

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd



Level I

Adult Formation Course 1-02366
For working with 3-6-year-old children
90-hour course

Course Dates

2024-2025

9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Part I: June 18-23, 2024

Part II: TBD

Hosted by

St. Raphael Catholic Church
St. Petersburg, Florida

Formation Team

Formation Leader

Lisa Brett-Reeves

- Former Director/Coordinator of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd at St. Jerome Catholic Church, Largo
- CGS Level 1 Adult Formation Instructor
- Trained in CGS Infant/Toddler (0-36 months)
- AMI 0-3 Assistant Certified
- Certified CGS Catechist for Levels 1, 2, and 3
- Catechist since 2009 with experience in working with children at all three levels
- St. Thomas Aquinas Academy Board of Directors - Currently
- CGSUSA Board of Directors 2016 – 2017

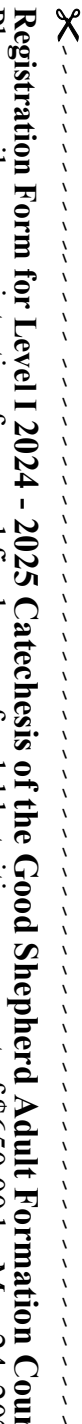
Formation Leader Assistant

Michele Niedzwiecki

- Trained in CGS Infant/Toddler (0-36 months)
- Trained in all three levels of CGS
- Catechist since 2015 with experience in working with children at all three levels
- 15 years of Montessori experience

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



Registration Form for Level I 2024 - 2025 Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Adult Formation Course
Please mail your registration form and final non-refundable tuition payment of \$650.00 by May 24, 2024, to St. Raphael Catholic Church 1376 Snell Isle Blvd. NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33704 Attn: CGS Faith Formation. For payment, please send a check to St. Raphael Catholic Church and include on the memo line, CGS Level I Training Course #1-02366; by May 24, 2024. For additional information, please contact Jesse Broadus at cgsemail@st-raphaels.com or (561) 376-4445.

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parish: _____

🌀 Your Invitation 🌀

You are invited to participate in a Level One Formation Course preparing adults as catechists to work with children ages three to six years old.

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 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.

🌀 Course Structure 🌀

This 90-hour course is designed to be a spiritual formation experience and instruction.

Successful completion of this course will result in a certificate from the National Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.

The basis for this work is in the Roman Catholic Tradition.

This Level I course will be held in two parts at St. Raphael Catholic Church – St. Petersburg. Upon completion you will receive a National CGS Level I certification.

2024-2025 Course Dates

9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Part I: June 18 – 23, 2024

Part II: TBD

🌀 Course Description 🌀

The **Level I course** is the foundation for all three levels of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and the Seminal Infant/Toddler formation. The objectives of this course are:

- ❖ To present the 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.

🌀 Tuition 🌀

Tuition is \$650.00 per person

Tuition is \$650.00 per person. A final non-refundable payment of \$650.00 is due by May 24, 2024. Late registrations will be accepted if course has not reached capacity. **Register early as space is limited to 15 participants.**

Scholarship application for course tuition is available: www.cgsusa.org

Please complete the attached form to register and mail to St. Raphael Catholic Church.

🌀 Required Texts 🌀

The Religious Potential of the Child

The Good Shepherd and the Child: A Joyful Journey

Level I Material Manual - includes CGS Membership (must be renewed yearly)

Available at the CGS USA website
www.cgsusa.org

