

## 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 the 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, over 60 years ago, the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd continues to spread worldwide.

Implementation of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd requires training for adults at each level or age group: level 1 focuses on children ages 3-6. The formation course features lectures, lesson presentations, participation in discussions, information on preparing materials and the catechists personal album. The level 1 course is foundational for all three levels of CGS.

## Certification

At the end of the course, the participants will receive certification for Level 1 from the National Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. ([www.cgsusa.org](http://www.cgsusa.org))

## Formation Leaders

**Rachael Myers** - began her journey with CGS in 2004 at Saint Pius X in Granger, where she helped to establish all three levels of atria for the school and parish. Rachael is certified as a catechist in all three levels of CGS (ages 3-12), as well as Infant and Toddler. She has served as a Formation leader for Levels I and II since 2014. She holds a Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies (MAPS—CGS) from the Aquinas Institute of Theology in St. Louis, MO.

**Kristen Hempstead McGann** - Kristen began her work in listening to God with young people in 1997. Since then, she has ministered in Orlando, New York, Chicago and South Bend. Kristen completed her Level 1 formation in 2006, Level II in 2007 and Level III in 2008. She was recognized as a Level 1 Formation Leader in 2015. Kristen has served as a catechist in all three levels in a variety of different settings and now offers Catechetical Leadership, catechist formation and service as a catechist at Holy Cross Parish. Her publications include Celebrating the Lectionary for Preschool and Kindergarten, 2016—2017 (LTP) as well as contributions to “Church Life “ and Celebrating the Lectionary for Preschool and Kindergarten, Year

## For more information

Please contact Course Coordinator

Theresa DePung

574-904-0255 or [tdepung@stpius.net](mailto:tdepung@stpius.net)

## Catechesis of the Good Shepherd



## Level I Formation Course

For catechists with an interest in the  
Spiritual development of children ages 3 - 6

### Part I - 2020

Sept. 25-27, Oct 16-18, Nov. 13-15

### Part Two - 2021

Jan. 22-24, Feb. 19-21, March 26-28

Saint Pius X Catholic Church  
52553 Fir Road  
Granger IN, 46530

## Course Objectives

- \*To explore the developmental characteristics and religious needs of the 3-6 year old child
- \*To present methodology and guiding principles of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- \*To broaden the catechist's ability to observe and learn from children, to listen with children to scripture and to deepen the catechist's enjoyment of God's presence
- \*To offer guidelines in preparing the "atrium" environment, preparing an album, and making materials
- \*To meditate on the scriptural and liturgical themes presented to the 3-6 year old child

## Course Times

**Friday's 6:00 pm - 9:00**

**Saturday's 9:00 - 5:00**

**Sunday's 12 :00 - 5:00**

## Location

Saint Pius X Catholic Church  
52553 Fir Road  
Granger, IN 46530

Located 1 mile from Exit 83 (Mishawaka exit) of interstate 80 in Indiana

## Tuition

**Cost: \$600:00 per participant**

\*includes class hours, the review of album pages, a \$35.00 certificate fee and handouts. A deposit of \$100.00 is payable with the registration. The balance is due the beginning of the course.

**NOTE:** Financial need should never be an obstacle to formation! If you need assistance please contact the course coordinator for scholarship or payment options.

**\* The course tuition includes a one-year membership to The National Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. (CGSUSA) [www.cgsusa.org](http://www.cgsusa.org)**

## Required Texts

\*The Religious Potential of the Child 3rd edition by Sofia Cavalletti \$27.00

\*Listening to God with Children: The Montessori Method Applied to the Catechesis of Children by Gianna Gobbi \$14.95

\*The Good Shepherd and the Child: A Joyful Journey by Sofia Cavalletti \$17.95

**Saint Pius will place an order for the required texts for the participants. Participants can then purchase the texts from SPX.**

**Updated COVID - 19 safety procedures will be emailed to you closer to the start of the course.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Parish/Church/School \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form together with 100.00 registration fee to:

Theresa DePung, Saint Pius X Catholic Church, 52553 Fir Road, Granger, IN 46530

Please make checks payable to "Saint Pius X." The remaining \$500.00 balance is due the first day