

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level One is a Montessori-based approach to the religious formation of children from ages three to six. This year we here at St. Patrick's will be offering a kindergarten class on Mondays. The program is rooted in Sacred Scripture, liturgy, and respect for the child's rich relationship with God. Central to CGS is the atrium, a room containing beautiful materials that focus the child's attention on key scripture passages or liturgical moments.

After an introduction by the catechist, the children are invited to work with a material on their own. Because children learn by using their hands, working with materials allows them to enter more deeply into prayer, nurturing their relationship with God.

Beginning their work in 1954, Dr. Sofia Cavalleti and her co-worker, Gianna Gobbi, developed the catechesis by observing and working with young children. It is the joyful, peaceful response of the children themselves that inspired and determined the content of this unique program.