



Help your child to understand the Mass



To fall in love with the Good Shepherd



To discover the secrets of the Kingdom of God





# Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Graceville Atrium 2019

19 Randolph St. Graceville  
33798635



For children aged 3-6 years, 6-9 years and 9-12 years



The atrium is like a retreat centre for children. Each age level has its own beautifully prepared environment filled with many hands on materials that are age appropriate. Based on the Scriptures and the Liturgy the materials aid the child, helping them to draw near to God on their own so that they can develop their own personal and unique relationship with God, who is reaching out to them with arms outstretched longing for them to come running into his arms. It enables seeds sown at home and in the classroom to grow and blossom.



## **In the 3-6 Atrium**

Here the child "falls in love" with the Good Shepherd, who calls them by name, who knows their every need and who nurtures and protects them. They begin to recognise that one of the places where they meet this Good Shepherd, who loves them so much is at Mass. Here we receive the greatest of all gifts, Jesus Himself. They discover that the Mass is a place where there is a marvellous exchange of gifts between heaven and earth. They wonder about the Light that shone in the darkness and see that this Light shines in their hearts and ponder how they received this Light at Baptism. And they reflect on the wondrous gift of the Kingdom of God that is so precious and is growing so marvellously within them

“The atrium was a foundation for my faith as a child” ~ Rhiannan

## **In the 6-9 Atrium**

Here the child begins to grasp the immensity of God's plan to transform the world and to bring forth his Kingdom on the face of the earth. They discover that they are part of this plan and that there is an invitation for them to write on the blank page of their tomorrows and in so doing respond to God's call. The child continues to enjoy "being" in God's presence, "remaining" in Him, staying connected to the Vine. They reflect on how deeply they are united to Jesus with the life/sap of the Holy Spirit flowing through them. And they discover that this gift of divine life enables them to bear fruit, fruit that will last. They celebrate God's amazing and abundant love as they prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. A love that is unconditional and full of mercy and compassion. This love also becomes tangible for them in the Eucharist, to which they are called by name to the feast, to receive Jesus Himself into their hearts. They also consider the gifts of the Holy Spirit sent by God to strengthen them and to help them in their task of shining God's Light and sharing His Love with a

“ I've always felt and remembered the atrium as a place of peace and connectedness with the Lord” ~ Annalise

## **In the 9-12 Atrium**

Here the child goes deeper into the mysteries of our Faith that we have considered in the previous years in the atrium. They reflect more deeply on God's call on their lives. How is He asking them to live their lives? What is their particular task in building the Kingdom of God? They look at God's vision for his world, a world of peace and harmony, love and goodness. How will they contribute to making the world a better place? How does God reveal Himself to us? How did He reveal Himself to the people of Israel? How does He reveal Himself to us today? Most importantly as they reflect on the Scriptures and the Liturgy their hearts are set aflame as they listen to His voice.

“My time at the atrium was one of my most memorable experiences as a child...I feel called to work with God to bring forth His Kingdom more than ever.” ~ Patrick

## **Session Times for 2019**

### **Monday**

10.00 - 12.00 3-6 year olds

3.15 - 5.15 Sacramental

### **Tuesday**

3.15 - 5.15 Sacramental

### **Wednesday**

3.30 - 5.30 3-6 year olds

3.30 - 5.30 Grades 1-3

3.30 - 5.30 Grades 4-7

### **Thursday**

10.00 - 12.00. 3-6 year olds

3.15 - 5.15 3-6 year olds

3.15 - 5.15 Grades 1-3

3.15 - 5.15 Grades 4-7

Atrium sessions commence this year on the week of Monday February 5th. Cost per session is \$10 per child per week which is charged per term according to the number of weeks in the term. Discounts apply for families with more than two children. To enrol your child in any of the above groups please contact us at the atrium on 33798635. If we are not there please leave a message and we will get back to you asap.or you could email Anne Delsorte on [delsorte@bigpond.net.au](mailto:delsorte@bigpond.net.au)

