

# CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

## Level 1: For ages 3-6 years.



The St. Peter Cathedral Faith Formation Office and Father Marquette Catholic Academy are delighted to fully open our Level 1 Catechesis of the Good Shepherd atrium, beginning in the Fall 2018 semester. The atrium is housed in the JP11 room on the lower level of the Cathedral.

**“The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd** is a Montessori-based religious formation program for children... It seeks to create and facilitate a sacred, ‘hands-on’ space for children called an Atrium, in which both the children and their catechists can hear, ponder, and celebrate the most essential mysteries of the Catholic faith as revealed in the Scriptures and the Liturgy. Originally developed in Rome by Sofia Cavaletti and Gianna Gobbi fifty years ago, the Catechesis continues to

spread world-wide.”(1)

**Within the Atrium** the mysteries of God and of the child meet, drawing all into a deeper relationship with Him who loved us first. Each level is specifically tailored to the developmental stages and needs of the child. The focus of the Atrium is not intellectual; that is secondary. The Atrium is a retreat center designed to help the child come to God himself that s/he may come to know and grow in relationship with the Good Shepherd. (John 10: 14-15)

For more information about Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, as well witness from existing atriums, please visit [www.cgsusa.org](http://www.cgsusa.org) or [wosatrium.weebly.com](http://wosatrium.weebly.com)

**The Atrium materials** are predominantly hand made. We have a very generous parish and would like **to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of those who have donated their time, talent and/or treasure to help build this sacred space.**

### **Blessing & Open House:**

On Sunday, Sept 16 at roughly 12:15 pm (following the Knights of Columbus breakfast) Monsignor Steber will bless our atrium space. It will be open for those curious to see the space.

***Please note:*** The open house is designed more for adults to see our sacred space and see some of the videos taken about the program and of children in the space or reflecting upon it. Due to the nature of CGS, presentations and materials **will not** be available for children to touch use at the open house.

### **Atrium Sessions:**

We will begin the Faith Formation year by offering one session which will be held during our regular Faith Formation meeting time of noon-1:15 pm. There is a maximum capacity for the atrium. Additional session times will be considered if the need arises, but will, obviously, be dependent upon catechist availability as well. If you have interest in a different session time, please contact the Faith Formation office.

*For questions about Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, please contact Jenny Lochner in the Faith Formation Office.*