

Dear parents,

We have a wonderful new nursery, and we invite you to use it for the care of your little ones, if needed and when it is open during weekend Mass at St. Clare of Assisi. This is a wonderful asset for families in our parish and visitors! However, we can only staff it for one Mass each week right now. So, we need more adult and teen volunteers.

We moved the nursery to its current, larger location across from the restrooms last year during our building expansion. Our amazing volunteers updated the room and what we offer, as well. We now have a nursery that focuses more on our faith and less on random play. There are saint dolls, faith-based children's books and a big-screen TV to see the livestream of Mass, with appropriate prompts of key parts of Mass noted for the children.

The nursery currently is open only during 10:30 Mass to care for children ages 6 months to 4 years. When we have an adult and a teen volunteer on site, we can have up to 12 children cared for in the nursery.

For childcare in the nursery,

- Bring your child to the nursery 5-10 minutes before Mass begins. Care is on a first-come, first-served basis. So, it may be full if you arrive late.
- Sign in and pick up a pager. You will be paged if the child needs a diaper change, asks to use the restroom or is inconsolable.
- Take all personal items, food, drink, toys, coats, etc. with you.
- Pick up the child promptly after Mass.

We would love to offer care during other Masses. If you enjoy caring for this age group of children and want to help preschoolers learn more about the Mass, then you would be a wonderful addition to our team of nursery volunteers. If we have enough volunteers, we also would be able to allow for volunteer assignments of just once a month and have enough substitutes to cover volunteer slots that open.

After a brief training, the outline of what we offer in the nursery is provided for you. There is no preparation needed after the training. Please note: All volunteers 18 and over must do a free, online Child Protection Policy training and background checks before working with the children.

Thank you for considering how you and your child(ren) can participate in the nursery. To volunteer or for more information, contact Kim Huber at kimmyhuber@gmail.com or 618-301-0534 (text) or call the parish office at 618-632-3562.

God bless,

Kim Huber Nursery Leader

Jane Dotson
Director of Family Faith Formation

Stephen Eros Director of Liturgy and Music