

Cherub Nursery Guidelines:

St. John Paul II Parish is excited to offer a faith nursery ministry during the 8:30 and 11:15 masses on Sundays. It is our desire to enhance the worship and growing experience of parents by assuring them that their children are growing in their faith, safe, and well cared for during mass. Our nursery is staffed by parents, adult volunteers, and youth volunteers.

We have established these guidelines to be sure that our children (6 months to 4 years old) are well cared for during our faith nursery ministry:

1. Parish families must be registered before leaving their children with the faith nursery ministry during the 8:30 or 11:15 masses. Visiting families may use a "guest card" for their children's care at the faith nursery.
2. Be sure to notify a nursery volunteer of any allergies, special instructions or medical needs your child may have.
3. Please sign your child in and out of nursery care each Sunday he/she attends. Also write your cell phone number in case you need to be reached during mass. (Make sure your phone is on vibrate!)
4. Be sure to leave your diaper bag, with all items clearly marked with your name: formula, diapers, wipes, extra underwear/clothes and any special food or beverages for your child (if needed). Be sure any other items you send with your child are clearly marked with your name.
5. The nursery opens 20 minutes before mass and promptly closes when mass has ended. Children will only be released to adults listed on your registration form.
6. Please do not leave the parish grounds while your children are in our care.
7. There is no biting, kicking, hitting, scratching or foul language allowed at the faith nursery ministry. Children will be placed into time-out (1 minute for each year old) after a warning if behavior is not corrected. If all efforts made by volunteers are unable to correct the behavior, the parent will be called or retrieved from Mass.
8. Parents who regularly use the nursery are asked to consider volunteering for the children's Cherub nursery ministry.

Emergency Policy:

In the case of your child having a medical emergency, a volunteer will come get you in church. Be sure the place you usually sit during mass is noted on your registration form as well as your cell phone number noted on the weekly sign-in sheet. You will be called if you cannot be located in the church.

In event of a fire or other emergency, volunteers will follow the emergency plans already in place. Please be sure to speak with a nursery adult volunteer when you come to pick up your child in such an emergency.

Illness Policy:

To keep our children healthy, a child with any of the following will not be permitted in the faith nursery:

- Runny nose (colored discharge)
- Head lice (child should be free from all nits)
- Inflamed mouth or throat
- Coughing/sneezing
- Chest congestion/labored breathing
- Diarrhea/vomiting within the past 24 hours
- Fever within the past 48 hours
- Listlessness/unusual fatigue or irritability/excessive crying
- Open sores
- Contagious disease (such as chicken pox/pink eye)

If your child is taking any antibiotics, he/she should have received treatment for at least 24 hours before coming to nursery care.

To prevent accidental overdoses, our nursery policy prohibits volunteers from administering any medications. General first aid, such as applying bandages to minor scrapes or diaper rash cream is permitted.

If a parent or child has had a fever within 48 hours, they are contagious and should not be in the nursery. If you believe that your child may be sick or is getting sick, please do not bring them for mass-time nursery care. (Volunteers follow this same guideline and will get a substitute if they are ill.)

Inconsolable Children: Nursery volunteers make every effort to engage unhappy children. If a child is inconsolable after 10 minutes, volunteers may choose to get you from mass or call you.