"Children are sent to us as a rain of souls, as a wealth and a promise that can always be fulfilled, but that needs our efforts in bringing about that fulfillment."

Maria Montessori

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
Association of Canada

cgsac.ca

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Association of Canada is a member of the International Council of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and authorized to offer catechist certificates.

FORMATION TEAM

Heather Skublics Lampman is an elementary music teacher who incorporates CGS and Montessori methodology in her classroom and in sacramental preparation. Heather works in both Roman Catholic and Anglican atrium contexts.

Louise Gervais has been a CGS catechist since 2005. She is currently an apprentice Level 1 formation facilitator, serves as the coordinator at Paroisse Sainte-Anne-des-Chênes Parish, where she leads sacramental preparation and provides support to new catechists and assistants and also provides catechesis in an adapted method for grades K-8 in the local French school.

LOCATION

St. Theresa Church

3597 Main Street

West St. Paul, MB R4A 4A7

(a few minutes away from Winnipeg)

The Spirituality of Childhood

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Catechist Formation

Level 1, Part A & B

Oct. 18–19, Nov. 29–30,
Dec. 13–14, 2025
Jan. 17–18, Feb. 21–22
April 18–19, 2026

West St. Paul, Manitoba

LEVEL 1

The Level 1 course lays the foundation in theory and practices of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for all three levels.

LEVEL ONE COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To explore the methodology and guiding principles of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for the 3-6 year old child.

2. To explore the developmental characteristics and most vital spiritual needs of the 3-6 year old child.

3. To meditate on foundational liturgical and scriptural themes appropriate to the 3-6 year old child, including Eucharist, Baptism, Parables, Incarnation, Paschal Mystery.

4. To offer guidelines and assistancefor giving presentations, preparing an atrium, writing album pages and making catechetical materials designed to nurture prayer.

5. To deepen the participant's ability to observe and learn from children.

What if every child could have time and space specially set aside for an encounter with Christ?

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a time-tested approach to faith formation. Rooted in the pedagogy of Maria Montessori, it feeds the deepest needs of children, allowing each one to get to know God personally.

In a peaceful atmosphere, through the use of special materials designed just for them, children hear the Word proclaimed and grow in their relationship with God.

The most essential treasures of the Christian faith, from scripture and liturgy, touch the heart of each child and lead to deep contemplation, prayer, and joy.

About the Course

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Catechist formation in the CGS method is like a retreat: a time set apart to listen to the voice of the One who calls us each by name. Adults enter training seeking a way to share the faith with children. When they encounter the face of God that the young child most responds to, they discover that their own relationship with God has deepened. This is why we call it "formation" rather than simply "training".

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

Catechist formation in CGS engages hand, head, and heart, immersing the adult in:

- Scripture
- Liturgy
- Theology
- Prayer
- the needs and spiritual growth of the young child
- making and using atrium materials

Each course is a minimum commitment of 90 hours, with readings and written work required. The three levels must be completed in sequence.

REGISTRATION AND CONTACT

All registration is online at

cgsac.ca/courses-1

For questions, contact Judith Vasquez
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