

**GOOD SHEPHERD CATECHESIS 2016-2017**  
**ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD PARISH**

**Children's sessions:**

**Level 1:** **Monday** from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. or 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.  
**Or Tuesday** from 10:00 to 11:30 am.

Ages 3-6 3 years old and junior and senior kindergarten

**Level 2:** **Monday** from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

Grades 1,2 and 3. Grades 1, 2 and 3.

**Level 3:** **Monday** from 4:30 to 6:00 pm

Grades 4, 5 and 6. Grades 4, 5 and 6.

**NEW! ALBUM 1**

**For children who had never experienced CGS**

**Monday** from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

Literate children ages 7 to 11 years old

**Term:** **From October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016 to April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017.**

**Family donation suggested :** \$165 dollars payable to Annunciation of the Lord Parish.



**Information for Parents**

- **Catechesis of the Good Shepherd** is a religious education program that uses the Montessori approach towards children, with materials. The material consists of concrete "signs" of a transcendent reality. The work prepared for the children at each level corresponds to the inner needs of the child according to their developmental age.
- There is a **progression of themes** in the CGS program that will give your child an overview of The Life of the Church. The main themes are: The Bible, Prayer, Biblical Geography, Prophecies, Infancy Narratives, The Kingdom of God, Moral Formation, The Good Shepherd, The Paschal Mystery, The Eucharist, Celebrations, Baptism, Reconciliation, and Sacramental Preparation.
- **Registration for the sacraments:** The Parish has a procedure established for registration for the sacraments. It is different than this program, therefore as a parent you have to apply for you child, there are *no exceptions*.
- **Preparation for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation through CGS:** Parents who would like their children to be prepared for the celebration of the sacrament of reconciliation and first communion are requested to have their children attend the catechesis at least three years before the sacrament takes place. Children preparing for the sacraments will have a day retreat on a P.D. day.
- For our **Christmas Pageant** we may need to schedule extra-sessions the last week of November and December for rehearsals, please be aware of it and let us know in this registration if you are not able to attend. Day between December 16<sup>th</sup> and the 21<sup>st</sup>, depending Parish hall availability. (*Please consider December 19<sup>th</sup>, is Monday*).
- In the event that a catechist can't run a session due to a family matter another catechist may replace her, however if it is unexpected you will be notified by phone. Sessions may be re-scheduled. Extra sessions can be scheduled for new children into the program or after Easter if the number of sessions between Christmas and Easter are not enough to cover the program.

**Expectations from the parents:**

- Parents are expected to drop off and pick up their children inside the Parish building. Children are not allowed to walk out the Parish building or climb the tree outside the Parish while they are under the care of a CGS catechist.
- *Parents are requested to **attend one adult session that corresponds to your child's level. This session is for adults only and is different from those required for parents with children preparing for the sacraments.***
- *One of our works in the catechesis, is to help the child understand and live the Sacrament of the Eucharist. Our work is linked to the Canon 898, therefore we expect parents to show devotion and the highest adoration to God while attending Mass.*
- **Canon Law / Book IV Function of the Church / The Eucharistic Celebration**

Can. 897 The Sacrament of the Eucharist... is the summit and source of all worship and Christian life ...the other sacraments and all the ecclesiastical works of the apostolate are closely connected with the Most Holy Eucharist and ordered to it.

Can. 898 **The Christian faithful are to hold the Most Holy Eucharist in highest honor, taking an active part in the celebration of the most august sacrifice, receiving this sacrament most devoutly and frequently, and worshipping it with the highest adoration.** In explaining the doctrine about this sacrament, pastors of souls are to teach the faithful diligently about this obligation.

**Can. 919 §1.** A person who is to receive the Most Holy Eucharist is to abstain for at least one hour before holy communion from any food and drink, except for only water and medicine.

**Can. 920 §1.** After being initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, each of the faithful is obliged to receive holy communion at least once a year. §2. This precept must be fulfilled during the Easter season unless it is fulfilled for a just cause at another time during the year.

- **Basic recommendations for young parents while attending Mass:**

Arrive on time, take your children to the washroom before Mass, dress with modesty, sit properly, in case you have to talk to call your child's attention to the celebration, please use a quiet voice.

**Avoid bringing gum, food, toys or electronic devices to the church.**

If your baby or toddler is crying, take them to the narthex, and as soon as they have settled down bring them back in.

Take your time to talk to your children before Mass telling them why the Holy Mass is important for you, for them, for the family and the community.

Once the children are in grade one is expected that they stay in the church for the whole Mass. After receiving the sacrament of Holy Communion children are expected to attend Mass every Sunday and days of obligation taking into consideration the numeral 919 from the Canon Law.

Please do not let your child misused the furniture of the Parish. **We all have to cooperate for a solemn celebration, for the good and growth of all.**

- Parents have the obligation to let the catechist team know if their child has a special need before registering. We are not trained to assist special needs children; however some catechists are willing to cooperate with you accepting your child depending on the circumstances.

## **Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. 2016-2017**

FAMILY SURNAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CHILD'S NAME (A): \_\_\_\_\_ Level \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_  
CHILD'S NAME (B): \_\_\_\_\_ Level \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_  
CHILD'S NAME (C): \_\_\_\_\_ Level \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_

BIRTHDATE (A): \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

MOTHER'S NAME:

FATHER'S NAME:

HOME ADDRESS:

POSTAL CODE:

PHONE #:

E-mail:

EMERGENCY CONTACT:

PHONE #:

KNOWN ALLERGIES OR OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:

(A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

I read the information for parents and I am aware of my responsibilities: (Initialized) \_\_\_\_\_  
Do you have any concerns about the recommendations while attending Mass? YES ( ) NO ( )  
In preparation for our Christmas Pageant we may schedule three rehearsals different that our  
CGS schedule, are your children will be participating in the Christmas pageant? YES ( ) NO ( )  
How many people from your family would like to attend the Christmas Pageant? \_\_\_\_\_  
Are you willing to volunteer in preparation for our Christmas pageant? Yes ( ) No ( )

Authorization to use pictures of the children for the AGM, BBQ, and other events of the Parish,  
as well as the work they complete during the atrium time in order to be published in the  
bulletin or religious publications specifically the Association of the Good Shepherd in Canada  
and USA.

Name and signature of the Parent: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your donation checks payable to Annunciation of the Lord Parish and **write your envelope number** on the memo in order to receive your tax receipt. If you are not parishioner and expect a tax receipt you have to go to the office and request to be register in order to receive a number and obtain your tax receipt.

**Registration for children enrolled in the program and siblings takes place in the month of April only. For new children enrolling in level one, registration begins May 1<sup>st</sup>. Registration will be taken in a first come, first serve basis and closes once the groups are full.**

**Please drop off your registration form with the donation at the Parish office to the attention of Liam. Thanks.**

During the summer months people want to be fresh due to the humid summer, however, please read the following information in order to consider what to wear while attending Mass.

## **Papal Audience & visiting the Vatican Dress Codes**

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- **Papal Audience Dress Code:**

- For the Papal Audience casual but modest dress is accepted, again ladies should still have shoulders covered particularly if the meeting is held indoors.

- **St.Peter's Basilica & Sistine Chapel / Vatican Museums Dress Code:**

**Men:**

Men should wear long pants and short sleeves t-shirts or shirts are OK but no vest tops.

Jeans are OK, official rules state no shorts.

As summers can be very hot the Vatican do sometimes relax the rules and allow Men to wear shorts however it is worth noting that this may not always be the case and the official dress code does state no shorts.

It is good perhaps to carry a pair of long pants with you in case or wear the cargo style pants that allow you to unzip the lower legs to create shorts when needed.

Men should also be aware that hats need to be removed before entering any church or Chapel which includes St Peter's Basilica and the Sistine Chapel.

**Women:**

Women can wear trousers, capri pants and skirts and dresses are permitted however they cannot be shorter than knee length and shoulders must be covered.

In very hot weather a shawl or large scarf/Pashmina can be draped around the shoulders for visiting the sites.

Bare shoulders and short skirts are not permitted and again come prepared to cover up if wearing shorts.

- **Accepted**

- **Mens**

- Long pants
- At least short sleeves

- **Women**

- The knees covered
- At least short sleeves

- **Rejected: Shorts, T-shirts without sleeves, short skirts, baseball caps inside the churches.**