Arianism (St. Athanasius, St. Cyril of Jerusalem, St. Gregory of Nyssa, St. Gregory of Nanzianzus)
- Class 3: The Great Catechists (1 of 2) (St. John Chrysostom and St. Vincent of Lerins)
- Class 4: The Great Catechists (2 of 2) (St. Augustine of Hippo)
- Class 5: The Catechumenate of Old
- Class 6: The Catechumenate Today
- Class 7: The First Seven Ecumenical Councils
- Class 8: The Middle Ages
- Class 9: St. Thomas Aquinas
- Class 10: Classroom Applications

CAT204: The Teaching Church—Pt 3

- Class 1: The Reformation
- Class 2: Catechesis and Catechisms
- Class 3: The Council of Trent
- Class 4: The Catechism of the Council of Trent
- Class 5: Catechesis after Trent (Modern Catechetical Documents – Part 1)
- Class 6: Catechesis after Trent (Modern Catechetical Documents – Part 2)
- Class 7: The Catechism of the Catholic Church
- Class 8: The General Directory for Catechesis
- Class 9: Modern Catechetical Movements
- Class 10: Classroom Applications

CAT205: Tools for Teachers

CAT205 is designed like a hands-on workshop to assist teachers immediately in their classrooms by providing useful skills and ideas for Teaching the Faith.

- Class 1: Lesson Planning
- Class 2: Prayer
- Class 3: Demonstrations
- Class 4: Story/Drama
- Class 5: Music
- Class 6: Religious Art
- Class 7: Crafts
- Class 8: Projects
- Class 9: Technology
- Class 10: Reviewing Materials

DID YOU KNOW?

The Catholic Education Center, LLC offers a \$15.00 Discount per course for those active in ministry?

The Diocese of Arlington offers at \$45.00 Scholarship per course for Catholic School Teachers and Parish Catechists?

Some courses can be “upgraded” for Education Credits, which can be used toward Teaching Licensure (VA and VCEA) through Christendom Graduate School:

CAT101, CAT102 & CAT103 become EDUC 630: Teaching the Faith (Part 1)

CAT104, CAT105 & CAT106 become EDUC 631: Teaching the Faith (Part 2)

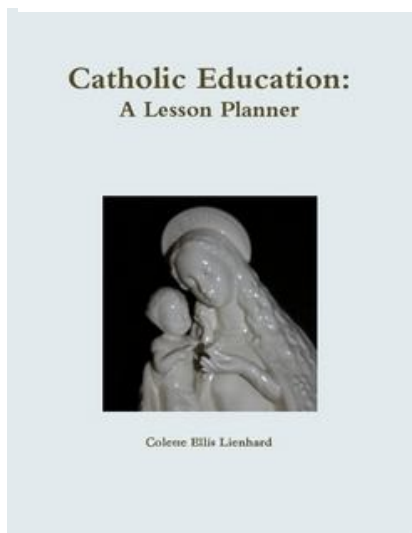
CAT202, CAT203 & CAT204 become EDUC 602: The Catechetical Tradition

The course work is the same. You simply need to do the Academic requirements and pay the tuition difference!

**For more information, contact Christendom Graduate School
Tel: 703-658-4304 or go to:
www.christendom.edu/grad/index.shtml**

**For more information, or to register to go:
www.catholiceducationcenter.com**

Catholic Education: A Lesson Planner



Now available! Only \$19.99!
www.catholiceducationcenter.com

Catholic Education: A Lesson Planner is an all-in-one resource for Teachers of the Faith! It is a great resource for every catechist.

This lesson planner is different than most. The calendar is designed to be flexible with extra large spaces for weekends! Every calendar page has a great quote to inspire catechists, and provides the feast days of the Saints. The flexible calendar allows you to plan your year at a glance.

The lesson planning pages can be

organized by date or topic. They provide a classroom time-line, a structured lesson plan template and allow you to include important information about your class, materials needed, special instructions, notes and even gives you blank space (to sketch yourself a visual aide, or use however you wish).

The references at the back provide simple summaries of the Church's teachings on the Creed, Sacraments, Moral Life and Prayer. In addition, there are copies of many familiar Catholic Prayers.

This is a planner you can use over and over again, like a personalized Teacher's Manual.

Beginning the Year Right!

Teaching the Faith is a tremendous joy and a great blessing! There are many things we can do to begin the year right, and ensure a successful year—for both you and your students!

At the beginning of the year, it is important to set the correct tone for your class. Provide a conducive environment and set standards (expectations or rules). Be sure every student understands how important they are to the class, and that their active participation is necessary for a great year. Perhaps you will need to begin your year with an ice-breaker or name tags to help student become comfortable with each other. Try to have every student be active in every class. For those who wish to not talk, they can help with set up or atten-

dance. Give students ample time to answer questions—even if you let them know you're going to ask a particular question and to begin thinking about their answers in advance. Have your students be accountable for their learning in your class.

Every classes' success begins outside the classroom. It is important to plan your classes well. Pray as you prepare (the Holy Spirit does inspire the best lessons). Plan for more than you will have time for—just in case you find yourself with “extra” time. I suggest a basic lesson structure: 1) Tell them what you're going to tell them; 2) Tell them; 3) Have them tell you what you told them.

1) **Tell them what you're going to tell them.** By informing the students what you will do each class allows the students to know what

content to focus on and to use their time well.

- 2) **Tell them.** Give your lessons at least two different ways to ensure students with different learning styles grasp the material. One simple rule of thumb is to teach using the senses. You can read (see), discuss (hear), do a demonstration or an activity (touch, maybe taste and smell too!). Ideally, every lesson engages the students.
- 3) **Have them tell you what you told them.** Allow the students to put the lesson into their own words and review the content. This way, you'll know the message was received correctly.

Remember you have great resources in your fellow teachers, your priests and parents. Build a network for success!

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