

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (Begins at St. Mary Parish in Sept., 2011)

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is an approach to the religious formation of children. It is rooted in the Bible, the liturgy of the church, and the educational principles of Maria Montessori. Children gather in an "atrium," a room prepared for them, which contains simple yet beautiful materials they use to help them absorb the most essential proclamations of the Christian faith.

You may be wondering how these materials help the religious life of children. If an adult hears a beautiful passage from the Bible, the adult might take a Bible, find the passage, and read it slowly again and again. He or she may think deeply about the words and perhaps speak to God in a thankful or hopeful prayer. A little child, too young to read, needs another way. In an atrium the child can ponder a biblical passage or a prayer from the liturgy by taking the material for that text and working with it - placing wood figures of sheep in a sheepfold of the Good Shepherd, setting sculpted apostles around a Last Supper table, or preparing a small altar with the furnishings used for the Eucharist. The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a sensorial, rich experience that gives children the opportunity to grow in love and knowledge of God through the Christian tradition.



See next page for registration form!

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd 2010-2011 Registration Form

Child #1 Last Name _____ First Name _____

Gender _____ Age (as of Sept. 2011) _____ Date of birth _____

Child #2 Last Name _____ First Name _____

Gender _____ Age (as of Sept. 2011) _____ Date of birth _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Best email address _____

Phone(s) Home _____ Cell _____

Father's Full Name _____

Mother's Name (First, Middle, Maiden, Last) _____

Medical Conditions of which we should be aware _____

1st choice session (circle one) Sunday 10:30 am Wednesday 6:20 pm

If first is not available (choose one)

_____ register me for the other class if there's space, or _____ place me on waiting list

Please enclose payment with registration:

_____ \$70 for one child, or _____ \$110 for two children (circle one) check cash

Make checks payable to St. Mary Parish
Program currently open to registered parishioners only