

# Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

## Level 1, Year 2: November 2024

### The Model Altar (Moments I-II)

Building on Moment I from last year, we saw and enjoyed a few more holy items at the Model Altar:

- **Lectionary:** contains the beautiful readings we hear from the Bible at Mass. It sits on the ambo to be proclaimed by the lector.
- **Roman Missal:** our response to God's great gifts; the prayers the priest prays at the altar at Mass.
- **Tabernacle:** the special, locked home for Jesus.
- **Ciborium:** the beautiful vessel or container where the Blessed Sacrament resides inside the tabernacle.
- **Sanctuary Lamp:** the red light we see near the tabernacle, which lets us know that Jesus is present in the tabernacle. Can you find this at Mass this Sunday?



### Altar Collage

We can now make an altar collage and continue working on the names of these holy items at Mass.



### Preparation of the Cruets

This was a little review from last year, as our credence table is set a little differently this year. But we can again do the work of the sacristan in the Atrium! Using a funnel, we can prepare the wine cruet and the water cruet, just like they are prepared for every Mass. See if you can find the cruets brought forward to the altar and set on the credence table (next to the altar) at Mass this Sunday!



### Preparation of the Chalice & Epiclesis (Moment I)

Once the children have prepared the cruets, they are ready for this next step of preparing the chalice, just like Father does at Mass. He carefully pours all of the wine and one drop of water into the chalice. We stop to ponder the one drop of water. Why could this be?

We then share the priest's gesture of the epiclesis -- how he prays this gesture and brings his hands down over the chalice and paten. What could he be praying in this moment? Could he be asking God to send a special gift down from heaven? Who could this gift be?



### Church Tour

We enjoyed a trip with one of our priests to the church for a tour. We saw, up close, the beautiful holy items we were introduced to the Atrium. What a great joy and gift!