

Catechesis Of the Good Shepherd



Level One Adult Formation 2020-2021

For adults working with 3 to 6-year-olds

Part 1: Summer 2020

Sun., August 16: 12:30pm-4:30pm

Mon.-Sat., August 17-22: 8:45am-4:45pm

Part 2: Summer 2021

-To be announced

Hosted at:

St. Joseph Church
3640 Schuylkill Road
Spring City, PA 19475

☞ A Vision for Children ☞

Formation Team

Anne Pulsifer has worked with children up through age 12 in an atrium environment since 2003 and has served as a Coordinator of Religious Education and First Eucharist Coordinator. She is currently her parish's CGS Coordinator and serves in both Level I and II atria. Additionally, she provides CGS-like enrichment to First Eucharist children in the Catholic School and Religious Ed programs, supports her parish's Pre-Jordan and RCIA programs utilizing CGS concepts, and provides support to the local Holy Triangles CGS Regional Group. Anne is a certified Formation Leader for both CGS Level I and II and has been working in forming adults for the past 5+ years. Anne is passionate about this work, its growth, and the children and adults that it serves.

Lynn Robinson is a recognized formation leader in all three levels of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, plus participated in seminal infant toddler training. She began her journey in this work almost 30 years ago. She has taken several courses in Montessori education to complement her training as an elementary reading specialist in the public-school setting. Lynn is currently serving in a Level 2 atrium on Sunday mornings and a mid-week Level 3 atrium. She has given many formations to new catechists in New Jersey, New York, Delaware and Pennsylvania. Lynn has served on the Board of CGSUSA for the past 5 years, acting as the secretary for the board and is also a member of the Membership Committee.

✂ ----- CGS Level I Formation Registration Form - St. Joseph Church, Spring City, PA 2020-2021 ----- ✂

(Registration must be filled out individually for each participant.)

Name: _____ Church/Denomination: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Registration Cost options: _____ Part 1 only (\$265) due by June 15, 2020 _____ Parts 1 and 2 (\$530)

If registering by May 15, 2020, optionally include: _____ Core Text Book Bundle (an additional \$50)

Please complete this form and return by JUNE 15, 2020 to

St. Joseph Church, 3640 Schuylkill Road, Spring City, PA 19460, ATTN: Anne Pulsifer

or email to cgstjosppeph@comcast.net

**Payment must be received for enrollment to be considered complete. Please make checks payable to " Anne Pulsifer" .

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd offers Christian formation for children ages 3 through 12. Through this experience, children are helped to form an authentic, faithful relationship with God. The Catechesis is grounded in scriptural and liturgical study framed by Montessori's principles of education. This gives children the opportunity to hear the Gospel and absorb its message through the use of sensorially rich materials and the work of their hands.

This method of catechesis began in Rome, Italy in 1954 by Sofia Cavalletti, a Hebrew and Scripture scholar, and her colleague, Gianna Gobbi, a Montessori trained educator. Both women were Roman Catholic. In their work with children, they sought to discover what face of God children most needed to see in order to grow in their knowledge and love of God. Children need the sensitive guidance of the adult and the inner guidance of the Holy Spirit to nurture this relationship. The adult prepares the sacred space for children, called the atrium, which allows them a prayerful place to learn to listen to and respond to a relationship with God through Jesus, the Good Shepherd.

The atrium is a place of community and worship. It is a place to be with God, enjoy Him, listen to His Word, and to pray. It is designed to reflect the beauty of His creation and God's abiding love. It is also a place to begin to learn and recognize the signs and symbols that speak of Him through the liturgies of Baptism and Eucharist.

☞ Course Description ☞

The **Level I course** is the foundation for all three levels of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. The objectives of this Level I formation include:

- ❖ To present the guiding principles of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd;
- ❖ To explore the religious nature and the vital religious needs of the 3 to 6-year-old child;
- ❖ To offer the adult time to prayerfully reflect and consider the Biblical and liturgical themes presented to the 3 to 6-year-old child;
- ❖ To broaden the adult's ability to observe and learn from children's spirituality;
- ❖ To cultivate the capacity to deeply listen to and enjoy with children the Word of God;
- ❖ To offer guidelines and assistance in preparing the atrium, making the catechist's album, and materials.

☞ Your Invitation ☞

You are invited to participate in this Level I Formation which will prepare you to work in an atrium with children ages three to six years old.

This course is a spiritual formation experience for adults as well as instruction in this method of catechesis for children. The pace of the course is retreat like allowing for its contemplative nature. Presentations are given from scripture and liturgy as they are given to the children. Adults will receive background information on selected themes and will be encouraged to read the core CGS texts throughout the course. Time will be allocated during the course for album page discussion and writing, and material making

(as time permits). Successful participation of this course will result in a certificate from the National Association of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.

Participants are welcome to eat lunch at local area restaurants or bring a brown-bag lunch with them. Mothers with nursing babies are welcome to attend.

Cost of the Course

Part 1: \$265 due by JUNE 12, 2020.

Part 2: \$265 due by summer 2021.

-Cost includes tuition and CGS course registration fee. Core Texts NOT included.

Level I Core Texts:

- Religious Potential of the Child
- Listening to God with Children
- The Good Shepherd and the Child: A Joyful Journey

-Bundle option available for \$50 plus shipping at www.cgsusa.org.

-Those registering by May 15 may include \$50 for the bundle of Core Texts and save on shipping.

Registration and Contact Info

FMI please contact: Anne Pulsifer at
cgsstjoseph@comcast.net
484-431-5156.

If we want to help the child draw nearer to God, we should with patience and courage, seek to go always closer to the vital nucleus of things. This requires study and prayer. The children will be our teachers if we know how to observe them.

-Sofia Cavalletti