

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Rooted in sacred scripture and the liturgical life of the Christian tradition, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) aims to foster a personal relationship between the child and God, inviting children into the mysteries of faith through hands-on, contemplative experiences in a prepared environment, the atrium, a peaceful, sacred space where children can encounter the mystery of God in a way that is tailored to their developmental needs and spiritual capacity.

A distinctive approach to religious formation for children, CGS was developed in Rome over sixty years ago, and draws deeply from the educational insights of Maria Montessori, as well as the theological wisdom of the Catholic Church.



Host Parish

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church is open for quiet prayer, offers a Rosary walk and outdoor Stations of the Cross, and is close to everything Midland has to offer!

Mass

- Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:00am, followed by the Rosary
- Wednesday: 6:30pm, followed by Adoration and Reconciliation
- Saturday: 4:30pm & Sunday: 9:30am



Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church
Midland, Michigan

Registration

- Scan QR code or go to website
- Complete registration form
- Receive email with invoice
- Send in payment



<https://forms.gle/jHGojW1JM3UgMK7S8>



The United States Association of
The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd



Level I Catechist Formation

July 13-18, 2026
July 12-17, 2027
9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church
3516 E Monroe Rd, Midland, MI

Cost

- \$450 for both weeks
- \$50 discount for parishioners within the Diocese of Saginaw
- Lunch provided

Required Books

- *The Religious Potential of the Child*, by Sofia Cavalletti
- *The Good Shepherd and the Child: A Joyful Journey*, by Sofia Cavalletti, Patricia Coulter, Giana Gobbi, Silvana Q. Montanaro, M.D., Rebekah Rojcewicz
- *Nurturing the Whole Child*, Gianna Gobbi

Books may be purchased from CGSUSA.org, or you can order them with your registration, and you will receive them on the first day.

Catechist formation in Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is both instructive as well as experiential. It captivates both the head as well as the heart.

Course Objectives

To present the methodology and guiding principles of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd as they pertain to the 3-6 year old child.

- To explore the nature and most vital needs of the 3-6 year old child.
- To meditate on the Biblical and Liturgical themes presented to the 3-6 year old child.
- To develop the catechist's observation skills.
- To provide an environment of support and encouragement to deepen our own enjoyment of God.
- To offer guidelines and assistance in preparing the Level I atrium environment and in making the catechist's album and catechetical materials.

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) requires formation for adult leaders at all levels. Level I is for children ages 3-6, and the adult formation course requires 90 hours of lectures, presentations, material making, and atrium observations.

Formation Leader Clare Kozmalski

- Degree in Elementary Education from Franciscan University of Steubenville
- Started CGS at Christ the King Catholic Church in Ann Arbor
- 23 years of atrium experience in all 4 levels
- Married with 10 children, 4 grandchildren, and 2 more soon

Formation Leader Chris Platko

- Master's in Religious Education
- 22 years of atrium experience
- Opened two atria
- Director of Faith Formation for over 20 years
- Diocesan Advisory Team member
- Married 45 years with 2 children and 3 grandchildren

Hosting Coordinator Wendy Graveline



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