

## THE ATRIUM

“The prepared environment is called the “Atrium”. It is a place of spiritual retreat in which work easily becomes prayer. A place of worship where children and adults celebrate the Word together.”

—Sofia Cavalletti, “Characteristics of the Good Shepherd Catechesis”

## PROGRAM

Our sensory materials are based on the three pillars of our Christian faith:

### BIBLE | PRAYER | LITURGY

Eight themes of our faith are presented:

- The Trinitarian God
- Salvation History
- The Life of Jesus (Incarnation and Paschal Mystery)
- The Teaching of Jesus Christ
- The Church
- The Liturgical / Sacramental Life of the Church
- Christian Morality / Social Justice
- Education for Community Life with Emphasis on Mission and Evangelizing



## YOUR CHILDREN ARE IN GOOD HANDS

### Ruth Ann McClure, Catechist

Director and Coordinator, Faith Formation

- B.Ed. Elementary Special Ed. Major
- 25+ years teaching
- CGS Level 1, Level 2, Level 3 Catechist
- Memberships: Canadian and USA CGS Associations

### Ksenia Gainey, Assistant

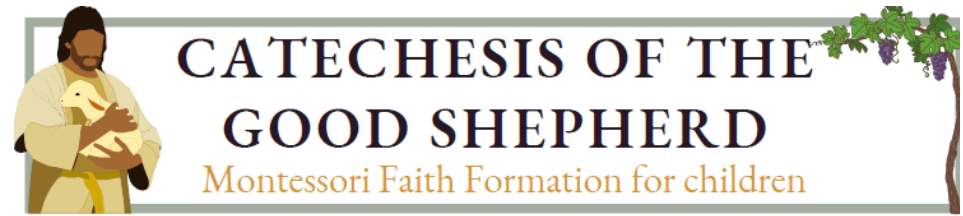
*Volunteers are welcome!*



## TO REGISTER

[immaculatepeterborough.ca/cgs](http://immaculatepeterborough.ca/cgs)

Annual Fee \$150 per child



## WHAT IF EVERY CHILD COULD HAVE TIME AND SPACE SPECIALLY SET ASIDE FOR AN ENCOUNTER WITH CHRIST?

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a time-tested approach to faith formation. It feeds the deepest needs of children, allowing each one to get to know God personally.

In a retreat-like atmosphere, through the use of special materials designed just for them, children hear the Word proclaimed and grow in their relationship with God.

The most essential treasures of the Christian faith, from scripture and liturgy, touch the heart of each child and lead to deep contemplation, prayer, and joy.



### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

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## LEVEL 1 (3 – 6 YEARS OLD)

*In the Level 1 Atrium, “Good Shepherd” catechesis, children rediscover...God is love, Jesus is risen, and we are His sheep.*

- Children enjoy biblical accounts of events such as the birth of Jesus and the Last Supper, to proclaim that Jesus was a real person who lived in a specific place in time.
- Children encounter elements of the liturgy, to encourage understanding and thoughtful participation.
- Children partake of prayer opportunities, alone and in community, for enjoyment of God’s gifts.
- They contemplate parables that allow them to ponder the mystery of the Kingdom of God, especially the call to joyful relationship with Jesus, the Good Shepherd.

## LEVEL 2 (STARTING AT 6 YEARS OLD)

*As children move into Level 2, firm in their relationship with God, they wonder ... What is God’s plan? What is my role in God’s plan?*

In response,

- They hear about God’s Plan of Salvation as shown to us in the Bible.
- They contemplate the gifts that human beings have received from God through time.
- They develop their moral intelligence by considering the parables Jesus told of mercy and justice, as well as his moral guidelines.
- They discover their role in God’s plan and their own place in the community of believers – the church.
- They acquire the tools to enable them to access the Word of God (Bible) and the prayers of the church in the rites of Eucharist, Baptism and Reconciliation.

