

Dear Parents,

Blessings to all as we continue celebrating the birth of Our Lord and Savior! *Christmas* season began on December 24th at the vigil Mass and concludes at the *Baptism of the Lord* on January 11th, 2026. Following our Christmas season, we enter a few weeks of Ordinary Time beginning January 12, 2026. The children of the Atrium now enter a time of growth and understanding as the mysteries of the Kingdom of God are uncovered in the parables.

Level I (Preschool and Kindergarten)

-Parables of the Kingdom of God... In the level I atrium the students listen to and contemplate each Kingdom of God parable: The Mustard Seed, The Precious Pearl, The Leaven, and The Growing Seed. The greatness of the Kingdom of God is all around us and in us and it is the power of God that transforms the little to become great.

Level II (Grades 1-3)

-Synthesis of the 3-6 Parables... This work helps the students find the common threads that exist between the Kingdom of God Parables.

-Laws and Maxims... Hard teachings (Love your enemies) that Jesus taught to show how-to live-in response to God's Love. The Maxims awaken the child's desire to put the maxims into practice because of their love for Jesus.

-Moral Parables... These parables show the Kingdom of God is the mystery of life itself: exponential growth and transformation with no visible source. Although our participation in this mystery is crucial, we cannot grow and change merely by willing it. The Holy Spirit is the source of growth and transformation.

Level III (Grades 4-6)

-Memorial... This work lifts up the Memorial as a moment in the Mass when Jesus gives himself to all people through all time. Through the sign of the bread and wine, the Death, Resurrection, Ascension, and Pentecost are becoming present to us.

-Creation Typology... Throughout time, the Bible has been read and continues to be read by Jewish and Christian peoples who, through typology, discover the similarities and differences in the great events of the History of the Kingdom of God. These events are bound together by a Golden Thread in the History of the Kingdom of the ONE God in the ONE history as told in ONE book. We use typology to discover the Golden Thread that links Creation to Redemption and Parousia.

-Moral Parables... Continues work with more of the moral parables within scripture.

-Preaching/Content of the Prophecies... The preaching of the prophets calls people to change/ to align their lives with the covenant. It reveals both God's desire to set things in right order and willingness to forgive past offenses. The Messianic prophecies announce images of the Messiah who will bring about God's kingdom/reign/justice – right order. The preaching of the prophet still pertains to us.

Once again, I invite all parents to visit the Atrium if they wish. If possible, I ask that you set up a time with me, this will give me time to prepare the children for the observation - something that is important to their sense of order and the order of the Atrium. If you have any questions at any time, please stop by and visit or call me at **701-822-3237**. Dione Bohl – CGS Coordinator

St. Therese, Church of the Little Flower
Level I, II, III Catechists



The Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all he has and buys it. Matthew 13:45-46