

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Where a child can fall in love with God

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14

Here at Saint Michael Parish, we are blessed to be able to offer the children the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program. We currently offer Level I (ages 3-6) and Level II (ages 6-9) classes. We will soon be adding Level III (ages 9-12).

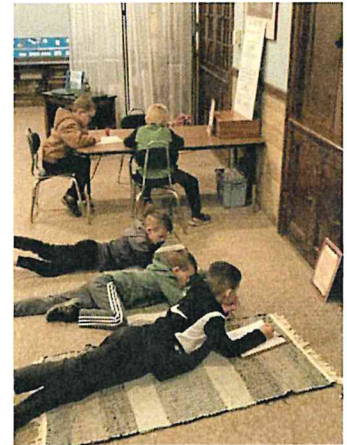


What is Catechesis of the Good Shepherd?

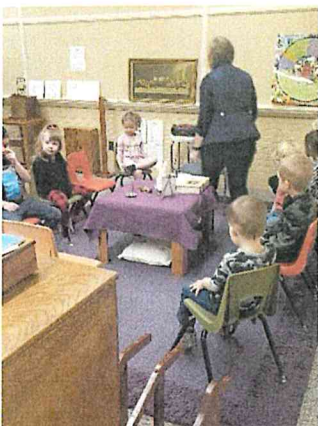
Unlike the traditional religion class, it is a Montessori-based program for children conveying: a simple, synthesized, profound involvement with the Gospel and with the liturgical life of the Church. They encounter Jesus, the Good Shepherd who loves them, cares for them, and knows them by name.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd was founded in the 50's by two Italian laywomen, one a scriptural scholar and one an expert in Montessori education. Together they conceived a simple, attractive method for sharing the richness of the Faith with children, who are uniquely capable of accepting the beauty of God's love. The program is presented in three levels, and includes time in the Atrium, which is a quiet environment where children learn through tactile work.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd emphasizes quiet contemplation and the enjoyment of God. The children hear Bible stories and watch them acted out with simple materials; they learn songs and prayers and are encouraged to play quietly with simple and meaningful objects. One mother explained that CGS "cracked the code" of the Mass for her son, as he learned to become alert to the details of the liturgy: the significance of color, what certain candles mean, the names and purposes of the various vessels and tools on the altar.



"The childhood is the very 'sensitive period' of the soul." -Sophia Cavalletti



CGS is not to be confused with released time or out of district religious education. It is an additional program available at Saint Michael. Your child can be signed up for both CGS and the Good News Center released time program. In fact, several families have found that doing both programs brings richness to their child's faith, especially during the sacramental years.

Please contact Kelly Knieper (989) 845-7011 ext. 3 if you would like more information, a tour, or any questions. To register please follow the QR Code to the registration link.

