

The Ascension Nursery

One day children were brought to Jesus in the hope that he would lay hands on them and pray over them. The disciples shooed them off. But Jesus intervened: “Let the children alone, don’t prevent them from coming to me. God’s kingdom is made up of people like these.”

Matthew 19:13-15a *The Message*



Dear People of Ascension,

God willing, and if everything goes according to plan, the Ascension nursery will open again on Sunday, March 3. Thanks be to God! The nursery will be available from 8:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., for a trial period through May, every Sunday.

A nearby college student, Joy Haataja (almost like ‘Gotcha!’ with an ‘H’), will begin her service that day. She’s one of five girls in her family, regularly cares for a half dozen or more nieces and nephews and also serves as a nanny for a nearby family. Her impressive resume is all about child care.

One requirement for nursery employment in any parish or other organization in the Diocese of Chicago is certification in the diocesan program known as Keeping God’s People Safe. Joy will be completing that certification prior to the start of her Sunday commitment here.

My thanks to Cheryl Peterson for her advocacy for the nursery, her keeping this hiring search moving forward and, to both Cheryl and DiAnne Walsh, for rolling up their sleeves and giving the nursery a recent thorough cleaning and evaluation that has made us ready to go on Sunday, March 3.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrice +".