

Atrium Preparation Check List

- Touch base with catechist about this week's lesson and other plans
- Prepare your heart and mind with quiet and a prayerful attitude.
- Catechists and assistants may want to begin their time with a short prayer of thanks for the children and this work, offering the children and the time to God.
- Is the atrium ready for the children to enter?
- Help children enter the atrium in an orderly way. The children should greet the catechist by shaking his/ her hand at the door.

- Check all practical life trays for neatness.
- Replenish, cotton balls, rags/ paper towels for polishing
- Replenish polish as needed
- Replenish/ replace dry pouring/ spooning material
- Sorting material should be ready to sort, not sorted

Preparation of the chalice

- Fill cruet with "wine"
- Add water to water cruet

Leaven

- Get warm water. Restock yeast, flour, as needed

Art supplies

- Pencils sorted and in proper container (separate colored and regular pencils)
- Tracing paper and clipboards available

- Tracing pictures sorted and displayed by category

Other:

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Prayer suggestion;

Use your time of preparation to recall the faces and names of the children who are about to enter the atrium. Let the material you handle and prepare remind you of the children who work with them and thank God for that child and the time you will spend together in God's presence. For example:

O God, may the small hands that will hold these pencils express what you have written on their hearts.

Thank you, God, for _____ who loves to prepare this vase with flowers. May she/he be always filled with your praise.

*May the child who prepares this altar
Help to draw us all into your mystery.... & etc.*