

May 5, 2024 • Sixth Sunday of Easter



The Cathedral of SAINT JOSEPH

521 North Duluth Avenue • Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57104

www.stjosephcathedral.net



April 28
2024



Congratulations First Communicants

Sadeyta Alamin, Nielsen Alex, Elisabeth Alijir, Noela Alphensine, Saliyo Amaniel, Muhire Anicet, Leo Bordewyk, Myah Nhi Cao, Carla Cid, Uwimana Esteri, Annie Fidel, Simon Kabi, Asame Kebbede, Niyata Mahamud, Henos Mame, Maleina Mose, Charles Sechser, Hena Siday, Maria Suleyman, Dhal Thiep, Nyabol Thiep, Eliot Tibbetts, Avyannah Tuyet-Tran, Andre Wong, Koyba Zablon

(Alphabetical Order)

Photos by Al Costanzo

LITURGY GUIDE - May 5, 2024

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Welcome to the Cathedral of St. Joseph and thank you for joining us for the celebration of Holy Mass today!

Please, silence your cell phones and refrain from eating, drinking or chewing gum in the Cathedral. Help keep our Cathedral tidy by utilizing the waste baskets found near the main entrances.

Please, do not take pictures during the Mass celebration. You are welcome to take pictures after Mass.

INTROIT - (At 9:15 AM & 11:00 THE INTROIT IS SUNG BY THE CHOIR, FOLLOWED BY THE OPENING HYMN)

Vocem incunditatis annuntiate, et audiatur, alleluia: nuntiate usque ad extremum terrae: liberavit Dominus populum suum, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. (Verse) Iubilare Deo, omnis terra: psalmum dicite nomini eius, date gloriam laudi eius.

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia. (Verse) Shout joyfully to God all the earth; sing a psalm to his name; praise him with magnificence.

right hand of the Fa - ther, have mer - cy on us. For you a - lone are the
Ho - ly One, you... a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most...
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of...
God... the Fa - ther. A - men. A - men.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

OPENING HYMN

794

FESTIVAL CANTICLE

This is the Feast

PENITENTIAL ACT

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, **(striking breast three times)** through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; Therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

GLORIA

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and on earth peace to people of good
will. We praise you, we bless you, we a - dore you, we glo - ri - fy you, we give you thanks for your
great glo - ry, Lord God, hea - ve - nly King, O God, al - migh - ty
Fa - ther. Lord Je - sus Christ, On - ly be - got - ten Son, Lord God,
Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on
us; you take a - way the sins of the world, re - ceive our prayer; you are sea - ted at the

FIRST READING

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48

When Peter entered, Cornelius met him and, falling at his feet, paid him homage. Peter, however, raised him up, saying, "Get up. I myself am also a human being."

Then Peter proceeded to speak and said, "In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him."

While Peter was still speaking these things, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who were listening to the word. The circumcised believers who had accompanied Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit should have been poured out on the Gentiles also, for they could hear them speaking in tongues and glorifying God.

Then Peter responded,

"Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit even as we have?"

He ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalms 98:1, 2-3, 3-4

(Refrain sung first by cantor, then congregation repeat)

The Lord has re - vealed to the na - tions
his sav - ing pow'r, his sav - ing pow'r.

Text: Refrain trans., *Lectionary for Mass*, © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL; verses, *New American Bible*, © 1970, Confraternity of Christian Doctrine; Music: Michel Guimont, © 1994, 1998, GIA Publications, Inc.

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation. **R**

The Lord has made known his salvation, has shown his deliverance to the nations. He has remembered his merciful love and his truth for the house of Israel. **R**

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song, and sing out your praise. **R**

SECOND READING

1 John 4:7-10

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love. In this way the love of God was revealed to us: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might have life through him. In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as expiation for our sins.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please Stand

(Sung first by cantor, then congregation repeat)



Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him and we will come to him. R

GOSPEL

John 15:9-17

Jesus said to his disciples: "As the Father loves me, so I also love you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. "I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy might be complete. This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I no longer call you slaves, because a slave does not know what his master is doing. I have called you friends, because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father. It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you. This I command you: love one another."

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Please Stand

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation

he came down from heaven, (bow here) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY HYMN (4:00 PM & 7:30 AM) LASST UNS ERFREUEN 410 All Creatures of Our God and King

OFFERTORY ANTIPHON (9:15 AM)

Benedicite gentes Dominum Deum nostrum, et obaudite vocem laudis eius: qui posuit animam meam ad vitam, et non dedit commoveri pedes meos: benedictus Dominus, qui non amovit deprecationem meam, et misericordiam suam a me, alleluia. O nations, bless the Lord our God, let the voice of his praises resound; he has restored my soul to life, and he has not suffered my feet to stumble; blessed be the Lord who has neither rejected my prayer nor turned his mercy away from me, alleluia.

OFFERTORY MOTET (11:00 AM)

Craig Courtney (b. 1948)

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua. Osanna in excelsis. Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Osanna in excelsis. Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. Alleluia.

Celebrant: Pray brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts.
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Text: ICEL, © 2010
Music: A Community Mass, Richard Proulx, © 1971, 1977, 2006, GIA Publications, Inc.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Re-sur-rec - tion un-til you come a-gain.

AGNUS DEI

Cantor or Choir: *All:* *3*
*Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world,
To repeat *Last time*
have mer-cy on us. grant us peace.

ECCE AGNUS DEI

Celebrant: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

HOLY COMMUNION

All Catholics who have prepared themselves to receive Holy Communion are invited to come forward. Our brothers and sisters of other faiths are invited to approach with their arms crossed over their chest to signal their desire to receive a blessing.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (4:00 PM)

I am the true vine and you are the
bran - ches, says the Lord, al - le - lu - ia.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (9:15 AM & 11:00 AM)

Ego vos elegi de mundo, ut eatis et fructum afferatis: et fructus vester maneat, alleluia. I have chosen you from the world, in order that you might go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should last, alleluia.

COMMUNION MEDITATION (11:00 AM)

If Ye Love Me

Thomas Tallis

(c. 1505-1585)

If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray to the father, and He shall give you another comforter, that he may bide with you forever, ev'n the spirit of truth.

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

667

FULDA MELODY

O Jesus, We Adore Thee

CLOSING HYMN

423

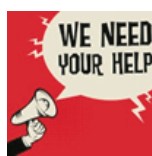
HYMN TO JOY

Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

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The Cathedral Parish is hosting a breakfast at **The Banquet**



Downtown on **Friday, May 17th**. We have many volunteer opportunities available for the preparation and serving shifts. Everyone is welcome to join us! Children aged 12 or older, are welcome to help serve and leave early for school. If you're unable to volunteer, please consider supporting financially towards the cost of the meal. Payments can be made by cash, checks (made out to Cathedral) or through Cathedral's online giving, just make sure to indicate that it is for **"The Banquet."**

For volunteering inquiries, please contact Sandy Lown at jlown@sio.midco.net or **605-359-8415**.

Thank you for supporting this outreach ministry!



**6 Elementaries,
O'Gorman Junior High,
O'Gorman High**

Kindergarten Openings - Do you want your child's educational future to align with your family's Catholic values? We have Kindergarten openings at St. Mary, St. Katharine Drexel, Christ the King, and St. Michaels!

Tuition assistance is available.



Hiring - Join the Bishop O'Gorman family where you will have the opportunity to grow spiritually and professionally! We have multiple teacher positions open!! Scan the QR code or view them here>> www.ogknights.tedk12.com/hire



**The 29th Annual
BISHOP'S CHARITY FISHING TOURNAMENTS**
Benefiting Seminarian Education

Monday, June 3rd at Big Stone City - Dohitt Park and
Monday, June 10th, at Pierre - Oahe Downstream Recreation Area (located 5 miles north of Pierre). We are excited to gather again in support of the future priests of our diocese! For more information, visit us at www.ccfesd.org, **605-988-3765** or Scan the code.



COMMUNITY NEWS



ST. JOSEPH ACADEMY

St. Joseph Academy is a hybrid, classical Catholic school opening this fall. We aim to form young minds and hearts, strengthen families, and build community right here on the St. Joseph Cathedral campus. Help us launch a successful first year. Scan the QR code to donate today!



Thank you! May 1st - St. Joseph the Worker Feast Day and May Crowning of Mary - Thank you to the St. Joseph Academy Teachers and Students for helping us Celebrate May 1st for our Noon Mass. The Crowning of Mary was very beautiful and the music by the children's choir enhanced our Cathedral's noon Mass. St. Joseph the Worker, Patron of Cathedral Parish and our Diocese, pray for us.

Knights of Columbus Youth Camp - A faith-filled camp for young men between the ages of 13-19. **Blessed Michael McGivney Youth Camp** focuses on faith, fun and fraternity and is based on the four principles of the Knights of Columbus (charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism). The camp is held at Broom Tree Retreat Center in Irene and begins at 1 pm on Friday, June 28 and ends at 10 am on Sunday, June 30. **Fathers are welcome to attend with their sons.** You'll enjoy games, activities, swimming, canoeing and guest speakers. There is no cost for this camp (Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus). Call John Limoges at 605-957-5074 or johnalimoges@hotmail.com for registration and details.

Real Presence Radio -Spring Live Drive is May 14-16. Tune in as we broadcast from throughout our five state listening area and bring you inspiring stories of faith and hope. To donate call [877-795-0122](tel:877-795-0122) or RealPresenceRadio.com and you will be entered into a drawing for one of the great prizes awarded throughout the drive. Phone lines will be open from 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM.



Vocations News

College Connection 2024 - Parents keep your college student connected to their Catholic Faith. The Vocations Office can help. Please contact the Vocations Office at emurtha@sfcatholic.org.

Also, please check out the Vocations website for information about **JPII Camp for Boys** and **Goretti Camp for Girls**. <https://www.sfcatholic.org/vocations>

6th SUNDAY OF EASTER



Liturgical Roles



Daily Mass Reader -
12:00 pm As Scheduled

May 11/12

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

4:00 pm Kate Piercemogen, Nancy Kadinger
7:30 am Gerald Frisbie, Sharon Frisbie
9:15 am John Moneke, Bonnie Poppenga, Susan Sommervold
11:00 am Bob Lux, Matthew Enderson, Mary Enderson
4:00 pm Ministers as Scheduled

Lectors

4:00 pm Ashley Martinmaas, Susan Bradford
7:30 am Steve Mogle
9:15 am Emily Young, Robert Binstock
11:00 am Eva Boyum, Max Boyum
4:00 pm Readers as Scheduled

Altar Servers

4:00 pm Pontifical Servers
7:30 am Thomas Mogle, James Mogle
9:15 am John Paul Beaner, Jacoben Schmidt, Quintin Rasmussen
11:00 am Megan Ulin, Will Ulin, Joseph Tran
4:00 pm Servers as Scheduled

Mini-Bus Driver

4:00 pm Denise Rotert

Dow Rummel Deb Radio

Good Sam Kathy Ellenbecker

Readings for the week of May 05, 2024

Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 (see 2b)/ 1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/ Jn 15:26—16:4a

Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/ Jn 16:12-15

Thursday: Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 16:16-20

Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 (6)/Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20

Friday: Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Jn 16:20-23

Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10/Jn 16:23b-28

Next Sunday: **Ascension:** Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 (6)/ Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20

Seventh Sunday of Easter: Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26/ Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20 (19a)/1 Jn 4:11-16/Jn 17:11b-19

CONGRATULATIONS

The first winner of the 500 Club for May 2024 is **Karen Boone**. She has received a check for \$94. We have given Fr. Morgan a check for **\$410** for the Church. Over the last 25 years we have given over **\$97,500** to Cathedral Parish. Anyone interested in joining will find applications at the front entrance (Duluth Ave) of the Cathedral. Membership is only \$5.00 a month. Applications received by May 26th will be in the June 2024 drawings. Call the Parish Office [605-336-7390](tel:605-336-7390) for details.

Mass Intentions

Mon. May 06•	<i>Easter Weekday</i>
12:00 pm	Jack & Mildred Geraets
Tue. May 07•	<i>Easter Weekday</i>
12:00 pm	† Alice Staebell
Wed. May 08•	<i>Easter Weekday</i>
12:00 pm	† Geraldine Zimmer
Thu. May 09•	<i>Easter Weekday</i>
12:00 pm	† Dorothy Nash
Fri. May 10•	<i>St. John of Avila, Priest & Doctor of Church and St. Damian de Veuster, Priest</i>
12:00 pm	† Delphine Wurtz
Sat. May 11•	<i>Easter Weekday</i>
4:00 pm	Homebound
Sun. May 12•	<i>Ascension of the Lord</i>
7:30 am	Tyler & Maria Pranger
9:15 am	† Carv Trudeau
11:00 am	Arabella Lingen
4:00 pm	Pro Populo

Sanctuary Candles

This week the five sanctuary candles in the Sacred Heart Chapel have been requested for the following intentions:

- 1.) Those Struggling with Addiction
- 2.) Reunion of all Christians
- 3.) Courtney Lux
- 4.) † Tami Wilder
- 5.) † Holy Souls in Purgatory

Cathedral Events Calendar

Monday, May 06 -

1:00– 5:00 pm - Cathedral closed for recording.
6:30 pm - Young Adults (Offsite gathering)

Tuesday, May 07 -

9:00 am - Quilter's Group
10:00 am - Women's Group
1:00 - 5:00 pm - Cathedral closed for recording
6:30 pm - Knights of Columbus (School building)

Thursday, May 09-

6:00 pm - Eucharistic Revival Study, Parish Hall
7:00 pm - Adoration & Reconciliation in the Chapel

Saturday, May 11 -

12:00 & 3:00 pm - Reconciliation in the Cathedral Nave

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you Abigail Carter for starting us off on a great Faith Formation Year. We are incredibly thankful to all of our volunteers who have generously given of their time to our faith formation programs at Cathedral. I know that there are many who worked behind the scenes. Though I do not have all of your names, we are very grateful for your assistance.

Confirmation - Sue Sommervold

Family of Faith - Tim & Sara Beaner

RCIA - Jeff Heron, Al Costanzo, Alison Eckert, Ian Carter

Women's Group - Betty Barto-Smith & Barbara Lockwood

Young Adult Formation - Abigail Carter, Megan Janssen,

Stephanie Rausch & Hope Rasmussen

Thank You to all parents for your participation and example to your children for Faith Formation. You are their first Church.

Thank you to Fr. Morgan and Fr. Pasquale for all of your Sacramental preparations for **Baptism, Reconciliation, First Communion & Confirmation.**

And a special **'Thank You'** to Al Costanzo and Susan Sommervold for capturing many of these memories in photos.

May is Cathedral's month to **support the Adoration Sisters.**

Draw a slip from the Collection Bins by the entrances. Bring your item/s, for the Sisters the next time you come to Church to place in the bin. If you have a **'Cash or Check Donation'**, please mark it for the Sisters and drop in the collection basket or drop it off at the Monastery. **Please, do not leave 'Cash' in the Collection Bins.** Thank you for your assistance in supporting the Sisters. The Sisters would like to pray for you in return. Prayer request cards are at the entrances, also.


And, speaking of support for the Adoration Sisters...The **Outreach Committee** would like to thank all of the parishioners who helped offer the six Parish Lenten Soup Suppers for so many to enjoy! This year's free will offerings of **\$1451.79** will be given to support the **Adoration Sisters.** Thank you to those who served and to all who attended.

New Lector and Eucharistic Minister Training - Have you ever thought about participating more fully at Mass? Come check out how to be a Lector or Eucharistic Minister at one of our two upcoming trainings: **Tuesday, May 21st at 6:30 pm** or **Saturday, June 1st at 10:00 am.** (After the 1st Saturday Mass)



Please pray for the repose of the soul of
Karen French - Cathedral Parishioner
May she and all of the faithful departed through the
Mercy of God, rest in peace.

WEEKLY OFFERING APRIL 29/30

	Envelopes	\$	7,984.00
	Online/EFT	\$	3,346.07
	Visitors/Loose Cash	\$	4,743.50
		Total \$	16,073.57

Scan QR code to be directed to our Giving Page
Thank you for your Support and Prayers!

CATHEDRAL INFORMATION

Parish Office: [605-336-7390](tel:605-336-7390)

Parish Office Email: cathedral@sfcatholic.org

Office Hours: 9:00am-4pm M-Th, 9:00am-3pm Friday

Cathedral Church Hours:

8am-5pm Monday-Saturday

7am-Noon & 3:30-5:00 Sunday

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:00pm (First Saturday of the Month - 9:00am)

Sunday 7:30am, 9:15am, 11:00am,

4:00pm (St. Josephine Bakhita Community)

Weekday Masses

Cathedral - Monday - Friday, 12pm (Noon)

Monastery - Monday - Saturday, 7am

Confessions

Thursday 7:00pm

Saturday 12 pm & 3:00-3:30pm in Cathedral

(In the Chapel if a Wedding is scheduled)

Adoration

Sacred Heart Chapel - Thursdays 7pm-8pm (Confessions)

Cathedral - 11 am, First Friday of the month

Monastery - Monday-Saturday 7:30am-6pm

Tours

Self-guided - 1:00 pm Monday-Friday (except Holy Days)

Guided Tours-By appointment [605-336-7390](tel:605-336-7390)

Parish Staff

Rector, Very Rev. James P. Morgan

Parochial Vicar, Rev. Pasquale Armando Francesco

Deacon, William Radio

Deacon, Tim Dickes (Prison Ministry)

Administrative Assistant, Mary Anne Lux

Director-Operations & Finance, Heidi Solem

Director-Liturgical Music, Dr. Jared Ostermann

Tour Docent/Guide, Susan Albers

Wedding Coordinator, Mary Enderson

Counseling Services

The Lourdes Center (Formerly Catholic Family Services)

Counseling and Grief Programs [605-988-3775](tel:605-988-3775)

Sacraments

Baptism The sacrament of Baptism is celebrated for our parishioners on Sundays after the 11AM Mass. Parents must attend a Baptism preparation meeting. To schedule a meeting for preparation contact the parish office at [605-336-7390](tel:605-336-7390).

Matrimony Six months preparation required. Registered parishioners, please contact the parish office. All others, contact the pastor of your home church. For wedding information, go to www.stjosephcathedral.net, under Sacraments.

Anointing of the Sick

Please call the parish office to request this Sacrament if you have been diagnosed with an illness, in preparation for surgery or in case of serious illness.

Catholic Cemetery - St. Michael's Cemetery [605-338-3376](tel:605-338-3376)

CLERGY REFLECTION

Since January, we have been researching a new catechesis program to benefit the younger children of the parish. The comments from our Set Ablaze town hall meeting confirmed that something more needs to be done with the formation of our children in their Catholic faith, especially at younger ages. So we began to pray about this. As usual, we didn't have to go looking for it, it just fell into our lap. A growing program that has been highly successful with children learning the ins and outs of their Catholic faith has been around for a while, but more recently has become a standard tool at parishes across the country (St. Lambert's in our Diocese, for example) and even in Catholic school systems around the U.S. (Bishop O'Gorman also uses this program). It's called "Catechesis of the Good Shepherd" (CGS). I am excited to announce that we are moving forward to offer Level 1 of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) to our Cathedral parish family, beginning in the fall of 2024. Level 1 is for children ages 3-6 (pre-K - Kindergarten).

The environment of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is structured like a Montessori learning environment, with hands-on materials to assist the child in knowledge of liturgy and Scripture, as well as the life of the Church and the habits of practicing Catholics. The room is referred to as the "Atrium," and is a place of reverence where children are encouraged to work quietly so they can meditate on Scripture and the different prayers and gestures of the liturgies. The primary focus of Level 1 is receiving "the love of the Father through the parable of the Good Shepherd." The Level 1 curriculum includes prayer and contemplation through lessons and practicum that focus primarily on: the different vessels and linens for Mass, along with their gestures; a familiarity with the liturgical seasons; a study of the geography of the Holy Land; and a familiarity with Jesus' parables. The objective of Level 1 is to improve the children's participation in the Mass, and to strengthen their relationship with the "Good Shepherd," Jesus, by developing their ability to pray.

Thanks to the St. Joseph Academy, we have already created an Atrium in one of the school classrooms, and thus far, we have one catechist available to lead an Atrium, and she will be able to offer 2-3 different sessions weekly. Families will choose the one day and time that works best for them, and will meet at that same time every week. The CGS program will differ from the Family Program in that it will not be limited to Sunday.

More information will be forthcoming regarding a meeting for interested families. In the meantime, you may contact Barbara Ostermann at babsieblue@gmail.com with any questions. If you are interested in training to become a catechist, or would like to volunteer as an assistant, please contact Barbara. In addition, we are looking for "artists" of any kind and would be willing to help with the materials necessary to build up our Atrium. Pray about it. And pray for our new endeavor to better catechize our children.

Fr. James Morgan

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