

# MEDIA AND CATECHESIS

1- The communication revolution has had a profound impact on our world with implications as great for religion as for any other areas of life.

The quality of catechists is more important than the quality of their tools. But good tools in the hands of skilled catechists can do much to foster growth in faith. They include human and organizational resources, the communication media, textbooks and audio visual materials.

Within modern society the communication media plays an important role in information, cultural promotion and formation.

Media is defined as a substance through which a force acts or through which something is transmitted.

## 2-Historical use of media in Catechesis.

Religious themes depicted in:  
stained glass windows, mosaics, music, drama,  
poetry, architecture, dance, paintings, sculpture

## 3. Contemporary forms of media:

C.D. Rom, audio cassette, television, Internet,  
video cassette, electronic games,  
compact disc, films

## 4. Other forms of media:

radio	sacred art	mime
newspapers	posters/slides	
role playing	magazines	arts/crafts
pictures/photos		text book
storytelling	songs	dance

## 5. Children learn through doing.

"What I hear I forget, what I see I remember;  
what I do, I learn." (Chinese Proverb)

## Learners' ability to retain information:

10% of what they read  
20% of what they hear  
30% of what they see  
50% of what they see and hear  
70% of what they say as they speak  
90% of what they say as they do a thing.

6. Television and the VCR are the most common means of media 'in the classroom.

A. Ways to incorporate media in the lesson: as an introduction to teach, reinforce, or review a lesson. (Media is never to be the sole method used in presenting a lesson)

## B. Videos can be helpful in :

- enriching the story
- teaching values
- problem solving
- provoking thought
- liturgical and seasonal instruction
- sacramental preparation

Sometimes a segment or clip from an appropriate video acts as a springboard, mood setter or amplifier for a particular activity.

## 7. Rules for viewing

- check equipment prior to class for availability & working order
- preview video for suitability, relevance to lesson, length
- prepare student for video - what to look for
- discuss video after viewing

Did you like the video? What did you dislike?

What was the point of the video?

What was the lesson in it for you?

Does the video remind you of another story or lesson?

Did the video help clarify something for you?

Do you see any connection between video and real life?

## 8. Remember

- Never use video as a filler
- You do not need to show the entire video
- Don't be afraid to show video more than once
- Never explain a video - draw out personal insights, feelings, reactions from students.
- Make them active not passive watchers.
- Some videos speak for themselves and need no discussion or analysis. Provide quiet time for reflection.
- For discussion purposes, you may want to stop the video before the end and ask students for an ending. Then return to video and compare endings.

## 9. Use of music

- provides a calming influence
- prepares for prayer
- sets a mood
- re-enforces a lesson.

## 10. Copyright

- the exclusive legal right to make copies of intellectual property, books, poetry, pictures, drawings, films, music, etc.
- the original creator(s) or assigned agents such as publishers own the exclusive legal right to make copies.
- it is against the law to make unauthorized copies of copyrighted materials.
- to use copyright material, one must have permission of the publisher.