

*"They brought children to him to touch. The disciples rebuked them, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant, and said to them, 'Let the children come to me; do not try to stop them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you, whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will never enter it.' And he put his arms round them, laid his hands upon them, and blessed them." Mark 10:13-16*



## **Liturgy of the Word with Children is celebrated monthly at the 9:00 a.m. Mass and is open to all children in Grades K through 4**

Children's Liturgy of the Word is a special part of the 9am Sunday liturgy once a month. Children from Kindergarten through Grade 4 are invited to hear the Word of God in a version of the Sunday scripture especially prepared by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and approved for children.

At the beginning of mass, the children are invited to come forward by the celebrant, blessed, then led to the St. Francis Room (located adjacent to the Cathedral Community Room) by an adult leader. In the St. Francis Room, Liturgy of the Word begins with a song, followed by readings and psalms/responses from the Children's Lectionary and reflection. One of our Priests or Deacons lead the prayer and reflection on the Word. The children return to their families before the Offertory when the congregation is seated.

Through Liturgy of the Word, we seek to involve the children in the liturgy--the joy of song, the holiness of silence and the richness of ritual--the colors of the liturgical seasons. As friends, neighbors and family within the parish, the children bring to us the simplicity of God's Word as scripture stories are told, retold and discussed at home, on the bike path, in the car, at bedtime. We seek to show each child that they are important participants in the liturgy of God's Word, thereby enriching the entire parish family. We seek to show them the Wonder of God's Word.