

Church of Spirit of Life

Roman Catholic Community

801 1st Street S.E.
Mandan, North Dakota 58554
Office 663-1660



Dear Parents:

For the past two years, we have been offering level one Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for pre-school and kindergarten faith formation. This Montessori-based program allows even the youngest child to work in an environment that fits their potential, while they come to know God and fall in love with Him. Children are capable of understanding the great mysteries of our faith and become active members of the Church. This year, we will start level two Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for 1st through 3rd grade.

I believe in Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. I believe it is an excellent method for the formation and education of our children. With that in mind, we will begin to transition all elementary students to Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. We will not, however, do this all at once. Our first step will be to place all incoming first grade students in the level two Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and discontinue the normal 1st grade religious education class on Wednesday nights. This program will also allow for faith formation every week instead of every other week. There will be two options for level two Catechesis of the Good Shepherd available weekly, Wednesday, at 4 - 5:30 pm and Wednesday, at 6 to 7:30 pm. As our parish continues to transition, I highly encourage you to enroll your child at 3 years old, beginning with level one Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.

Please note: it is vital children begin Catechesis of the Good Shepherd by no later than first grade, as, during the 1st and 2nd grade years, the children are prepared for First Confession and First Communion. Please continue to enroll your child past second grade, as Catechesis of the Good Shepherd will continue to foster their relationship with Christ.

We are excited for the changes this year. If you have any questions, contact Karen, the Director of Religious Education, or me at 663-1660. Also, please prayerfully consider serving as an aide for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd or taking training to be an instructor.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Msgr. Chad Gion".

Rev. Msgr. Chad Gion