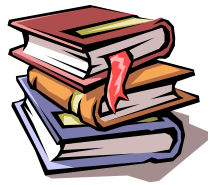


NEW CONNECTIONS

JEGEN CENTER FOR CATECHETICAL MEDIA AND RESEARCH
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A Note from the Editor



As we are in the process of getting settled in our new space at the Cardinal Meyer Center there has been a lot of sorting and unpacking going on. There were a number of little glitches in getting set up again—missing file cabinets, unassembled shelves, and other small items like that! We are up and running now as a Media Center again, though the online catalog still needs a lot of updating to make sure the items listed are not gone out of the collection.

Because our catalog is in the process of being scrutinized and updated, this newsletter is not going to contain lists of available media. I am giving over some of its space this time to publicize events that are coming up through the Office for Catechesis and Youth Ministry. I will take some space here however to address the issue of Internet and copyright.

Do come to visit us at our new location! We still have a limited number of books, a good collection of videos, a constantly growing collection of DVDs, and quite a few music CDs. We also have the textbook collections for review. We are open from 9:00 am to 4:45 pm at 3525 S. Lake Park Avenue, and our new phone number is similar to the old one: 312-534-4562. There is ample parking here and we are eager to welcome you to our new space!

If I Find It on the Internet Is It Copyrighted?

As part of the work of the Jegen Center we are conscious of getting the appropriate permissions to use the work of others. There are many beautiful pictures and scenes that can be found on the web. With the tools we have these days it is easy to copy them, crop them and drop them into publications and fliers, and publish them as if they are from our own collection of pictures. I think a little refresher may be useful in terms of copyrights.

This past year we were trying to find just the right image to illustrate the theme of the Chicago Catechetical Conference. There was one online that was very appealing, however it was only in English. The caveat with the image stated that it could be used freely but could not be altered in any way. We tried for a good number of weeks to contact the

owner of the image, but had no luck. One temptation was to try to recreate something similar but with what we wanted. That might have passed the legal tests, but it is like taking someone else's term paper, changing a few words, and calling it our own.

A second temptation was to say that we tried to contact the original author but since we received no response we presumed tacit approval of what we wanted to do. This thinking causes an even bigger problem, particularly since the website specifically stated that we could not alter the picture. We finally ditched that image and started over with something for which we had permission.

Recently I became aware of a similar instance when using a search engine to find images online. The search results indicate various websites that have images on the requested topic. If you look up the image properties, the fact that it says nothing about copyright does not mean that the image is free for use and modification. You need to go into the website where the image was created and check out their specifications for using that image. If it does not indicate that you can use the image freely, don't presume that it is free or that you have permission to use it. Usually the search engine will state that fees and copyright issues may apply to the images they suggest.

If the website specifically says you may use the images freely, generally you will need to credit it to the person who created it. The artist is due his/her recognition for the work. In other words, don't crop off the artist's name if it is in the corner of the image.

Just remember that in the copyright legal world ignorance is not bliss. The general fine for copyright infringement is \$10,000.00. And now that you have read this, you know! Just to be safe, you could try using the photos you have taken yourself—provided of course that they aren't of children—that's a whole other issue.

Curriculum Exploration Day

In the last issue, we promoted the Curriculum Exploration Days. Because of low enrollment, the only one that happened was the site at St. John of the Cross. It was an excellent time to explore what materials are currently available and what things are coming out soon.