



How quickly our year in the Atrium has passed! We are now preparing to celebrate Advent in preparation for the Feast of Christmas.

Some of our young ones will be attending pre-school next year and we will miss their faces in our Friday morning sessions. We wish them and their families every blessing as they enter the next stage of life!

It is important to know that Level I (3 to 6 years) work in the Atrium is preparatory for Level II (6 to 9 years). We do have older children who meet for sessions on Monday afternoons from 3.30pm to 5.00pm. Even though our room has not reached the set up point, works have been prepared and the older children have responded to the new works. These children have been my "pilot" group and have helped me to learn so much along the way!

I would be happy to commence another afternoon session, should need be apparent. I would also be happy to hold a session for any adults who would be interested in receiving formation for this work. Please express your interest.

We welcome a couple of new faces to our Level I group, and look forward to welcoming more children aged 3 years! We give thanks for the Mums in our Parish Playgroup who support us so well! There are some children just waiting to celebrate their third birthday!

Our Baptism preparation groups have continued to be well supported by the Deanery. We keep Isla, Tiare, Marvin, Layla, Lily, Otis, Chloe, Isabel and Jessica in our prayers upon completing their preparation, and we pray for Eloise, Sienna, Joshua, Bonnie, Asha and Lytrelle, who will commence preparation this month. Such a wonderful time of growth and transformation is evident in both the children and their families during this six weeks of preparation.

CGS Australia will be holding a **National Catechist's Retreat in Brisbane in June/July, 2017**, to celebrate 20 years of this work in Australia. Guest speakers will be Linda Kaiel and Rebekah Rojcewicz from the USA. Rebekah had the privilege to receive formation from Sofia Cavalletti in Rome and has translated Sofia's books from Italian into English. Linda was Australia's first formation leader. I was so happy to hear both women speak at Conference in Phoenix in 2014. The theme for the Retreat will be "CGS – The Gift to the Church at this time".

Do we have any artists amongst us? I have Dioramas and 2D figures which are ready to be painted for use in the 6-9 room and **would appreciate any help from parents to achieve this goal**. The Books of the Bible is almost done! The Fettuccia is done, and has been presented! The Good Samaritan is done!

During the Atrium recess, I have been busy preparing materials. It is a very slow process, but is meant to be as it is contemplative, just as the work of the child is contemplative. The Land of Israel – Principal Cities, The Land of Israel – Mountains, Deserts, Waterways, Collage work for the Mass, What is the Bible, and the Adoration of the Magi, Presentation in the Temple, and Flight into Egypt (for Advent), are where my days have been spent!

A word from one of our supporters: *"Trusting the great work commenced at the Atrium will continue for many years - this space is a wonderful asset for the Parish and community - the dedication and love that has created such a beautiful faith based program is impressive - a peaceful and nurturing environment with a high standard of activities and resources shows respect for the child in these early formative years. Wishing you continued success and support for the Atrium."* AM

Blessings,

Angela

Angela Williams

Atrium Co-ordinator

Atrium re-opens on Monday 10th October, 2016.