

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd: Wish List

St. Michael the Archangel Catholic School will be using Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for our preschool through first grade students.

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is an approach to the religious formation of children. It is rooted in the Bible, the liturgy of the church, and the educational principles of Maria Montessori. Children gather in an "atrium," a room prepared for them, which contains simple yet beautiful materials they use to help them absorb the most essential proclamations of the Christian faith.

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a sensorially rich experience for children from the ages of 3 to 12 years that gives children the opportunity to grow in love and knowledge of God through the Christian tradition.

- Taken from <http://www.cgsusa.org/>

In order to prepare the atrium for the students, we need to secure a number of items. These should be small in size -- so that a preschool or primary-age child could easily use them.

Household Items

small wooden Nativity set
a Good Shepherd statue
religious images (especially Our Lady of Guadalupe and images that reflect the diversity of our community)
10 very small clear glass vases (openings that can hold only 1-3 flowers)
small glass bowls (diameter of about 3 inches)
small metal spoons (not necessarily matching)
miniature ladles (preferably metal)
miniature tongs (preferably metal)
children's chop sticks (preferably wood)
small wood trays
cruets (preferable clear glass)
small clear glass pitchers (no more than 5" or 6" tall)
brass or silver candlestick holders
candles - white (to go in candlestick holders)
candles - purple and pink (for Advent)
tea light candles
pillar candles
small washable rugs that can roll up (for children to sit on)
one-minute sand timer
small wood tables (no more than a few feet tall)
small wood shelves (no more than a few feet tall)
small wood chairs (for preschool or kindergarten-age students)
potted plants (any size)
small amounts of dried beans or seeds of various types (mustard seeds, mung beans, black beans)
yeast in a glass jar

Items That Could Be Sewn

small cloth doilies (preferably white; blue, purple, green, red also welcome)

child-sized gardening gloves

miniature chasubles (green, purple, white, red - for the liturgical seasons) - about 18" tall or so

See gardenofstfrancis.com (search for "chasuble") for images.

Patterns can be purchased at ourfathershouse.biz (Search for "chasuble" and "pattern.")

miniature albs and cinctures (white only) - slightly longer than the chasuble

See gardenofstfrancis.com (search for "alb").

miniature stoles (green, purple, white, red - for the liturgical seasons) - slightly shorter than the chasuble

See gardenofstfrancis.com (search for "stole").

Items That Can Be Crafted from Wood (or Purchased Online)

miniature altar cabinet

to hold chasubles and other items for the altar

25" H X 7 1/4" D X 18" W (or slightly larger)

See www.atriumwoodworks.com for images.

miniature lectern

6" W x 6" D x 19" H (or slightly larger)

See www.atriumwoodworks.com for images.

miniature chasuble holders

14"H x 16"W x 4"D with base (or slightly larger)

See www.atriumwoodworks.com for images.

Good Shepherd sheepfold and two-dimensional figures

See www.atriumwoodworks.com for images.

Items To Be Purchased

miniature Mass kit

See ourfathershouse.biz (religious website).

\$140