

Course Dates

Course weekends are
Friday 6:00 pm—8:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Sunday 12:30 am to 4:30 pm

Course Dates:

August 10-12, 2018
September 7-9, 2018
October 12-14, 2018
November 9-11, 2018
January 25,-27, 2019
March 29-31, 2019

Course Structure: This 12-day, 90 hour Level I course is designed to be a spiritual formation experience and instruction. Sessions will be offered over six three-day weekends and will be held at Ascension Catholic Church.

All sessions will include album page work, practice with material, and material making. Successful completion of this course will result in certification from the National Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.

Questions? Please contact Betsy Glasenapp at (321) 254-1595 x3080 or at dre@ascensioncatholicsch.org.

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 Cavaletti

Tuition & Registration for Level I Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Training

Registration is available online at www.ascensioncatholic.net > Faith Formation > CGS Catechist Formation or via registration form found on the same website.

Tuition is **\$550** per person. A \$50 non-refundable registration fee is due by July 1, 2018, and is applied to the tuition. The \$500 balance is due at the beginning of the course. Contact Betsy Glasenapp at dre@ascensioncatholicsch.org or at (321) 254-1595 x3080 to discuss any financial concerns. Scholarships may be available through Ascension Church or the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd National Office www.cgsusa.org. Applicants might inquire with their church or school whether they can have their course fees subsidized.

Required texts are The Religious Potential of the Child (\$25) and Listening to God with Children (\$14). The Good Shepherd and the Child: A Joyful Journey (\$15) is optional. Books can be purchased from the CGS national website at www.cgsusa.org or from Ascension Catholic Church upon advance registration.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Level I Adult Formation Course

For working with 3-6 year old children



Course Dates:

August 10-12, 2018
September 7-9, 2018
October 12-14, 2018
November 9-11, 2018
January 25,-27, 2019
March 29-31, 2019

Hosted By:

**Ascension Catholic Church
Melbourne, FL**

*Approved by The National Association
of the Catechesis of the Good
Shepherd*



ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is faith formation for children ages 3 to 12 years old. It is based upon the belief that young children already have a relationship with God. The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd's work is done in an Atrium, an environment created to nurture children's prayer and spirituality by proclaiming the Gospel through the parable method, prayer, singing, silence, and exploring liturgical events. Hands-on materials are used to help children and adults reflect together upon the great mysteries of the Christian faith.

Those who work in the Catechesis believe:

- ▶ That God and the child have a unique relationship with one another, particularly before the age of 6.
- ▶ That the growth of this relationship is assisted by the adult but is directed by the Holy Spirit.
- ▶ That a child needs his or her own place to foster the growth of that relationship.
- ▶ That the child's spiritual growth is best served through tangible but indirect means.

The room, or Atrium, for children's formation can be compared to a retreat house facilitating recollection and silence. Here the adult and child alike come to be with God, to listen to the Word of God in Scripture, and to pray. The Atrium is a place where community and worship occur.

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd was developed in 1954 under the guidance of Dr. Sofia Cavalletti, Hebrew and Scripture Scholar, and Gianna Gobbi, a Montessorian. Today, the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is used in many denominations worldwide, from Roman Catholic to Baptist. The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is used by Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity with children the world over, and is part of the spiritual formation of the sisters themselves.

Course Description:

Based on the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for children, the Level I course is the foundation for the work of the Atrium. The objectives of this course are:

- To present the methodology and guiding principles of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.
- To explore the religious nature and the most vital religious needs of the 3-6 year old child.
- To meditate on the Biblical and liturgical themes presented to the 3-6 year old.
- To broaden the ability to observe and learn from children's spirituality.
- To listen with children to Scripture and deepen their enjoyment in God's presence.
- To offer guidelines and assistance in preparing the atrium, making the catechist's album, and materials.
- Upon completion of the Level I Course, participants will receive the entire catechetical work for 3 to 6 year olds as well as certification from the National Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.

Formation Leader:

Linda Gemmer (gemmer5@hotmail.com)

- Trained in all three levels of CGS
- Catechist since 2000 with experience in working with children at all three levels
- Director of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd at Trinity by the Cove Episcopal Church in Naples, FL for 8 years.
- Nationally Certified CGS Formation Leader
- Member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church
- community builder with catechists during Florida trainings and regional retreats
- participant in Weaving Our Gifts, and the International Gathering in Phoenix.

Formation Assistant:

Terri Sills (sillslg@aol.com)

- Trained in all three levels of CGS
- Catechist since 1996 with experience in working with children in all three levels
- Lead CGS Catechist at Ascension Catholic Church

Ascension Catholic Church
2950 N. Harbor City Boulevard

