

St. Gabriel's Cradle



Fostering Catholic Faith in 21st Century Learners

This ministry at St. Gabriel Catholic Church is a nursery playschool and pre-kindergarten program for children 2, 3, 4 and 5 years-old. The lessons and activities that we teach are centered around a creative, developmental curriculum that is based on the belief that a child's work is play.

Our Program's Goals

- To provide a safe, nurturing, child-centered environment for **all** children, including those who may have special needs.
- To plan and create a program based on the developmental milestones in a young child's life, using appropriate lessons and activities to foster his or her developmental growth.
- To provide a program that will nurture learning, confidence, and caring.
- To ensure that the children in our program understand their place in God's family.

Our Program:

The Curriculum

Our curriculum is designed to encourage growth and learning across several developmental skill areas with a school readiness component for 4 and 5 year-olds:

- **Spiritual Growth-** learning to love God and knowing that we are all a part of God's family.
- **Cognitive Development-** problem solving, hands-on learning about their world.
- **Social Skills-** learning to share, play with others, and develop kindness and compassion.
- **Speech and Language-** providing opportunities for growth in listening and oral expression/vocabulary through story-telling, music and dramatic play experiences.
- **Self-help Skills-** learning to take care of their personal needs by gaining independence in toileting, feeding, dressing, and following multi-step directions.
- **Gross Motor Skills-** opportunities in play to move, crawl, climb, walk, jump, skip, throw and run.
- **Fine Motor Skills-** learning to use two hands together, and then learning to manipulate toys and materials in play with increasingly refined skill and mastery.



The Staff

St. Gabriel's Cradle is coordinated by Director Kate Stephens who holds a BA in Early Childhood Education and Special Education, a NC B-K Teaching License with many years experience teaching in the classroom and leading other teachers. Our Cradle Classroom Teachers all have experience in working with and teaching young children. Many have Undergraduate Degrees and Masters Degrees.



Our Classes

We offer ten classes in our program:

1. **Two Year-olds-** 24 months by Sept. 1st offered on **M/W & T/Th**, 8 - 10 children in the class; 2 teachers.
 2. **3 Year-old Classes-** offered on **MWF or T/Th**, 12-14 children in each class; 2 teachers.
 3. **4 Year-old Classes-** offered **M-Th**, 12-16 children in each class.
 4. **TK: 5 Year-olds** - must be 5 years-old by August 31. A transitional preschool year prior to kindergarten, offered **M - F**, 12 - 13 children in the class.
- Classes begin every morning at 9:00 am.
 - The 2 year-old classes will dismiss at 12:45 from their classroom.
 - The 3, 4 and 5 year-olds will dismiss at 1:00 pm.

*Happy hearts and happy faces,
Happy play in grassy places,
That was how in ancient ages
Children grew to
Kings and sages.
Robert Louis Stevenson*

Program Information

Registration begins on January 16 for currently enrolled families and then on January 23 for new families that are currently St. Gabriel Parishioners. Families outside the parish will have the opportunity to register beginning the week of January 30. Registration will be ongoing until all spaces in the program have been filled.

Registration postcards are available at the Cradle desk from 9:30 until 1:00 pm and at the Church reception desk until 4:30 ppm. You can email and arrange to visit the Cradle during registration, and we would be glad to answer any questions that you may have.

The registration fee is \$95 for one child and \$145 for families. The registration fee is due when The Cradle Registration Card is filed. Envelopes will be available to seal your Registration Card and check securely and place in the basket available on the Director's desk. If registering after 1:00 pm, please leave your postcard and check in a sealed envelope with the 3rd Floor Receptionist. This is a refundable fee ensuring the highest consideration for your child's acceptance into our program.

Notification of acceptance into the program will be mailed within four weeks of our receipt of the application postcard and registration fee. If placement was not available for your child your Registration Fee check will be mailed back to you.

Tuition

Two day Classes offered M/W or T/Th, Tuition: \$205

Three day Classes: Offered on MWF, Tuition: \$235

Four day Classes: Offered M-Th, Tuition: \$285

Five day Class: Tuition: \$365

Tuition is due monthly. The September payment is due August 1, 2011 and then by the 5th of every month from October through May.

The curriculum fee, which is a one time payment due in September will cover special classes, events and materials for the school year.

St. Gabriel's Cradle
St. Gabriel Catholic Church
3016 Providence Road
Charlotte, NC 28211

St. Gabriel Catholic Church

Father Frank O'Rourke
Pastor



St. Gabriel's Cradle

A Developmental Playschool

Kate Stephens, Director

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Program Information
