

**Kerygmatic
Catechesis:**

What It is and How to Apply Its
Principles in Forming Others

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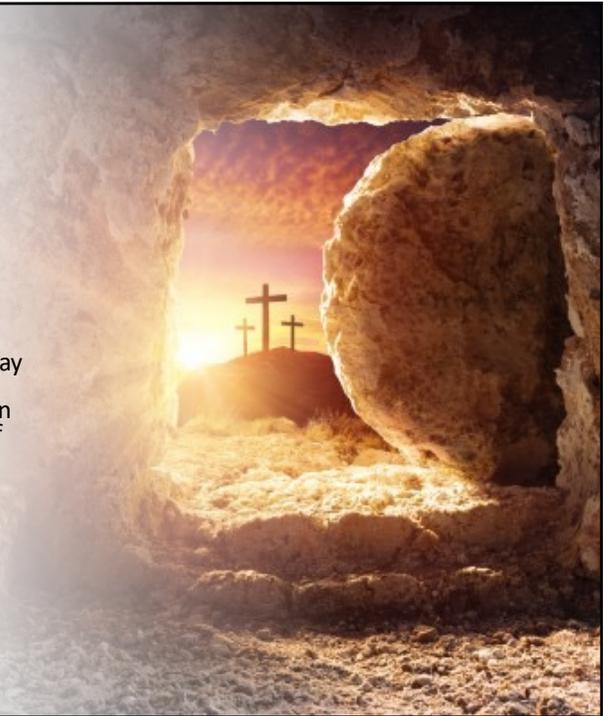
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Kerygma

- Core of the Gospel message: “God loves you; Christ is your savior; he is alive” (CV,130).
- “We must not think that in catechesis the *kerygma* gives way to a supposedly more “solid” formation. Nothing is more solid, profound, secure, meaningful, and wisdom-filled than that initial proclamation. All Christian formation consists of entering more deeply into the kerygma.”
 - from the Preface to the *Directory for Catechesis*
- 2020 *Directory for Catechesis* echoes and expands on 1997 GDC’s point that catechesis is not simply a stage in the process of evangelization, but rather evangelization is an integral part of catechesis throughout the lifespan
- both initial and ongoing proclamation of the kerygma



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Facilitating an Encounter with the Kerygma

- Proclaim the Gospel story often and offer an opportunity to respond to it.
- Offer your own personal witness and ask others to do the same.
- Three transcendentals
 - Truth
 - Beauty
 - Goodness

got Kerygma?

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Proclaiming
the Gospel to
a Confused
and Skeptical
Culture

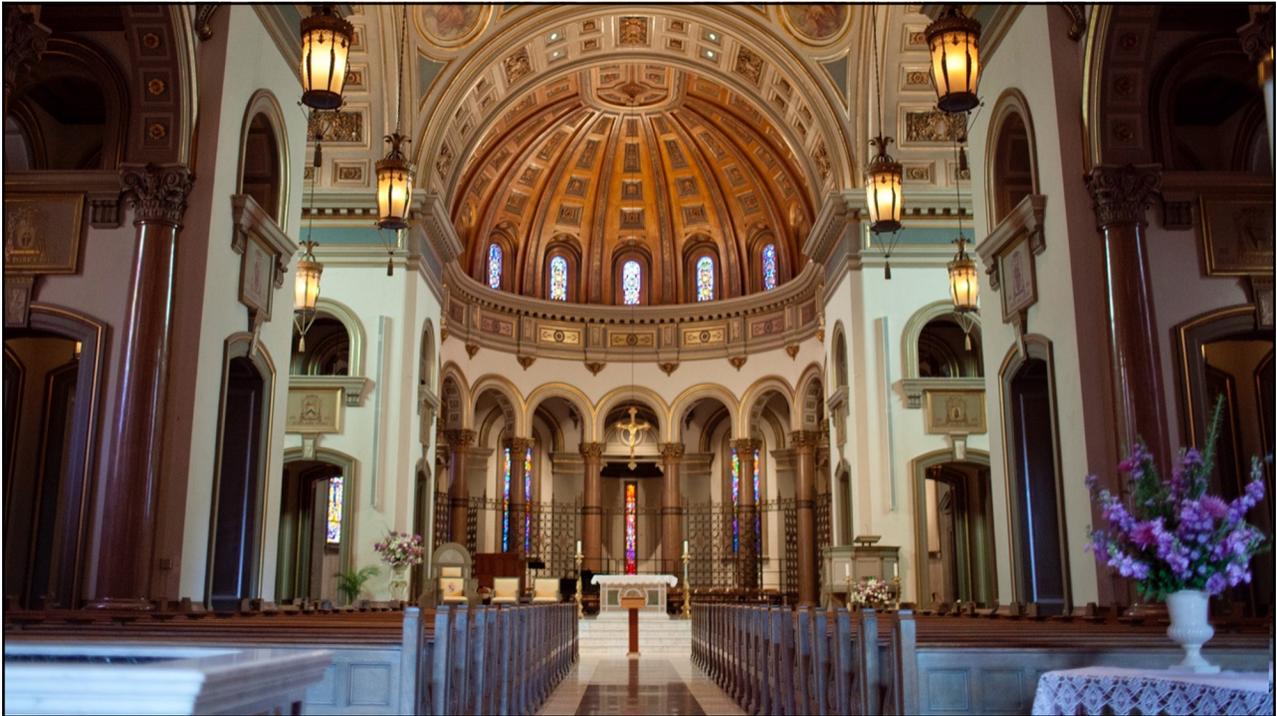
Some modern heresies

- Relativism
- “Spiritual, but not Religious’
- “How can a merciful God send someone to Hell?”

Learning from the Master Catechists: Using Romans and Acts 2 as a model for presenting the kerygma

- Chapter 1: Wickedness and idolatry
- Chapter 2:12-16 -- Those not under the law
- Chapter 2:17-29 --Those who are religious
- Chapter 3:10-18 – None righteous
- Chapter 3:21-31; 8:1 – Justification through faith in Christ; No condemnation in Christ Jesus
- Acts 2: 14-36 – St. Peter’s great Gospel message
- Acts 2:38 – Call for response
- Acts 2:42 – Life in the Church

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THE THREE TRANSCENDENTALS

- The classical philosophers, such as Plato and Aristotle, called truth, beauty, and goodness “the transcendental properties of being,” or the things that make us look outside ourselves towards something higher. These three transcendentals originate in God and lead us toward God. They are referenced in paragraph 172 of the *Directory for Catechesis*.
- “Think about this carefully: putting your stakes on the great ideals, the ideal of making a world of goodness, beauty and truth” –Pope Francis.
- “I affirm the path of truth and the path of beauty. But I also recommend, as a means of propagating the faith, the third of the transcendentals, namely, the good” – Bishop Robert Barron.



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Some Additional Ideas for Facilitating a Meaningful Encounter with Christ

- Small groups
- Events with discipleship speakers
- In faith formation events, asking ourselves, “Am I addressing the head *and* the heart?”
- Working people into the practice of prayer, importance of adoration
- Gathering around food – mimicking family experience
- Thinking about our language – talking about our hunger, thirst, brokenness
- Evangelization through social media

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Let's Connect!

- YouTube:
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