



SEPTEMBER 2017

TO TEACH AS JESUS DID

Sacred Space

God of wisdom and might,
we praise you for the wonder of our being,
for mind, body and spirit.
Be with our children as they begin a new year.
Bless them and their teachers and catechists.
Give them strength and grace as their bodies grow;
wisdom and knowledge to their minds
as they search for understanding;
and peace and zeal to their hearts.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Adapted from <http://thecatholiccatalogue.com/prayers-to-begin-a-school-year/>



Use the Bible to Guide Behavior in Your Classroom This Year!

Try some of these Bible quotes as classroom aides.
Post them for older students.

1. **Philippians 2:3-4** Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility...
2. **Philippians 2:14-15** Do all things without grumbling or disputing...
3. **1 Thessalonians 5:12** We ask you brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you.
4. **Colossians 3:23** Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.
5. **Romans 12:18** If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.
6. **Ephesians 4:32** Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.
7. **Thessalonians 5:14** And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all.

<http://runningwithteamhogan.com/bible-verses-for-classroom-management/>



Saint of the Month

St. Robert Bellarmine:

The Patron Saint of Catechists

Robert was born in Italy in 1542. He liked to spend his time repeating to his

younger brothers and sisters the sermons he had heard. He also liked to explain the lessons of the catechism to the little farm children of the neighborhood. As a young Jesuit, he did very well in his studies. St. Robert Bellarmine became a famous writer, preacher and teacher. He wrote thirty-one important books. He spent three hours every day in prayer. He had a deep knowledge of sacred matters. Yet even when he had become a cardinal, he considered the catechism so important, that he himself taught it to his household and to the people. Cardinal Bellarmine died on September 17, 1621.

We can ask St. Robert to help us realize how important our religious instruction classes are. He will help us to be on time for classes, do our homework and put our whole selves into the study of our faith.

http://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=101

Classroom Methodology: Asking Good Questions

Classroom Methodology will be highlighted this year in each edition of *To Teach As Jesus Did*. We can all use some advice when dealing with students in a class, no matter the age or the topic! This month we explore the art of asking good questions and responding to them!



When you prepare for class, be sure to take the time to compose specific questions that you will ask your students (or that you anticipate they will ask you). Doing so will help you increase student participation and encourage active learning. Active learning extends beyond the classroom. When you ask questions in the classroom, you are modeling a process that students can and should use themselves. Good questions can help both the catechist and student to assess what they have learned and to develop their thinking skills. Follow some of these rules when forming questions and responding effectively:

Aim for direct, clear, specific questions.

Follow a “yes-or- no” question with an additional question.

In class discussions, do not ask more than one question at once.

Wait for students to think and formulate responses.

Do not interrupt students’ answers.

Develop responses that keep students thinking.

For more ideas, cut and paste this link: <https://teachingcenter.wustl.edu/resources/teaching-methods/participation/asking-questions-to-improve-learning/>

From the Educational Resource Center

The Education Resource Center (ERC) includes a lending library of DVDs, storybooks, and creative resource books for teachers and catechists, games, hands-on kits, music CDs and much more. Over 10,000 items in the ERC are lent at no cost to parishes, schools, and individuals throughout the Archdiocese of Dubuque. Additionally, nearly 1000 online resources can be found in the ERC catalog and over 2000 pins can be found on over 50 Pinterest boards on the Archdiocese of Dubuque Pinterest profile ([Pinterest.com/DBQArch](https://www.pinterest.com/DBQArch)). Online resources including videos, reproducible sheets, PowerPoint presentations and other catechizing resources, crafts, information articles, prayers, and more are immediately accessible online and are reliable Catholic resources you can trust!

The ERC has recently updated its website homepage. From the homepage ([DBQArch.org/ERC](https://www.dbqarch.org/ERC)) you now have direct access to:

- I. the online Search Catalog
- II. an online form for reserving media from the ERC
- III. brief instructions for using the Search Catalog
- IV. a 3-minute photo tour introducing the ERC and what it has to offer
- V. a 2-minute video introduction to the Archdiocese of Dubuque Pinterest Boards
- VI. a 1-page handout explaining how to sign up for a free Pinterest account and how to adjust the settings to avoid unwanted email notifications



Let the ERC help you evangelize, catechize, and *Spread the Message with Media!* For more information, contact the ERC staff: **Kim** – 563.556.2580 X210 or dbqmed@dbqarch.org and **Tricia** – 563.556.2580 X214 or dbqcm1@dbqarch.org.

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