

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level II, Part One  
St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church  
Wichita, Kansas  
July 22-29, 2021

*“The religious needs and capacities of older children are no less great or essential from those of younger children. Their religious potential is no less strong; rather, it is expressed through the new capacities of their own stage of development.”*  
Sofia Cavalletti

Dear Level II Participant,

Welcome to formation for Level II. Before we know it, we will begin exploring God’s presence in the life of the 6–9-year-old child. As we reflect on the religious needs and characteristics of the 6–9-year-old, we are sure to grow in our collective sense of wonder with our awareness of the scope and vastness of the kingdom of God and how it is celebrated in liturgy.

The following textbooks will be needed for this Level II formation:

- Cavalletti, Sofia. *Religious Potential of the Child Six to Twelve Years Old*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, 2002. (RPC II)
- Cavalletti, Sofia. *The History of the Kingdom of God: Liturgy and the Building of the Kingdom*. Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, 2012. (HKG2)
- Rojcewicz, Rebekah, *Life in the Vine: The Joyful Journey Continues*. Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, 2013. (LV) This is a beautifully written companion to *The Religious Potential of the Child, 6-12 Years Old* and an extension of *The Good Shepherd and the Child: a Joyful Journey*, in which Rebekah documents CGS’s approach to the religious formation for the older child and their responses to the kerygma. (Available at [cgsusa.org](http://cgsusa.org))

All required texts are available through the National Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd: [cgsusa.org](http://cgsusa.org) or 480-874-3759. (Closed Fridays)

To prepare for our opening session, please read the following:

- RPC II – Forward, Introduction, Chapters 1-2 (pp v-19);
- HKG2 - Introduction to First Edition and the Preface (pp. ix-xvi).
- Attachments to this email:
  - “Religious Formation and Later Childhood,” – Sofia Cavalletti
  - “Montessori’s View of the Elementary Aged Child”
  - “Comparing the First Two Planes of Childhood”

Besides RPC II and HKG2 and perhaps LV, you will need to bring your Bible, notebook, and pens. As we are not yet providing meals, you will need to bring your own lunch. A refrigerator will be available for our use.)

You also may want to bring:

- Water bottle/coffee mug
- Camera
- A flash drive, if you have one (a good place to electronically store album pages)
- Power/extension cord for laptop, if needed
- Calligraphy pen(s) and paper (for copying Psalms and prayer cards)

Some general use supplies will be provided, e.g., scissors, colored cardstock, paper cutter, glue sticks, scotch tape, pencils, and soft erasers.

Photography of materials is encouraged. Audiotaping for personal use, if helpful, will be allowed. Videotaping of presentations will not be permissible.

### **THE NATIONAL CERTIFICATE**

This Level II formation is recognized by the U.S. Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. The national certificate will be given upon your successful participation in Parts One *and* Two. It acknowledges the amount of time and work you have given to your formation in Level II of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. Therefore, attendance at every session is essential, not only to receive the certificate but also for your own knowledge and understanding of the 6-9 year old child whom you will be serving.

Successful participation will consist of:

- attending all\* sessions of this formation;
- reading all recommended texts associated with themes covered in this formation;
- observing\*\* in a Lower Elementary Montessori classroom (for 6–9-year-olds);
- observing\*\* in a Level II CGS atrium;
- writing album pages in collaboration with other participants in this formation.

#### **\*Attendance**

Some absences are unavoidable. If you miss one or two days of this Part One, you will need to obtain the missed notes from another participant, read all corresponding texts for the day missed, and receive the missed presentations from an experienced catechist.

Note: If you miss more than two days from this Part One, you will need to obtain the missed components from another Level II formation in order to receive the national certificate (in 2022).

#### **\*\* Observations**

Observing in a Level II atrium and in an accredited Lower Elementary Montessori environment are vital for your formation in Level II. The national Office of Formation requires your observation of at least one session (3 hours) in an accredited Lower Elementary Montessori classroom and at least one session in a Level II atrium. However, observing more than once in each environment will allow you to see patterns and consistencies in the children's life in those environments, especially in the religious environment.

Observing in a Lower Elementary Montessori environment also will allow you to see philosophical and pedagogical principles in action with children of the Second Plane of Development. The following url will give you access to commentary and recommendations for observing the child.

When on the Home Page, click on Observation and then on Elementary:

<https://montessoriguide.org>.

## **SCHEDULE AND HOURS**

This Formation Course Part One will meet for 8 days from Thursday, July 22, to Thursday, July 29.

Hours will be:

- Weekdays – 9:00 am to 4:30 pm
- Lunch/Material Making - Noon to 1:30 pm
- Saturday – 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
- Sunday - Noon to 4:00 pm

## **THE SITE**

We will meet in Stewardship Hall, 853 N. Socora, Wichita, KS 67212.

Kindly use the church and school main parking lot closest to the Stewardship Hall building. Daily Holy Mass is at 8:00 a.m. and at 5:30 p.m. Sunday Vigil Holy Mass is at 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Sunday Holy Mass is at 7:00, 8:30, 10:00, and 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

## **COVID-19 PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES**

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School will abide by the current health and safety protocols at the time of this formation. We *may* continue to socially distance and we *may* do “mask to move.” Hand sanitizer stations will be available upon arrival. Restrooms are cleaned, stocked and checked every morning and afternoon.

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church joyfully hosts this formation in Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. We look forward to meeting each of you and to exploring ways to serve the religious life of the 6-9-year-old child.

Grace and peace be yours as you prepare for our time together.

Marty O’Bryan, MAPS-CGS  
Catechist and Formation Leader

Sandra McCutcheon  
Catechist and Formation Team Member

Fey Barles  
Course Coordinator