

## *What is Godly Play?*

Godly Play teaches children the art of using Christian language—parable, sacred story, silence and liturgical action—helping them become more fully aware of the mystery of God’s presence in their lives.

When Christian language is learned by the Godly Play approach, it is learned as a means to know God and make meaning of our lives. This approach is quite different from the traditional model in which the teacher tells the children what they need to know. Godly Play is not about model in which the teacher tells the children what they need to know. Godly Play is not about things that are simple. It is not just about learning lessons or keeping children entertained. It is about locating each lesson in the whole system of Christian language and involving the creative process to discover the depths of meaning in them. It’s about understanding how each of the stories of God’s people connects with the child’s own experience and relationship with God. The goal of Godly Play is to show how to be open to the Holy Spirit, the Creator and the Redeemer all at once and all the time in every place.

To achieve this goal is to help children become deeply rooted as Christians and yet at the same time use this powerful language and community to be open and creative.

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Trinity Church  
33 Mercer Street  
Princeton, NJ 08540



**Godly Play®  
CORE Training**

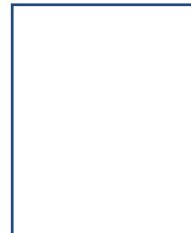
September 23 – 25, 2010

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### Contact

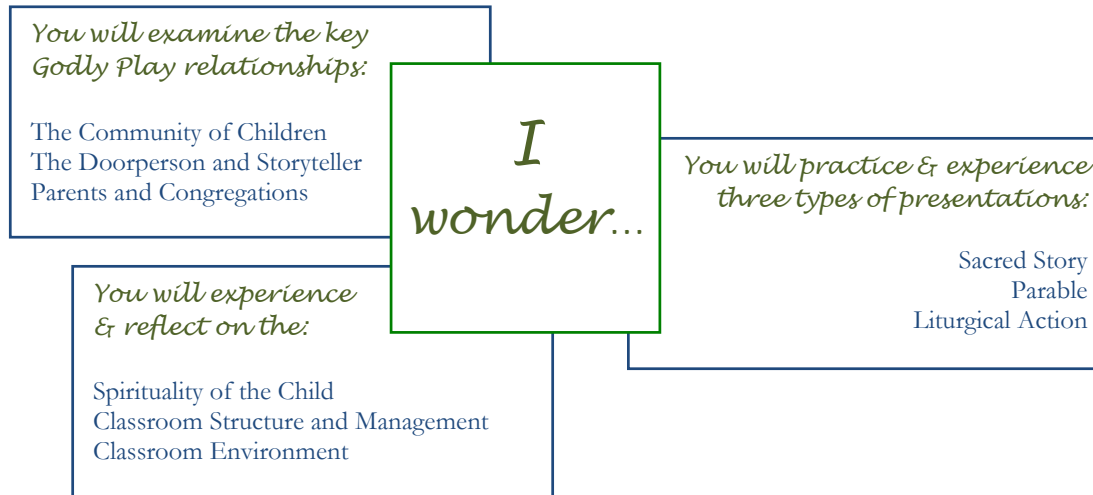
The Rev. Sarah Kinney Gaventa  
[Gaventas@trinityprinceton.org](mailto:Gaventas@trinityprinceton.org)  
(609) 924-2277 x122

Our Trainers  
Emily Griffin  
Dawn Stewart



## Discover **Godly Play** from the inside out.

There are a lot of things you can learn from a lecture, but Godly Play has to be learned from the inside out. This Core Training event will enable that to happen. You will experience Godly Play stories as both teacher and learner and have a chance to analyze them with your peers in a collegial, non-judgmental setting. You will learn how to build the Godly Play classroom and strengthen your classroom management skills. You will deepen your understanding of children's spirituality. Each activity takes place in a prayerful atmosphere of give and take with talented, creative Godly Play Teacher Trainers. You will improve your teaching skills, achieve greater clarity about the foundations of Godly Play, and leave spiritually refreshed.



Prior experience with Godly Play is helpful but not absolutely necessary. Each participant will be required to present a story or lesson without notes in the presence of a trainer. Participants are asked to read *Teaching Godly Play, How to Mentor the Spiritual Development of Children* by Jerome W. Berryman prior to attending the core training.

Training begins on Thursday, September 23 (2:00 pm - 9:00 pm), continues through Friday, September 24 (8:30 am - 6:30 pm), and concludes on Saturday, September 25 (8:45 am - 4:00 pm). Each participant successfully completing the training event will earn a Godly Play Teacher Certificate awarded by the Godly Play Foundation. We will be providing meals while you are with us, with the exception of Friday's dinner. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Erdman Center of Princeton Theological Seminary for those requiring overnight lodging. Please contact the Center directly at 609-497-7990 for room prices and availability.

*Participants are required to be present for the entire training experience.*

For information about this event and area lodging, please contact The Rev. Sarah Kinney Gaventa, Coordinator, at [gaventas@trinityprinceton.org](mailto:gaventas@trinityprinceton.org) or by telephone: (609)924-2277 x122.

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### *Training Registration*

Name:

Street Address:

City:

Telephone:

Email:

Parish or ministry setting:

***Core Training tuition fee of \$295 before Sept. 8, 2010 or \$360 after Sept. 8, 2010.***

There will be no refund for cancellations made after Sept. 8, 2010; however, the tuition may be used for another person attending this training.

Please make checks payable to the Godly Play Foundation, and in the memo line write, "Core Princeton, NJ." Mail to:

### **The Godly Play Foundation**

PO Box 2881, Portland, OR 97208

(503) 915-5755/[Training@GodlyPlayFoundation.org](mailto:Training@GodlyPlayFoundation.org)