

## Curriculum and Program Options 2018-2019

### **Curricula:**

**Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS)** – This Montessori-based method of catechesis was developed to nurture the child's relationship with God dependent on the developmental stage of the child. It includes a specially designed environment called the atrium (classroom) which contains various articles of Liturgy and Scripture materials for the children to aid in their learning, ability to wonder and contemplate the lessons that are presented. This beautiful method includes three levels: Level I (3-6 yr. old), Level II (6-9 yrs. old) Level III (9-12 yrs. old).

- All three levels will be offered on Tuesday evenings with limited enrollment.
- On Wednesdays, Level I and II are offered to those children PreK-Grade 2.
- On Wednesdays, CGS based lessons are offered for grades 3 – 6.

**Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS)** based lesson presentations invite children in grades 3-6 to explore the covenant relationship that God has revealed to us as our Good Shepherd through the close examination of the Old Testament (Hebrew Scripture). They also study a detailed view into the history of humankind and discover how God draws all of creation toward Himself towards Parousia. They see in a more challenging way how God' plan is a plan of communion, a plan which links all people together through God's love. The emphasis is on our response to this unfolding generosity of God with Jesus Christ as the greatest gift to us. We encourage the children to reflect more substantially on their role in God's plan and to listen, discern and recognize the responsibilities that come with receiving God's great gifts and to be a collaborator with God in the unfolding of His Kingdom. "What is the Kingdom of God and my place in it? This is the cosmic query which lays the foundations for a life commitment in relationship with God.

**First Reconciliation and First Communion** – In addition to their religious formation either through SCCS, parish faith formation programs, or home schooling, students preparing for these sacraments will participate in our bi-parish sacramental program which includes parent meetings, student and parent retreats, and home lessons. Information regarding this program will be sent to the families in the fall.

**Middle School (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grades)** – Weekly meetings that aim to further deepen the student's relationship with God by presenting Christ and the Church as the place to better understand one's self and one's place in the world. The format is a combination of large-group presentations with small group discussions, as well as praying, singing and playing together, with occasional moments for charitable work, all aimed at providing a common experience of the life of faith for the student of this age group. See our website for more.

**High School (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades)** – For high school students, we provide a variety of *opportunities* for students to socialize, study, serve, and pray together, and we encourage families to choose from among these to further educate their children in the use of freedom. For those families who want to provide a context for closer Christian companionship to strengthen and deepen their faith, we help families and students form what we call Discipleship Groups. See website for more:

[https://www.stmichaelstillwater.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC\\_ID=531314&type=d&pREC\\_ID=1134540](https://www.stmichaelstillwater.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=531314&type=d&pREC_ID=1134540) .

**Inquiring for Confirmation (9<sup>th</sup> grade and up)** – Families and students who display readiness to live out full membership in the Church can inquire into receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. We will help families take the steps they need to take and support them along the way. Eligibility for the sacrament is based on a willing and free participation in the life of the parish and the Precepts of the Church. See website for more.

### **Program Meeting Options:**

- **Opt 1: Tuesday Morning Catechesis of The Good Shepherd-Atrium – 10:00-11:30am**  
Prekindergarten Only = 3 – 5 years of age (Location – John & Mary Building)

- **Opt 2: Tuesday Evening Catechesis of The Good Shepherd-Atrium - 5:30-7:00pm**  
Level I = ages 3 – 6, Level II = grades 1 & 2, Level III = grades 3 – 6 (Location – John and Mary Building)  
  
Only one class session per grade level will be offered. **Limited enrollment.**
  
- **Opt 3: Wednesday Afternoon & CGS - 4:30-6:00pm**  
Prekindergarten – Grade 8  
  
Classes are held in St. Croix Catholic School, St. Mary’s Education Center and the John & Mary Bldg. Classes will generally meet three Wednesdays of the month from September through May with some exceptions.
  
- **Opt 4: Wednesday Evening & CGS - 6:30-8:00pm**  
Grades 1 – 6 (PreK-K registration will be for returning students only or new students 5+ years.) No grades 7/8  
  
Classes are held in St. Croix Catholic School and the John & Mary Bldg. Classes will generally meet three Wednesdays of the month from September through May with some exceptions.
  
- **Opt 5: Thursday Morning Catechesis of The Good Shepherd-Atrium – 10:00-11:30am**  
**Level I** - Prekindergarten = 3 – 5 years of age, **Level II** – grades 1 & 2, **Level III** = grades 3 – 6  
A minimum number of eight children registered needed in order to hold an atrium session.

## Faith Formation Fees Policies – Very Important, Please Read!

In-Parish Fee: \$150.00 per student

Out-of-Parish Fee: \$175.00 per student

A *non-refundable* deposit of \$50.00 (family max of \$100.00) is due at time of registration. The deposit goes toward the total fee due.

The total family maximum is \$375.00 (Families with 3+ students receive half off the third child’s fee and any additional children are free.)

Refund policy:	Before September 14	= 100% refunded (deposit retained)
	Before October 31	= 50% per child refunded
	After October 31	= 0% refunded

Late registrations will be evaluated on a case by case basis. If sacraments are being registered for, it is possible we may suggest waiting until the next calendar year for the child to begin.