

# CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a method of faith formation that combines the Bible and Liturgy of the Church with Montessori based teaching methods.

The children meet in a special place prepared for them referred to as an "atrium". The atrium is full of simple, child-sized materials that will help him or her draw closer in relationship with God.

They work with materials that will help them understand the traditions and rituals of our Catholic faith.



**Altar Work-**  
Understanding the Mass

## The Atrium & Materials

The atrium is best described as a retreat space. It is a place to grow in relationship with Christ.

Children are presented with scripture, parables and church life. The catechist serves as a guide in helping the child meditate and work with the materials so the Spirit of God is free to engage the child.

The materials are made specifically for children to use. They are simple, yet carefully selected to help the child explore some of the essential truths of scripture or ritual they see at church.

## The Work of the Child

Scripture is read together as a time of listening and reflecting. The materials are moved to illustrate the story.

The work on the life of the church helps children put what they see at Mass into context.

The children work on practical skills to live in harmony in the atrium and develop fine motor skills, patience, concentration, wonder and awe.



**Practical Life-**  
Children select work and learn by doing. They develop mastery of the skill over time.

**Start Date:** September 20, 2011

**Time:** 9:00 A.M.– 10:30A.M.

*(We will work towards a 90minute time period. A caregiver is asked to attend with a child for the first few classes)*

**Place:** We start in the Narthex and move to the Atrium

**Tuition:** \$50.00

**To register please fill out the form below and return it with payment to the church office.**

**Parent Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Child's Name (Male, Female)**

\_\_\_\_\_ first

\_\_\_\_\_ last

**Age** \_\_\_\_\_ **Birthday** \_\_\_\_\_

Holy Spirit Parish uses photographs on our parish website and in parish publications. I give my consent for my child listed on this form to be photographed with the understanding that these photos may be used in parish publications including the website. (2011-2012)

**Yes** \_\_\_\_\_ **No** \_\_\_\_\_ **Initials** \_\_\_\_\_