



Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Level I Catechist Formation Course

A formation experience for Catechists working with children ages 3 to 6

Hosted by Our Lady of LaSalette Catholic Church

**2941 Sam Nelson Rd
Canton, GA 20114**

Sessions: Part 1

Jan. 28 - 9am to 4:30 pm
Feb. 29 - 9am to 4:30 pm
May 2 – 9 am to 4:30 pm
June 5 – 6 pm to 8:30 pm
June 6 – 9 am to 4:00 pm
June 7 – Noon to 4:00 pm
July 17 – 6 pm to 8:30 pm
July 18 – 9 am to 4:00 pm
July 19 – Noon to 4:00 pm

Sessions: Part 2

Aug. 28 – 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm
Aug. 29 – 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Aug. 30 – Noon to 4:00 pm
Sept. 26 – 9 am to 4:30 pm
Oct. 24 – 9 am to 4:30 pm
Nov. 14 – 9 am to 4:30 pm
Jan 16 – 9am to 4:30 pm

Vision for the Child:

Since 1954 catechists of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd have been exploring the religious life of children and their relationship with God. Guided by the work of Dr. Sofia Cavalletti and her collaborators in Rome, the Catechesis has attempted to further develop the work of Dr. Maria Montessori in the realm of the spiritual life of the child.

Today the Catechesis method has spread to all parts of the world. Children and adults of all cultures, a great variety of circumstances and an ever widening ecumenical community, come together to experience and to celebrate God's call to a covenant relationship, grounded in love and shared through Christ, the One who is also known as "Good Shepherd" and "True Vine."

Following Dr. Montessori's philosophy of the planes of development in childhood the prepared environment of the Atrium, the work of the catechist and the themes presented must meet the needs of the growing child.

The Level I course is an invitation to those who are interested in working with and understanding the spirituality, needs and capacities of the younger child age 3 to 6. The truths that are most essential to our faith are presented while the child's relationship with God is fostered. Presentations will include parables, prayer, Eucharist, Baptism, the life of Christ, the Bible, geography of Israel, and the exercises of practical life. Adult reflections will introduce Montessori philosophy, child pedagogy, along with theology and methodology related to the presentations.

The Level I course is foundational for all further work in advanced levels. It is also very helpful for those wishing to introduce the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd to a new locale and parish or school, such as pastors and/or DRE's.



Course Objectives:

- ❖ To present the methodology and guiding principles of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd as it pertains to the 3 to 6-year-old child
- ❖ To explore the religious nature and the most vital religious needs of the 3 to 6-year-old child. To meditate on the Biblical and Liturgical themes presented in the first Level.
- ❖ To offer guidelines and assistance in preparing the Atrium environment, and in making the catechist's album and materials

Certification & Course Requirements

The National Association Certificate will be granted to all participants who complete the Level I course requirements. The course consists of approximately 96 hours of group participation. Participants will collaborate on album pages during the course, but the completion of a personal album is the responsibility of the participant. Observation in a Montessori environment will also be the responsibility of the participant.

Formation Leader

Spanish: Claudia L. Yépez is the faith formation director at Immaculate Conception in Hendersonville, NC where she works with both English and Spanish speaking communities in establishing three atria for the children. Trained in all three levels, she is a nationally recognized formation leader in CGS. In May of 2018 she graduated from MAPS at Aquinas Institute of Theology.

English: Lynne Worthington began her journey as a catechist in 1991, earning certificates for all three levels, ages 3-12 years old. She has participated in numerous formation leadership workshops and is recognized as a formation leader by the National Association of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. She holds a Master of Arts and Pastoral Studies degree in CGS from Aquinas Institute in St. Louis, MO.

At Immaculate Conception in Durham, NC Lynne worked with children ages 3 -12 serving both in Immaculata Catholic School and in the Parish program. At present she serves as a volunteer catechesis at Our Lady of La Salette and at St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in Alpharetta.



Tuition and fees

Tuition: \$500.00 per participant

Fee includes approx.96 class hours, the review of album pages, a registration fee to the National Association and handouts. It does not include books, notebooks, and materials manual.

Additional costs associated with the course:

*Books: Religious Potential of the Child 3 to 6, Sofia Cavalletti; Listening to God with Children, Gianna Gobbi; The Child and God: A Joyful Journey, Cavalletti. Books can be purchased for a “bundle” price at www.cgsusa.org. Supplies for album making (approx. \$12.00) **Approx. additional cost: \$70 per participant***

Meals, Transportation & Lodging:

- ❖ Morning a snack will be provided
- ❖ Noon: Participants will be responsible for their meal.
- ❖ Lodging: For those who wish to stay overnight a list of nearby hotels will accompany your registration confirmation.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level I Formation Course Registration

A non-refundable **deposit** of \$50.00 is payable with registration form. The **balance of tuition** (\$500) is due at the beginning of the course.

Financial need should NEVER be an obstacle to formation!!

If you need assistance, please contact course leader for scholarship options!

Name _____

Address _____

Phone (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

E-mail _____

Emergency Contact Name _____

Emergency Contact Phone _____

Parish/Denomination _____

Please E-mail your contact information to Jillian Guidry (ffeng@lasalettecanton.com) and send this form along with a \$50 deposit made to **Our Lady of LaSalette** by Jan 1, 2020. Please mark "For CGS formation" on the check. Remainder of tuition (\$450) due on first day of training unless other arrangements have been made with the hosting team. Mail to:

Our Lady of LaSalette
Attn: CGS Level I
2941 Sam Nelson Rd
Canton, GA 30114

Registration for those *AUDITING* Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level I Formation Course

We welcome those who have taken Level I courses in the past without paying full tuition. Your participation always enriches the group. We do ask that you make a donation of \$100 to help cover the cost of food, copies and materials available to you in the course.

Auditors are welcome to express their interest and will be contacted after the registration deadline if space is available

Name _____

Parish/Denomination _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Previous Level I (Location/Date) _____

Did you receive a certificate? _____