IPC Children’s Ministries Faith Formation
Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Catechesis is a faith formation method for children ages 3-12 years where adults and children come together in a common religious experience to share our religious beliefs and faith practices using the Holy Bible, the liturgy of the church, and the educational principals of Maria Montessori. This relational-based approach focuses on honoring childhood religious experience by using hands-on materials to connect head, heart, and hands to the contemplation and enjoyment of God.

What are some activities my child will be focusing on at each level of catechesis?

Level 1 - Ages 3-years-old to 5K
- Begin the practice of an inner prayer life by quieting mind and body
- Practice caring for self, others, and our environment in the atrium
- Hear about God’s love within in the parable of The Good Shepherd
- Hear the prophets messages about the one who was to come
- Explore the arrival of Jesus as a new baby
- Think about Jesus’s parables and what they tell us about the Kingdom of God
- Think about the seasons of the church using the liturgical calendar
- Experience the joy of celebrating Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Easter, and Pentecost as we recognize the seasons of the church and make connections to “big church worship service”
- Think about the geography of Israel and Jesus’s time on earth
- Focus on questions such as, “Who are you God?” and “How much do you love us?”

Level 2 - 1st - 3rd grade
- Continue hearing about God’s great love for us in the parable of The True Vine
- Introduce Jesus’s moral parables as we think about our response
- Think about sacred history as it has unfolded over time and is told in the Bible
- Begin to identify common themes across parable stories
- Work together in small groups to practice fellowship and hospitality
- Continue to hear the stories of Jesus’s life, death, and resurrection
- Hear how the Bible was created
- Work on locating Scripture verses in the Bible, sharing them aloud, and contemplating their meaning
- Think more about the importance of Communion and Baptism in the church, connecting it to Jesus’s words
- Focus on questions such as, “Who am I?” “How did this come to be?” “What is my job here?”

Level 3 - 4th – 6th grade
- Continue hearing about God’s great love for us as we think about how to respond in our life and with others
- Hear additional moral parables and contemplate their meanings
- Explore ancient cultures within the context of the Old Testament stories
- Hear about the Jewish people and their relationship with God
- Prepare and lead “God’s Gifts Worship service” in the Spring
- Explore how to live together in community within the church and out in the world
- Continue to contemplate questions such as, “Who am I?” “How did this come to be?” “What is my role?”
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Level 1 Catechists in Training (90 hours)
Beverley Krannich
Catherine Mauldin
Maegan McRoberts
Rachel Phillips
Stacy Pulliam

Level 1 Catechists (90 hours)
Burgin Franks
Catherine Pringle
Jessica Grover
Julia Williams

Level 2 Catechists (100 hours) *In Level 3 training course
Ashley Inscoe
Catherine White
Enid Athanas
Jamie Hill
Jan Posey
Jean Shanks*
Jeanene Skillen*
Kate Mather
Shannon Cooley

Level 3 Catechists (120 hours)
Teri Borders
Margaret Cobbs
Anna James
Lindsey Ring
Leslie Robinson
Kay Roller
Sarah Warburton