

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Level 1, Year 1: December 2024

Advent Celebration

We placed purple on the prayer table the first time and then celebrated Advent with a special “Come, Lord Jesus” song. On our prayer table we placed an Advent wreath with four candles, a prayer card, and the Holy Family -- with an empty manger. We prepare and await the coming of Jesus at Christmas during these four weeks of Advent.

Prophecy of the Great Light

As we continue to prepare our hearts, during the second week of Advent we listened closely to a prophecy from the Prophet Isaiah:

“The people who walked in darkness, have seen a Great Light!”

-Isaiah 9:1

We wondered who this Great Light could be that Isaiah told God’s People about -- who could this gift be that God was sending? We repeat John 8:12 so frequently that the children understood Isaiah was referring to Jesus! He is certainly a Great Light! We then shared a song with these same words for the children to enjoy with some actions to continue learning this verse.

The Annunciation

Finally, this week during the third week of Advent, we listened closely to the story of the Annunciation which took place in Nazareth. We know all about Nazareth and the symbol of the Holy Spirit!

We watched and listened as the Angel Gabriel visited Mary in her home and announced that she was chosen to bring God’s Son into the world. We wondered, did Mary know this would be one of the most important days of her life? What was it like to see the angel and hear his message? We loved hearing the Angel Gabriel saying, “Do not be afraid.” Did Mary say yes?

Yes!



**Great
LIGHT**

