

## ***About the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd***

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a religious formation program based on Montessori teaching principles for children from the ages of 3 to 12. It seeks to create and facilitate a sacred “hands-on” environment for children called an atrium, in which both the children and the catechist can hear, ponder and celebrate the most essential mysteries of the Christian faith as revealed in Scriptures and Liturgy. Originally developed in Rome by Dr. Sofia Cavalletti and Gianna Gobbi over 50 years ago, the Catechesis has since spread worldwide and is used in several denominations.

### ***Catechesis Formation***

There are three levels of training for those interested in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd: Level I – for children ages 3-6; Level II – for ages 6-9; and Level III – ages 9-12. Each level involves approximately 100 hours of lectures, meditations, presentations and album page assistance. The participants who complete the course will receive certification for Level I from the National Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.

### ***Level I Course Objectives***

- To explore with participants the general developmental and religious characteristics of the 3-6 year old child.
- To facilitate meditation on the biblical and liturgical themes of the Catechesis.
- To offer guidelines and assistance to catechists for setting up an atrium for 3-6 year olds, preparing an album, and making materials.
- To deepen participants’ ability to observe and learn from children,
- To aid formation of a community of catechists in the Saint Louis/Metro-East area.

### ***The Formation Team***

Julie Kilian has served as a CGS catechist for over 20 years. She has been trained at all 3 levels and has a MA in Pastoral Studies with a concentration in Catechesis of the Good Shepherd from Aquinas Institute. She is recognized by the National Association of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd as a Level I Formation Leader.

Janet Mees Reinert has been a Level I Catechist for 7 years, serving at St. Francis Xavier Church, where her 3 children participated in CGS. Janet is also trained as a Level II CGS catechist.

Ashleigh Keys has served as a catechist for 14 years and is certified in all 3 levels. She has a Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies with a concentration in Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.

Amanda Taylor is a certified CGS catechist for levels I and II. She has served as a level II catechist for 4 years at St. Francis Xavier College Church, where her 4 children participate in CGS.

### ***Tuition and Texts***

Tuition for this course will be \$500 plus the cost of the textbooks. Participants are asked to purchase these texts for the course: *The Religious Potential of the Child, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*, by Sofia Cavalletti; *Listening to God with Children* by Gianna Gobbi; and *The Good Shepherd & The Child: A Joyful Journey* by Patricia Coulter et al. These texts can be ordered from the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd National Association on their website, [www.cgsusa.org](http://www.cgsusa.org).

Registration forms will be honored in the order received. Applicants are asked to send in a \$100 non-refundable deposit along with their registration form (by Aug. 23, 2021). Deposits will be returned if the minimum of 10 course participants is not met.

# The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd



**Level One (3-6 year-olds)  
Catechist Formation Course  
September 2021 – June 2022**

**St. Francis Xavier College Church  
3628 Lindell Blvd  
St. Louis, MO. 63108**

## ***Course Logistics***

The course will be held at St. Francis Xavier College Church which provides Level I atria with additional space for presentations and material making. St. Francis Xavier Church is located on the campus of St. Louis University in midtown Saint Louis. The format will include presentations, reflections, and time to practice lessons and make materials.

## ***2021-2022 Course Dates***

Friday, 10 Sept, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Saturday, 11 Sept, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Friday, 8 Oct, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Saturday, 9 Oct, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Friday, 12 Nov, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Saturday, 13 Nov, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Saturday, 4 Dec, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
Friday, 7 Jan, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Saturday, 8 Jan, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Friday, 11 Feb, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Saturday, 12 Feb, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Friday, 11 March, 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.  
Saturday, 12 March, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
Friday, 8 April, 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.  
Saturday, 9 April, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
Friday, 13 May, 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.  
Saturday, 14 May, 9:00 am-4:00 p.m.  
Thursday, 16 June, 9:00 am-4:00 p.m.  
Friday, 17 June, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
Saturday, 18 June, 9:00 am-4:00 p.m.

## ***Registration Form***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to  
St. Francis Xavier College Church

Please send registration with non-refundable  
deposit of \$100:

Julie Kilian– CGS Formation  
St. Francis Xavier College Church  
3628 Lindell Blvd.  
St. Louis, Mo 63108

Registration/deposit due: Aug. 23, 2021

Remaining balance due: Sept. 10, 2021

For more information, contact  
Julie Kilian: 314.698.9268