

It's a CGS Summer

This summer @ Eucharist

On the weekend of July 27 the Parable of the Precious Pearl will be proclaimed at Sunday liturgy. Even though it is only two verses in length, this favorite parable is so rich, not only for the children but for us as catechists and parents!

45 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking fine pearls, 46 and upon finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

- Matthew 13: 45 - 46

Read the parable of the Precious Pearl with your child. This can become your evening prayer. Your child may offer his or her own observation about the parable. You may wonder together: What could Jesus want us to know about His Kingdom by sharing this parable with us?

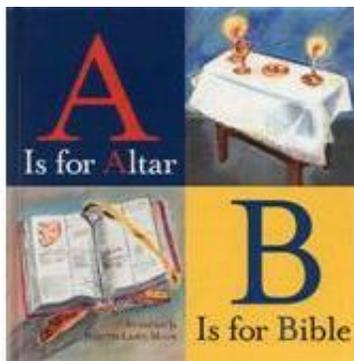
Sing The Kingdom of God Song. Listen to the Kingdom of God song and share that song as your family gathers around your prayer table.

Some adults are not comfortable with the language of music. Research shows the importance of music as a constructor of intelligence and the organizer of the nervous system as well as a way to express emotion and spirituality. Group singing with body movement is important for the young child.

Music with the young child may simply begin with:

- Singing repeated sections or words of a song,
- Using movement / responses with songs
- Body percussion (claps, pats, snaps stomps)

A resource that is found in many Atria is Sing With Joy, which will include a lot of the songs your child has learned or will learn in the Atrium. Many parents purchase a copy of the book and CD and play it in the car. The book includes gestures and movements.



Discover Images from the Atrium Environment. There is a wonderful resource for children titled A is for Altar, B is for Bible, that contain beautiful drawings of many of the materials in the Atrium, along with a prayer from Scripture or the liturgy.

The letter P is for Pearl!

A Word About Parables: *When we are in the Atrium with the children, we announce the parable, meditate with the children and wonder with them about the words of Jesus. We allow the child to work with the materials as part of their own meditation, as well as time for silence, prayer or song. The most difficult thing for us to do as adults*

is to simply stop and be still. We do not want to put ourselves between the Word of God and the child. In parables, we let the scripture do the teaching. We do not tell the children how to interpret parables, offer definitions of the parable, as no one formula or definition speaks to everyone at the same time.