

Course Description

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a practice of religious formation for children based on the educational method of Dr. Maria Montessori. CGS begins at the age of three and seeks to prepare a sacred, "hands-on" space for children called an atrium, in which both children and their catechist can hear, ponder, and celebrate the most essential mysteries of the Christian faith as revealed in the Scriptures and the Liturgy.

Originally developed in Rome by Sofia Cavalletti and Gianna Gobbi beginning over sixty years ago, the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd continues to spread worldwide and is used with adaptation in various Christian traditions.

This formation course is sponsored by the National Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGSUSA). Upon the participant's completion of the course and its requirements, he or she will receive Level I Catechist Certification.



Christ the King Catholic Church
Attn: Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
52473 State Road 933 North
South Bend, IN 46637

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd



Level I Formation Course

for adults and teens with an interest
in the spiritual development
of children ages three to six

Part 1: July 9-12, Aug 6-8, 2019

Part 2: similar dates TBA for 2020

Hosted by
Christ the King Catholic Church
52473 State Road 933 North
South Bend, Indiana

Course Objectives

- To explore with participants the general development and religious characteristics of the three- to six-year-old child
- To facilitate meditation on the biblical and liturgical themes that form the focus of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- To offer guidelines and assistance on preparing an atrium for young children, writing an album, and making materials
- To deepen the participants' ability to observe and learn from children, and to explore avenues for deepening the community's ability to do likewise

Formation Team

Joanie Rymza began serving as a CGS catechist in 2005, and has coordinated the atria at Christ the King and their volunteers since 2007. She was recognized in 2012 as a Formation Leader for CGSUSA and has also served as lead catechist for lower and upper elementary children at Good Shepherd Montessori School in South Bend. Joanie will complete a Master of Arts in Theology at the University of Notre Dame this June.

Rachael Myers began her journey with CGS in 2004 at St. Pius X in Granger, where she helped to establish all three levels of atria for the school and parish. Rachael has served as a Formation Leader since 2015 and holds a Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies (MAPS-CGS) from Aquinas Institute of Theology.

June O'Hara was the lead directress for 3- to 6-year-olds for 25 years at The Montessori Center in South Bend. Semi-retired, she now enjoys serving as a sub. June received AMS certification from Sr. Anthonita Porta, O.P.

Course Times

The course will be in session from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day with an hour break for lunch. Arrival by 8:50 a.m. is recommended.

Meals and Lodging

Light breakfast foods, snacks and refreshments will be provided each day. Lunch and lodging are not provided, but Christ the King is located within walking distance of several nearby hotels and restaurants.

Register Now

Registrations are being accepted on a first-come first-served basis and are complete when the full-course tuition of \$575 is paid. This includes a one-year membership to CGSUSA. Registrations are due June 21, 2019. See www.cgsusa.org for info on partial course scholarships granted by the Tina Lillig Fund.

Required Texts

- Cavalletti, Sofia. *The Religious Potential of the Child, Vol. 1*. Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, 1992.
- Gobbi, Gianna. *Listening to God with Children: Montessori Principles Applied to the Catechesis of Children*. Loveland, OH: Treehaus Publications, 1998.
- Cavalletti, Sofia, et al. *The Good Shepherd and the Child: A Joyful Journey, 2nd ed.* Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, 2014.

All titles can be purchased at www.cgsusa.org

For More Information

Contact our Course Coordinator:
Elizabeth Tomasek
773.208.6455 ~ ecstomasek@gmail.com

----- detach here ~ ~ ~ form may be photocopied as needed -----

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email _____ Phone _____
Church / School / Denomination _____
Special Dietary/Other Needs: _____
Amt enclosed (\$100 non-refundable deposit to reserve seat): \$ _____ Balance Due by 6/21/19: \$ _____
Donation included to defray costs associated with providing formation: \$ _____ Thank you!

Make checks payable to **Christ the King**, and return this form by **June 21, 2019** to:
Christ the King, Attn: Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, 52473 State Road 933 North, South Bend, IN 46637