



# Parent Page Newsletter

*For the parents of children in the CGS Atrium*  
March 2025

## Psalm 23

The Holy Bible reveals to us that the Lord is “my Shepherd”, that God takes care of our needs and desires. Psalm 23 calls us to follow the Shepherd. He leads us to green pastures and beside restful waters. The first few verses of this psalm are statements about the Lord, our Shepherd. In the opening verses, the psalmist is making an announcement or declaration about who the Lord is and what he does for us, i.e., **The Lord is my Shepherd, I have everything that I need.** This is the verse we give to the youngest child in the atrium.

In the verses that follow, there is a distinct shift, from a description about the shepherd to an encounter with the shepherd. The words now reflect a prayer that is spoken to God, i.e., **I fear no harm for you are at my side; your rod and staff give me courage.** After coming to know the Shepherd, the psalm reveals the close and intimate relationship that exists between the Shepherd and the sheep. We have moved from speaking about God, to speaking to God.

This beloved psalm is a delight for the child, but it also resonates with us as parents. It reminds us that we do not always have to lead, in our lives, there are things that are beyond our control. If we are able to let go, and allow God to be in control, then our souls can be restored.

The child in the atrium may choose to copy a verse from the Holy Bible to make a prayer card. The work of copying is the process that slows one down and enables one to reflect more on the meaning of the words. The children continue to return to the scriptures (and prayers from the liturgy) often recopying verses spontaneously many times and illustrating them. May this psalm give us comfort and solace as we enter the season of Lent.

**The Lord is my Shepherd, I have everything I need.  
In green pastures you let me graze;  
to safe waters you lead me;  
you restore my strength. You guide me along the right path for the sake of your name.  
Even when I walk through a dark valley, I fear no harm for you are at my side; your rod and staff give me courage.  
You set a table before me as my enemies watch;  
You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.  
Only goodness and love will pursue me  
all the days of my life, I will dwell in the house of the LORD for years to come.**