

The aims of the course are:

- \* To explore the methodology and guiding principles of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.
- \* To explore the religious nature and most vital religious needs of the 3 to 6 year old child
- \* To meditate on the Biblical and liturgical themes presented to the 3 to 6 year old child
- \* To further develop the ability to observe and learn from children, to listen with children to the scripture, and **to enjoy the presence of God**
- \* To offer aid to participants in preparing an Atrium environment, and in creating the participant's album lessons.

Tuition is \$300 for full course.

SJN parish members pay \$200 tuition.

National CGS members may apply for a scholarship.

An additional fee of \$100 covers required materials: 4 books, handouts, and certificate from National Office.

***\* Return form with \$50 Registration Fee by July 1, 2011. This amount will be applied to full tuition and book fee, due by August 12, 2011.***

Saint John Neumann is located at  
2230 Rochester Road, Pittsburgh 15237  
(Franklin Park, PA)

## The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd 2011/2012

### *Level 1*

#### Formation Course for Working with Three to Six Year Olds

Inspired to grow in love and respect for the mystery of the love of God and the child, the catechist is invited through this formation to be a matchmaker for God and the child, both scientist and saint, in the Montessori tradition. The catechist seeks to "Let the children come to Jesus," knowing that as adults we must "turn and become like children."



"Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is not simply a set of techniques or special materials, but it is **'the spiritual formation of the catechist/educator as a servant of God's Word...'**"

**Part 1-A: Aug. 12 - 14, 2011**

**Part 1-B: Sept. 30, Oct. 1 & 2, 2011**

**Part 2-A: Nov. 11 - 13, 2011**

**Part 2-B: 1/14, 2/11, & 3/10/2012**

#### **Formation Leaders:**

**Celine Mitchell, M.A. Rel.Ed.**

**Barbara Matera, M.A. Rel.Ed.**

**Celine** is a Master Catechist in the Diocese of Pittsburgh and CGS formation leader for the Missionaries of Charity in the Russian and Puerto Rican Regions.

She began the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd at Holy Sepulcher Parish in 2005, at Saint Kilian Parish in 2009, and has helped other parishes in our diocese begin CGS.

**Barbara** has coordinated CGS at St. John Neumann Parish since 2003 and has been a catechist, working with all levels, since 1999.

She has written articles on Children's Catechesis for *Pastoral Liturgy* magazine.

She serves on the Diocese of Pittsburgh's Network of Special Religious Educators.

#### **Registration Contact:**

**Barbara Matera**

**412-366-5885 Ext. 18**

**[bfmatera@yahoo.com](mailto:bfmatera@yahoo.com)**

**The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd** is a faith formation experience for children ages 3 to 12 years old. It is based upon the belief that young children can and do experience God. Founded on the principles of Maria Montessori, the catechesis is rooted in scripture and liturgy. Central to the catechesis is the atrium, a special environment created to nurture the child's spirituality with beautiful materials that focus the child's attention on key scripture passages or liturgical moments. Children grow in their relationship with the Good Shepherd through Gospel proclamations using the parable method, through prayer, singing, silence, and by exploring liturgical events. Hands-on materials (made by catechists and parish members) are used to help children and adults reflect together upon the great mysteries of the faith.

The catechesis began in Rome in 1954 with the approval of the bishops of Rome, including Pope John Paul II. Dr. Sofia Cavalletti, a scripture scholar, and Gianna Gobbi, a Montessori teacher, developed the catechesis through observing and working with children. The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd can be found in parishes and schools throughout the world, and is growing in the Pittsburgh area.

Ninety (90) hours of course training are required by the CGS National Office for certification in Level I.

Course will take place in a retreat environment in the Level I Atrium at Saint John Neumann Parish, Franklin Park

**Part 1-A**

**Friday, August 12, 2011**

**6:30 - 9:30 p.m.**

**Sat. & Sun., August 13 & 14, 2011**

**9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Part 1-B**

**Friday, September 30, 2011**

**6:30 - 9:30 p.m.**

**Sat. & Sun., October 1 & 2, 2011**

**9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Part 2-A - (Advent Retreat)**

**Friday, November 11, 2011**

**6:30 - 9:30 p.m.**

**Sat. & Sun., Nov. 12 & 13, 2011**

**9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Part 2-B**

**Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**1/ 14, 2/11, and 3/10/2012**

**-Visit to Garden Montessori School TBA-**

***60 enrichment credits (15 for each part)  
from the Diocese of Pittsburgh***

Part 1-A Prayer

Part 1-B Kingdom Parables & Liturgy

Part 2-A Liturgical Year – Advent & Christmas

Part 2-B Liturgical Year – Lent, Easter & Pentecost

Registration Form - CGS Level I Formation 2011/2012

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parish \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form by July 1, 2011 with \$50 Registration Fee payable to "St. John Neumann Parish" to:  
 Barbara Matera, St. John Neumann Parish, 2230 Rochester Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Payment enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Balance Due \_\_\_\_\_

***Full payment due by August 12, 2011.***