

Curriculum

Preschool Program for 3 and 4 year olds

- Children must be age 3 by Sept 30th.
- Pre- K and Kindergarten meet on Sundays during 11:00 am Mass.

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is an approach to the religious formation of children in which they gather in an atrium , a room prepared for them that contains simple, yet beautiful materials that they can use to experience Christ. Its purpose is to assist in the involvement of adults and children in a common religious experience in which religious values of childhood predominate. It is rooted in the Bible, the liturgy of the church, and the educational principles of Maria Montessori. Sofia Cavalletti and her Montessori collaborator, Gianna Gobbi, began this program in Rome and it has been implemented in 35 countries including the United States. For more on Catechesis of the Good Shepherd please go to www.cgsuse.com.

Kindergarten–8th grade

- K–8th grades use the “Blest Are We” Catholic school edition. To review what your child is learning, go to www.blestarewe.com/school Use this as a way to start conversation with your child about what he or she is learning in Sunday School.
- 1st–5th grades meet on Sundays between Masses (9:30–10:40).

Kindergarten

Five year olds begin the curriculum, Blest Are We. Throughout the year, the children learn: How God’s Love Creates the Universe, God’s Love Makes Me Who I Am, God’s Love Gives Me People to Love, God’s Love Gives Me Jesus, and God’s Love Teaches Me to Love.

First Grade

Children focus on theme of the Holy Trinity. The children learn that they belong to the church community, and they learn to participate in the church through the sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist. They also begin the study of morality.

Second Grade

The emphasis here shifts to a study of the sacraments as the children review Baptism and prepare for Reconciliation and Eucharist. The study of morality continues as the children learn the notion of sin and its effects. Gospel stories help to teach the children about their responsibility to care for others.

Third Grade

Children begin to study the beliefs of our Catholic faith. This is accomplished through a study of the Apostle's Creed, the seven sacraments, and the Ten Commandments.

Fourth Grade

The focus here is on a study of morality and the Beatitudes. The sacrament emphasized is Reconciliation.

Fifth Grade

This program centers on a study of the seven sacraments. The understanding of morality is strengthened as children learn what it means to live as faithful followers of Jesus.

First- fifth grade meets on Sunday mornings throughout the school year from 9:30 to 10:40 am.

Middle School

(Grades 6th- 8th meet on Wednesday evenings throughout the school year from 6:15 to 8:00 pm beginning with Mass celebrated by Father Eric.)

Sixth Grade

The Old Testament is the basis for the sixth grade curriculum. Students learn that we find the roots of our faith in the Hebrew Scripture. The concepts of church is taught as a continuation of the Kingdom of God.

Seventh and Eighth Grade

- Grade 7 is a pre-Confirmation class. Among the subjects are: The Mysteries of the Incarnation, The Meaning of the Kingdom, The Christian Life, The Pascal Mystery, and The Good News.

- Grade 8 is the Confirmation class. In addition to confirmation preparation, topics include: The Marks of the Church from the Beginning, The Growth of Christianity, An Age of Faith and Beauty, Reason, Rebellion, and Reform. This class, along with the seventh grade, engages in outreach ministries for the parish and the community. The Confirmation catechists incorporate a separate component specific to Confirmation as the sacrament draws near.
- Confirmation students are required to complete 20 hours of service for the school year, a saint presentation, and a letter to Bishop Choby.
- Confirmation is scheduled for May 12, 2011, at 7:00 pm.