

Sunday Preschool

Ages 3, 4, and 5
Sundays, 10:30-11:30 AM

**We hand on to you what
was handed on to us.**



**Parent Handbook
2011-2012**



Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I'm so excited to begin another great year in Sunday Preschool. We've been working all summer to get ready for this Fall and I think we're ready to go! I know I'll miss those vacation days of summer, but I look forward to greeting all the little ones at the door as they get ready to learn about Jesus.

This year we've got some wonderful volunteers to help guide your children in their faith formation. This great group of individuals will help reinforce what you've been teaching at home. A special thank you for the returning teachers and a special welcome to the new ones. Without their love and commitment to our children, this program would not be successful.

We again will be using Loyola Press' *God Made Me, God Made the World* and *God Loves Us* text books. Every week, your child will bring home a page from their book. It will include an outline of what was taught and any extra activities they created.

We will begin each class in the gym with prayer, music and dancing! AND yes, Jeshua will be returning... Jeshua is the lamb puppet who reads the Sunday Gospel to the children. He tells me that he can't wait to see the children again!

Lastly, thank you for your commitment to your child's faith formation. It truly starts at home with the smallest of the small!

God Bless,

Michelle Kuch
m_andraskuch@yahoo.com



Notes

Registration

Sunday Preschool Registration begins in the Spring of every year for the upcoming Fall and continues throughout the Summer. We encourage early registration to assure placement in the Fall. .

Tuition for 2011-2012

One Child	\$75
Two Children	\$100
Three Children	\$120

Tuition covers text books, teaching materials, supplies for activities, office supplies and other classroom needs. No family will be turned away due to an inability to pay tuition. Please see Michelle Kuch, Preschool Coordinator, in case of financial difficulties.

***To be registered into the 3 year old room, the child must be 3 years old by September 1 of that year and be potty trained.

Out of Parish Registration

In the spirit of clustering, our parish will welcome children from neighboring parishes beginning on August 15. Families will be charged an additional \$10 fee added to their registration fee to cover postage and mailings.

Class Sizes

Class size will be limited to 15 students per room. Once the maximum size is met, classrooms will be closed. Students will be placed on a waiting list, and families notified when an opening is available.

Weather Closing

In the event of severe/inclement weather, you will be notified of class cancellation through your child's teacher.



Meet our Preschool Team!

Arrival/Dismissal

Children should arrive between 10:15 and 10:30 AM. Please do not drop off your child prior to 10:15 AM. Parents must walk their child to the assigned classroom. Class is dismissed at 11:30 AM. If someone other than the parent or guardian is picking up your child, please send a note advising the teacher. Parents are asked to wait outside the classroom until the teacher dismisses your child. As an added safety measure, the main school doors will be locked from 10:40 to 11:20 AM. Anyone wishing to enter the building during these times must activate the buzzer and identify him or herself upon entering.

Clothing and Supplies

Art activities are an integral part of the preschool program. We do use washable markers, paint and glue; however, please have your child wear play clothes or bring a paint shirt.

Bathroom Breaks

Children in the program must be potty-trained and are expected to be able to go to the bathroom by themselves. They will be escorted to/from the bathroom by a catechist or aide.

What You Can Do to Help...

Please be sure to send your child's folder and bag with him/her to class each week. We will send home notices periodically containing important information for you to read.

Please make sure your teacher has an updated email address for you.

The program is always in need of volunteer catechists (teachers), aides, and event organizers. Please contact the Sunday Preschool Coordinator if you would like to participate.

3's

Room 101: **Blue Sheep**

Martie Hays
Christine Meinke

Room 102: **Green Bibles**

Dena Coyne
Caroline Levine
Rachel Troha

4's

Room 104: **Yellow Angels**

Tina Mann
Amy Rhodes

Room 105: **Purple Grapes**

Patsy Giergrich
Amy Knisley

5's

Room 107: **Red Doves**

Jackie Carrillo
Nancy Westman

Something about the Coordinator



This is Michelle Kuch’s fourth year as the Sunday Preschool Coordinator. Before taking on the *smallest of the small*, she served as the Program Manager of Religious Education at Our Lady of the Valley Parish in Pennsylvania for four years and then served St. Gabriel as the PSR Principal for two years. She also serves the Parish as a Eucharistic Minister, Living Stations of the Cross Director, Vacation Bible School teacher, photographer, Director of the St. Gabriel Performing Arts, and a substitute teacher. Michelle graduated from West Virginia University with a BS in Journalism and Associate BS at Full Sail Film School. She’s been happily married to John for twelve years and has three children, Rebecca, Logan and Cecilia.

Religious Education Staff

Pastor	Fr. Fred Pausche
Pastoral Associate	Paul Kelly
Sunday Preschool Coordinator	Michelle Kuch
Administrative Coordinator	Lynn Hadesh

Other RELIGIOUS DEVELOPMENT CONTACTS

Baptism Catechesis: Ron Adkins	352-8282
RCIA / Awareness: Maureen Dowd	352-8282
St. Gabriel School: Donna Lee Saladino	352-6169
Learning Loft: Ann Silvester	354-7574
PSR Grades 1-5: Amanda Mooney	354-7551
Crossings Grades 6-8: Karyn and Jeff Lancaster	354-7551
PSR Special Needs: Mary Ann Masar	354-7551
Good Shepherd: Alicia Henrikson	345-7551

VIRTUS Training

In compliance with the new child sexual abuse policy issued by the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland, all employees and volunteers involved in our religious education programs who have contact with children have completed a volunteer application form, have been fingerprinted, and have been properly screened. Each has attended a three-hour training session focused on child abuse and prevention, along with the reporting of the same to the proper authorities. In addition, all employees and volunteers are familiar with the safety procedures covered in our parish safety policy. Young people ages 14-17 serving as classroom aides, need to be fingerprinted by the parish; that cost will be absorbed by the parish.

Copies of the parish’s Safety Policy booklets are available in the Religious Education Office

Called to Protect

Praesidium’s “Called to Protect” is a multi-media training program focused on matters of personal safety, abuse prevention and the creation of safe environments for children in Preschool through 12th grade.

It does not replace the VIRTUS training for employees and volunteers , but is supplementary to that. This first-ever program designed specifically for parents and children in Preschool through 12th grade is based upon the latest child development research on how children and youth can best protect themselves.

Preschool parents are invited to view a video prepared for the preschool child; and a special lesson will be presented to children in our Sunday Preschool 5’s class in October. The parent session will be held in the Learning Loft on October 7 at 7:00 PM.

Sunday Preschool 2011-2012 Calendar

September	18	Open House
	25	First Day of Class
October	2	Class
	9	Class
	16	Class
	23	Class
	30	Class and Service Project Food Bank/Closet Food Drive Starts
November	6	<i>NO Class: Christmas Boutique</i>
	13	Class Food Bank Food Drive Concludes
	20	Class
	27	<i>NO Class: Thanksgiving Break</i>
December	4	Class
	11	Class
	11	Christmas Celebration: Pahler Center 11:40 AM-12:40 PM
		<i>Christmas Break: No class December 18-January 1, 2012</i>

Sunday Preschool 2011-2012 Calendar

January	8	Class
	15	Class
	22	<i>NO Class</i>
	30	<i>NO Class: Catholic School's Week</i>
February	5	Class
	12	Class
	19	Class
	26	Class
March	4	Class
	11	<i>No Class: Spring Boutique</i>
	18	Class and Service Project Birthright Collection Starts
	25	Class
April	1	Class Birthright Collection Concluded
	8	<i>NO Class: Easter Break</i>
	15	Class
	22	Class
	29	Class
	29	End of Year Celebration: MPR 11:40 AM-12:40 PM