

CGS NEWS

Children in God's Kingdom | Ordinary Time Lessons | CGS Level I Training

ORDINARY TIME

Level I Lessons

- + Practical Life Skills
- + Intro to the Prayer Table
- + Intro to the Bible in the Prayer Corner
- + Altar I and II
- + Liturgical Colors

Level II Lessons

- + The Liturgical Calendar
- + La Fettuccia
- + Enthronement of the Bible
- + Land of Israel Pin Maps
- + True Vine Bible Study

Level III Lessons

- + What is a Prayer Service
- + Enthronement of the Bible
- + History of God and the Bible
- + The Plan of God

Please send your child with their Bible!



Children in God's Kingdom

The mystery of the kingdom of God is one of the most illusive aspects of our Catholic faith, but, at the same time, one of the most central. From the Our Father's prayer that "thy kingdom come" to so many of Jesus's "kingdom parables" our faith drips with image after image of God's heavenly kingdom.

These images are confusing, aren't they? The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, a lost pearl, a mustard seed, yeast used by a baker, and on and on. Verses like Luke 17:20-21 don't help: "The coming of the kingdom of God cannot be observed, and no one will announce, 'Look, here it is,' or, 'There it is.' For behold, the kingdom of God is among you."





CGS Level I Training Course

This school year we are offering a CGS Level I Training Course for anyone interested in learning more about CGS or in becoming a Catechist. Benefits of the course include:

- Learn the Montessori Method
- Spend time in prayer
- See faith through the eyes of children

The course is held at St. Peter's Episcopal in Uptown Charlotte one Saturday each month.

St. Peter covers the cost for any parishioner interested in participating. If you are not able to attend, but would like to support others who do you can donate to the Clint Hunsche Memorial Fund which is for catechist training.

Although the course has already begun, you are still able to register for the remaining sessions.

For more information on the course or to donate contact Mark Bartholet at mbartholet@stpeterscatholic.org.

With all this uncertainty, how can we understand what Jesus meant, let alone teach our children?

Entering the Mystery

Teaching children about the kingdom of God involves two important truths. First, the mystery of God's kingdom is not one that we solve. It's a mystery that we enter into; it's a participation. While few people can unravel the kingdom's mystery, a person of any age can participate in it. The second truth is that our children know and desire God in ways that we cannot, as adults, comprehend. Just as children learn to speak without instruction, they have a sense of God without it as well.

Combine these realities and we discover that children can participate in the mystery of God's kingdom in profound ways. They can reflect on Jesus's parables just as easily as they imagine how God's loving hand has guided creation since the very beginning of time.

During the start of the CGS year we begin to journey with the children as they enter into this mystery. In Level II, the year begins with a famous lesson called "La Fettuccia" or the Ribbon Lesson. In it we explore and marvel at how God carefully guided all of creation to the formation of humanity, our redemption through Christ, and is with us as we journey toward the fulfillment of the kingdom.

