



Classroom Management

Archdiocese of Milwaukee Catechetical Conference
August 22, 2024

Opening Prayer

Loving Father, pour forth your Holy Spirit upon me that I may be a good catechist of your Word, your Son, Jesus Christ. Render my mind and heart so open, receptive and responsive to your Holy Spirit that, like Mary, I might become a living instrument of your Word to others. Help me to be a faithful witness to Gospel life so that your Church may become ever more alive. Let the fire of your love so enkindle my heart that I may be an instrument of drawing others to love of you in the Church of your Son. I ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



About Your Presenter - Tim Kasprzak

- Second year as Assistant Principal of St. Matthias Parish School - Milwaukee
- Product of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee
 - St. Matthias Parish School (2004)
 - Pius XI Catholic High School (2008)
- St. Norbert College (2012) Bachelor's - Elementary Education and Social Studies
- University of Notre Dame (2018) Master's in Educational Leadership
- Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary Catholic School - Sun Prairie, WI
 - 7 years - Second grade teacher
 - 4 years as a catechist at St. Albert the Great Parish
- St. Monica Parish School - Whitefish Bay, WI
 - 1 year - Second grade teacher
 - 3 years - Middle School Religion teacher

Introductions

- Name
- Parish
- What age you will be working with
- Anything in particular that you are hoping to get out of this presentation?



Basics of Classroom Management

1. Build relationships
2. Lay down clear rules
3. Come to class prepared
4. Meet students where they are



Build Relationships

- Get to know your students' names
- Get to know them
 - School
 - Interests
 - Activities
- Share your experiences (appropriately)
- Increases trust and participation in activities
- Increases the the positivity in the group dynamic
- Older vs. younger students



Lay Down Clear Rules

- Know your space
- Set up expectations
- Be clear
- Be consistent
- Older vs. younger students



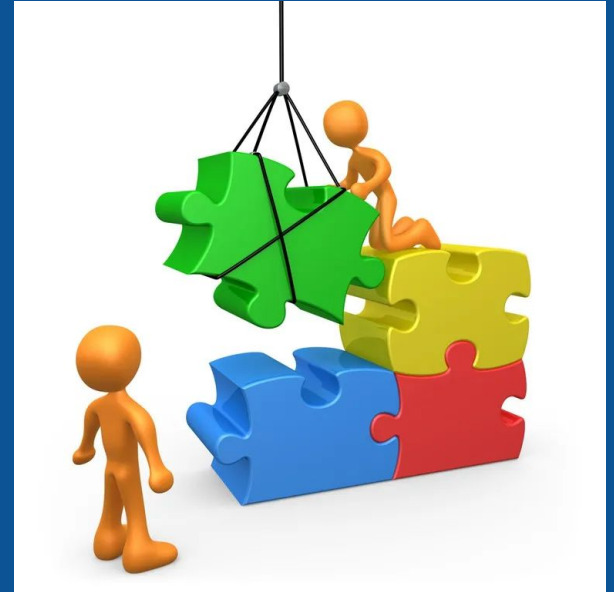
Come to Class Prepared

- Review your material
- Make connections
- Being prepared will help with flow of the class
- Down time is not your friend
- Down time? *Must be structured!*
- Older vs. younger students



Meet Students Where They Are

- You know the make-up of your parish
- Families have changed
- Different backgrounds
- Different baggage
- Different journeys
- “What do we want to learn this year?”
- Older vs. younger students



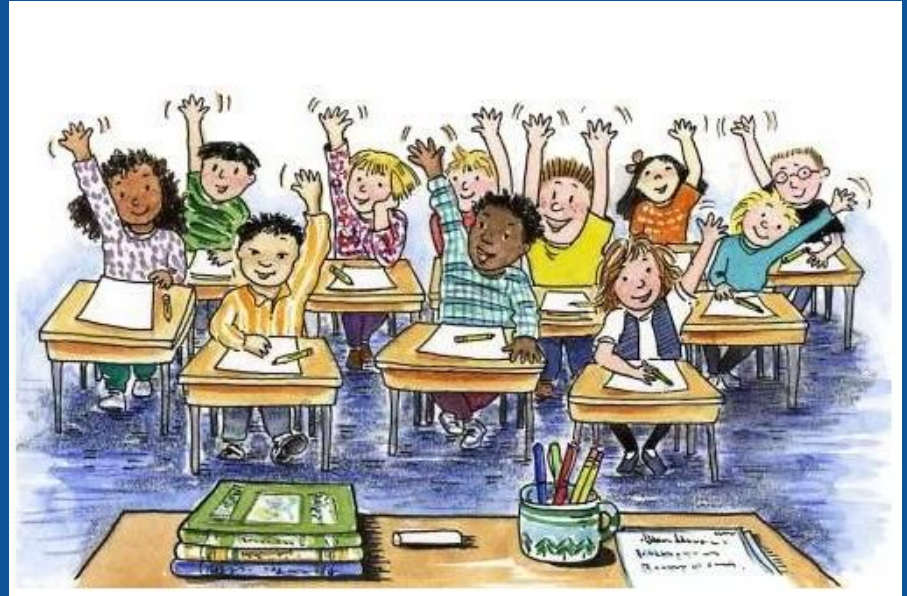
Potential Parts to Include in Your Class

- Share time
- Prayer time
- Questions time
- Older vs. younger students



Increase Class Engagement

- Snacks!
- Volunteers
- Popsicle sticks
- Soft ball
- Think, Pair, Share
- Reflection and sharing



Issues in Class?

- Know the protocol of your parish
 - Talk with the student
 - Share with program leader
 - Involve program leader if it doesn't improve
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- Tough or difficult questions?
 - Stick to what the Church believes and teaches!
 - Notify your program leader



**Let's Try Some
Scenarios!**

**Share out of
Ideas**

Final Questions

Closing Prayer

God, grant me the serenity to
accept the things I cannot change,
the courage to change the things I
can, and the wisdom to know the
difference.

Amen.



Thank you for joining me on this journey!

Tim Kasprzak

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