

" 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.' And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them."

-Mark 10: 14b—16 NRSV



## For those who believe:

- In the Holiness of Children.
- Children are born connected to God; possessing innate spiritual strength.
- People of all ages can be assisted in identifying, claiming and strengthening this spirit.
- Children and others can discover, with God's help, how each can best heal, cope and thrive during life.
- Trusted adults can journey with young people as they grow spiritually.
- In a ministry of presence – in ordinary times as well as crisis
- In the power of Blessing for the enhancement of life with God



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# The Blessing Center

Blessing Based  
Spiritual Nurture



A Ministry of  
Spiritual Nurture  
and Holy Listening  
for All Ages

## We believe that—

In a world awash in violence and fear that creeps into the awareness of everyone, children seem most innocently helpless. A ministry which reassures each one that they are God's creation, that God loves them, that God hears their prayers and blesses them is a ministry whose time has come to fullness.

Children tell trusted adults about their concerns when they are listened to and provided with many ways to express themselves in an atmosphere of trust and acceptance. Children will pray their own prayers and the prayers of the church when given the opportunity.

Sometimes children and youth find themselves caught in a web of concerns that are the root of life-disturbing stress. The web that captures them is too complicated to work through alone. A listening presence helps them to work through the moment and find ways to bring it to God.

Children have a sense of God that seems freshly born. It is a holiness that can be and should be nurtured.

Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

-Ps 103.1

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

-Nu 6:24-27



Blessing Based  
Spiritual Nurture &  
Holy Listening  
are ways of being with  
people, from the very  
young to the very old.



## The Blessing Center offers:

**Tangible Prayer Reminders—such as Shawls, Mantles, Beads, Prayer Pockets** for those needing to know of God's presence and the prayer support of others.

**Praying with Your Baby – A Blanket and Prayer Booklet**, encouragement for new parents (booklet written by the Rev. Leanne Hadley, 1st Steps Spirituality Center, in Colorado).

**Preschooler's Chapel Training—Power Point CD available**

A weekday preschool chapel experience of Holy Listening, prayer and Blessing.

**Classes—** for parish leaders, social service providers, teachers and parents in the many ways of this ministry.

**One-on-One Spiritual Nurture—** for children and teens. This is offered without fee to anyone who makes a request.

**Resource provision for others** wishing to incorporate Blessing Based Nurture into their programs of Christian Education/Pastoral Care.

**Exploration of Spiritual Nurture** throughout life, for those in leadership in the church. This includes encouraging the use of items which nurture a connection to God, including Prayer Shawls, Blessing Lambs, Prayer Beads, candles and other tangible items of love, strength and faith.

All items are available for a donation.

Details can be found at [www.blessingcenter.org](http://www.blessingcenter.org) or by e-mailing [info@blessingcenter.org](mailto:info@blessingcenter.org)