



Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

What is Catechesis of the Good Shepherd?

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) is a Montessori-based approach to Faith formation. Through engagement in practical work, Sacred Scripture, and the Liturgy in a dedicated space called the Atrium, children have the opportunity to encounter God and grow in their relationship with Jesus, the Good Shepherd. The Atrium provides an environment for children to ponder the wonders of the Faith at their own pace and within a prepared structure that fosters freedom and independence.

Our Atrium

Our Atrium is a unique space lovingly created by our catechists. It is prepared with child-sized furniture and materials that allow students to interact with and act out the truths of the Faith. It can be compared to a retreat house that facilitates recollection and silence, and is a place of meaningful work through which the student can have a conversation with God. It is an opportunity to synthesize the Faith formation they receive the rest of the week in their classrooms and their experience at Mass.

CGS at Embers Academy

CGS is integrated into the Faith formation program at Embers Academy for students in grades PreK-2nd. Catechists provide a presentation, followed by time for reflection and engagement in various activities throughout the Atrium. Our trained Level 1 and Level 2 catechists follow a three-year cycle of presentations based on the Liturgical calendar, including the Annunciation and Visitation during Advent, the Nativity and Adoration of the Magi during Christmas, and The Found Sheep during Easter. PreK-2nd grade students visit the Atrium weekly.

