

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD



THE MONTESSORI
APPROACH TO
RELIGIOUS
FORMATION



Mary MacKillop Atrium, Macclesfield

“Mum, Did you
know that the Good
Shepherd knows my
name?”

A comment from a child in
our level one atrium in 2019.



“I BLESS YOU
FATHER, LORD
OF HEAVEN
AND EARTH,
FOR HIDING
THESE
THINGS FROM
THE LEARNED
AND CLEVER
AND
REVEALING
THEM TO
MERE
CHILDREN.”
MATTHEW
11:25

What is Catechesis of the Good Shepherd?

-A Montessori-based method of faith formation

-A child does not merely learn about God but through exposure to prayer, scripture and liturgy, encounters Him, developing a personal relationship.

Who is it for?

-Level 1: Children aged 3-6

-Level 2: Children aged 6-9

-Level 3: Children aged 9-12

What is the Atrium?

-The atrium is not simply a classroom, it is a sacred place of encounter where Christ is the true teacher.

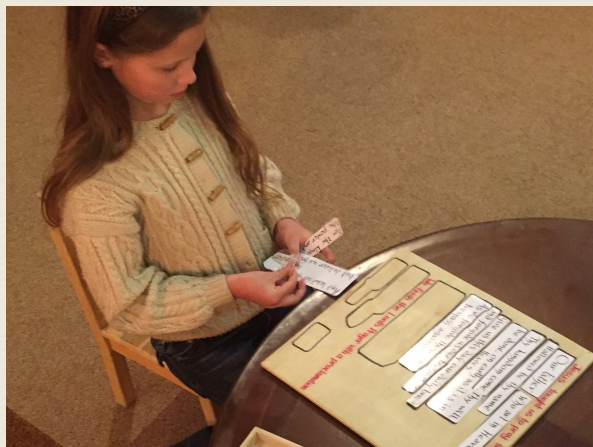
-The atrium is a place of concentration, and contemplation, where the child is given the freedom to listen to Christ who forms the heart through work and prayer.



What is a session?

-A session lasts for 2 hours, once a week.

-The themes of the session follow the liturgical year helping children better appreciate Sunday mass.



What happens during a session?

-A session begins with prayer, followed by a presentation by the catechist. Then children are free to engage in work of their own choice:

-Working with models of the Good Shepherd, the nativity, the Last Supper, or a small altar with replica Mass vessels, drawing, painting and many other works.

Level 1: Mondays 10-12

Wednesdays 4-6

Level 2/3: Wednesday 4-6

Twilight atrium once a term combined with a meal and mini youth group. Day/time TBA.

For further information please contact: The Mary MacKillop Atrium at the Parish Office: 83911053 or Teena Cobiac 0499172740

