



Called to teach.

CATECHIST OBSERVATION

The *General Directory for Catechesis* tells us that ‘to ensure the working of the catechetical ministry in a local Church, it is fundamental to have adequate pastoral care of catechists (233).’ Part of this care is giving catechists meaningful, constructive and focused feedback on their presentation of the faith to their students. This is done through Catechist Observation.

Catechetical Leaders need to keep in mind that classroom observation is a part of the pastoral care of the catechist – not an evaluation. Catechetical Leaders are offering feedback in order to help the catechist improve their classroom technique and, more importantly, their sharing of the faith with their students. Always keeping in mind the disciples-making-disciples aspect of the catechist’s ministry, the observer should keep the focus on how the students, through the catechist, are growing in their faith.

Before the Observation:

1. The catechist should be given a blank copy of the *Catechist Observation Guide*.
2. The catechist should be told when the observation will take place.

After the Observation

1. The catechist is given a copy of the completed *Catechist Observation Guide*.
2. A meeting of the catechist and the observer is scheduled to discuss the observation.
3. A copy of the Observation Guide is scanned and emailed to VocareSupport. It will then be uploaded to the catechist’s file in the Catechetical Institute.

Thank you for your ministry to your catechists! Your positive feedback, with an attitude toward improvement for the student’s sake, will go far in helping your catechist disciple their students. God’s blessings be yours!