



## Office for the Catechism

3211 FOURTH STREET NE • WASHINGTON DC 20017-1194 • 202-541-3032 • FAX 202-541-3055

June 25, 2002

The Center for Children and Theology  
3628 Rhode Island Avenue  
Mount Rainier, MD 20712

To Whom It May Concern:

Since 1996, the Ad Hoc Committee to Oversee the Use of the Catechism has been conducting conformity reviews on catechetical material voluntarily submitted to them by publishers. A declaration of conformity means that the doctrinal content of a text or series reflects the content of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* in an authentic and complete manner. It is offered to a bishop and his diocesan and/or parish staff as one tool among many in the process of selecting catechetical material for use.

Earlier this year, two teachers who use the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd met with the staff at the Office for the Catechism to request the possibility of submitting the program for a conformity review. In turn, this request was communicated to the bishops who serve on the Ad Hoc Committee. It was the judgement of the Ad Hoc Committee that because of its very nature as a Montessori program, the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd does not lend itself to the possibility of a conformity review. There are no set student materials to review.

The fact that the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd cannot be submitted for a conformity review is not to be understood to imply a negative judgement about the program. A conformity review focuses solely on the doctrinal content that appears in printed student texts. It does not take methodology, age appropriateness or other significant aspects of catechesis into consideration.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Office for the Catechism should further clarification be desired.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Daniel J. Kutys".

Reverend Daniel J. Kutys  
Director