

~ GOALS ~

- 1. <u>To offer each child an opportunity</u> to grow and develop spiritually, physically, emotionally, intellectually, and socially at his/her own pace and to celebrate the uniqueness and power particular to each child.
- 2. <u>To help each child develop religious sensitivity</u> through life experience at a time when the religious doctrinal approach can have little or no meaning.
- 3. To see that the faith of each child is brought to consciousness in the warm environment in a community of faithful Christians.
- 4. <u>To establish in the child's mind</u> the importance of his/her family and his/her secure position in the family.
- 5. <u>To place emphasis on the beauty and sacredness</u> of each person in the family, and to build a bridge between each child's experience of family and the family of God—the church.
- 6. To create a bond between the family unit, the neighborhood, the community, and the parish and to assist the child in understanding the relationships between persons and learning in each of these areas.
- 7. To invite Christian parents, catechists/teachers, and community helpers to make an active commitment to the child's growth in faith and to place an appropriate emphasis on the necessity of early development of very young children in the educational ministry of the parish.
- 8. <u>To foster in the children a relationship of trust</u> with adults, so that children can, in time, accept and follow the direction and leadership offered by catechists/teachers, parents, religious and clergy.
- 9. <u>To stage experience-centered activities</u> that will permit children to discover beauty in their world-in words, symbols, rituals and expressions-and to sense in these the creativity and presence of a living God.

"Be a Mentor with a Servants Heart"