

Registrations are being accepted for our Good Shepherd Program. For those not familiar with The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS), this was started in Rome over 60 years ago. The belief is that even young children could have a conscious and intimate relationship with God. There are over 50 presentations, each with a Scripture passage and hands-on materials. Through these presentations, the children experience the Parables, the Liturgical Colors/Calendar, the history and geography of Jesus' life, the Signs/Gestures of Mass revolving around the Eucharist, and Baptism.



Our space is called an “**atrium**” where all materials are child-size, are simple, and are in order on shelves low enough for all children to reach.



If you are interested in our Good Shepherd Program, please complete a registration form found in the narthex, or available at the parish office, and return it as soon as possible. **Due to the nature of the program and the size of our Atrium, space in each session is limited to only 12 children.** I tried to address some questions/concerns below. If you have any other questions, feel free to contact me at chicks@sacredheart-fremont.org or 419-603-3389.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

- What are the exact ages allowed? The materials are designed for children ages 3-6, **but** a 6-year-old who is in kindergarten. Once children are in 1st Grade, their minds work at a different cognitive and reasoning level.
- My child is not completely potty-trained. Can he/she still come? Sorry, but no. We do not have enough staff to take care of these types of accidents during our program.
- We are not Sacred Heart parishioners. Can we still register our children? You are more than welcome to register your children. However, due to limited availability, we must take our parishioners first.
- My child has food allergies. Will there be food served? No, not even for holidays. However, we do use flour to make bread in the Parable of the Leaven station.
- I bring my grandchildren to church with me occasionally. Can they attend? Timing in the Atrium is very important. Most presentations revolve around the Liturgical Calendar. Therefore, a child attending once a month will miss connections between the stations as the year progresses. To get the full benefit of the Atrium, children should attend regularly.
- My child has not yet been baptized. Can they still participate? If you are a Sacred Heart Parishioner or are currently in our RCIA program, then yes.
- What times/Masses will this be offered? Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is offered Sunday mornings from 9:15am-10:30am during PSR, and from 10:45am-12:00pm during Mass.
- My child attends kindergarten in a public school. Should my child be registered for PSR of Good Shepherd? Kindergarten PSR has a rich curriculum that does not overlap the curriculum in the Good Shepherd Atrium. Therefore, my answer is—register your child for both. Your child will grow in their faith and their love for Jesus even more!

Yours in Christ,
Cheryl Hicks