

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 almost seventy 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 with an interest in the
spiritual development of children
ages three to six

October 2021 - April 2023
Monthly on Sat/Sun Afternoons
except Summer Months

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 Leader

Joanie Rymza has practiced Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) at Christ the King School in South Bend since 2005. She has coordinated its dedicated team of volunteers who serve around 180 children weekly in Level I and II atria since 2007. She served six years as the lead catechist for lower and upper elementary children at Good Shepherd Montessori School in South Bend, and was recognized as a formation leader by CGSUSA in 2012. Married to Guy for 29 years and mother of three adult children, Joanie holds both a Bachelor of Architecture degree and Master of Arts in Theology from the University of Notre Dame.

Course Dates

Part One ~

2021: Oct 16/17, Nov 13/14, Dec 4/5

2022: Jan 22/23, Feb 12/13, Mar 5/6,
Mar 26/27, Apr 23/24

Part Two ~ Similar Dates in 2022-23 TBD

Course Times and Format

The course will be in session from 1 - 4 p.m. on Saturdays and 1 - 5 p.m. on Sundays each designated weekend. Be prepared to follow local diocesan and health department safety recommendations for COVID-19 as needed.

Refreshments

Coffee, juice, healthy snacks, and simple refreshments will be provided each day.

Register Now

Registrations will be accepted on a first-come first-served basis and completed when full-course tuition of \$575 is paid, which includes a one-year membership to CGSUSA. Registrations must be completed by 4:30p on Tuesday, October 5, 2021, via snail mail or dropoff to the Christ the King Rectory. Incomplete registrations will be filled from the waiting list as soon as this deadline passes.

Required Texts

- Cavalletti, Sofia. *The Religious Potential of the Child, Vol. 1, 3rd ed.* Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, 2020.
- 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:
Tessa Mammolenti
tessamammolenti@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 10/5/21: \$ _____
Donation included to defray costs associated with providing formation: \$ _____ *Thank you!*

Make checks payable to **Christ the King**, and return this form by **October 5, 2021** to:

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