

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Shepherd "Duties"

Thank you for taking interest in this important, but very simple ministry! Here is what we ask for you to do:

First of all, please sign up in the vestibule ahead of time if at all possible. We have a sign-up book that all leaders and shepherds can sign up in. We need to have one Shepherd each week, and it's real easy to check as you come in to see if we need help. If you are helping, you leave with the group when Father dismisses us after the opening prayer.

On the way over to the Parish Center (and on the way back), the Shepherd needs to help the kids remember that they are still part of Church, and need to keep quiet. We also need the Shepherd to act as "crossing guard" to make sure that if any cars are coming, they see us and stop.

During the Liturgy of the Word, the basic responsibility is to keep the kids focused on the Liturgy. If kids are talking, they usually stop if you go over to them and touch them on the shoulder; if it takes more than that, you can sit by them, or you can ask one of them to come over and sit by you.

The last (and most important) duty is "manning" the walkie-talkie. This may sound funny, but this is our "advanced technology" to get us back into the church at the right time (or as close to it as we ever get!). Turn the walkie-talkie on to channel 8, and listen; when it is time to start heading back, one of the ushers comes outside, and "beeps" us. When we have been signaled, respond to let them know we heard, and then let the leader know that it's time to wrap it up.

That is basically all there is to it. You'll find that you aren't "missing out" by participating in the Children's Liturgy of the Word. We have the same readings, and it's amazing what the kids hear God telling them! However, we also know that it's good for adults to participate in the main celebration, and that is why we need your help—so our leaders are not always Shepherding on their "weeks off".

THANK YOU!