

-----Level I Formation #1-2478 Registration Form

Kate has been certified by the National Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd as a Level 1 Formation Leader. She writes: “I have been a catechist in many age levels for more than 25 years, but the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is what captured my spirit. My life has not been the same, and my faith, which I had thought was solid, was nothing compared to what the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd has brought to my life thus far.”

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

A photograph of a child's Nativity scene. The scene is set on a large, circular green base. A border of brown, textured stones surrounds the central area. Inside, there are several white sheep, a manger with a baby Jesus figure, and a small stable structure. A child's hand is visible on the right side of the image, resting on the table.

September 13, 2025
October 4, 2025
November 8, 2025
December 4, 2025
January 17, 2026
February 21, 2026
March 7, 2026
March 21, 2026
April 11, 2026
April 26, 2026
May 16, 2026
June 13, 2026

**Hosted by: St. Joseph Church &
St Joseph Religious Education
34 S. Chestnut St, New Paltz, NY**

12561

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Church/School/Denomination: _____

Email: _____

Tuition: \$350.00 for the complete course. Tuition for additional participants from the same church or school is \$200.00.

Tuition includes three Level 1 course texts, a course binder and page protectors.

Checks may be made payable to: *St. Joseph Religious Education.*

Full tuition balance will be due at the first session, August 30, 2025

Payment Enclosed: _____

Send completed registration form with check to: Kate Jonietz, St. Joseph Church, 34 S. Chestnut St. New Paltz, NY 12561



Montessori Based Religious Education

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a Montessori based religious education program where the only true teacher is Jesus and together the Catechist and the child are co-listeners to the word of God. The method of catechesis began in Rome, Italy in 1954 with Sophia Cavalletti, a biblical scholar, and her colleague Gianna Gobbi, a Montessori trained educator. Together, in their observation and engagement with children, they discovered that the inner guidance of the Holy Spirit assisted in nourishing the child's innate relationship with God. The sacred space of the atrium, a space created just for the child, is where we can be with God and be co-listeners to His word.

Level One Formation

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is the culmination of three levels of formation, with Level One, for the three to six year old child, at the foundation. The objectives of the adult formation include:

- Presentation of Guiding Principles of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- Exploration of the religious needs of the 3-6 year old child
- To offer adult reflection and prayerful consideration of the Biblical and Liturgical themes
- To observe and learn from the child's spirituality
- To prepare the atrium environment

"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

Adult Spiritual Formation

This formation course is designed for spiritual formation for adults, as well as an instructional method for catechesis for children. The pace is retreat-like, one Saturday per month, allowing for a contemplative prayerful experience. Many people participate in all three levels of Good Shepherd formation, just for their own spiritual growth. Participants will be able to spend time with materials in the atrium environment, completing album pages for presentations and creation of some materials used in the atrium. Successful completion of this course will result in a certificate from the National Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for Level 1 formation.

Tuition is \$350.00 for the entire course, which includes the Level 1 course texts, a course binder and page protectors. Membership in the National Association of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, www.cgsusa.org, is required for access to the Level I Materials Manual.

No video recording is allowed, but photographs of materials and audio recording are permissible.