

Publications



The National Association will work to make the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and the writings of Sofia Cavalletti and Gianna Gobbi accessible to all.

GRATEFUL! To offer over 50 publications for catechists, parents, and anyone who wishes to deepen their understanding of the spiritual needs of the child and the important work of CGSUSA.

All publications are available for purchase through our website. CGSUSA publishes books under an imprint of Liturgical Training Publications (LTP), the publishing arm of the Archdiocese of Chicago. Under that imprint CGSUSA has published English translations of the seminal works of Sofia Cavalletti. CGSUSA continues to select manuscripts for publication, working with prospective authors on ideas of interest to the CGS community.

THANKFUL! To those whose hard work brought us the additions to our publication list this past year.

A Year with Sofia Cavalletti: Daily Reflections on the Spiritual and Theological Influences of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd By Ann Garrido and the *Journal* which is a benefit of membership, members received a complimentary copy of the 2017 *Journal* of CGSUSA.

The *Journal's* mission is to provide those concerned with children's theological education a reflective resource for ongoing formation with serious scholarship to support their work with children. Through its articles the *Journal* seeks an understanding of the child, particularly from the point of view of his/her religious potential.

This focus on the religious life of the child is the distinguishing feature of the *Journal*.

The Materials Manuals for each Atrium Level are an important resource for catechists, giving the most up-to-date detailed instructions for making materials. The Level I and Level II Materials Manuals are accessible online to members who have completed formation for those Levels. The Level III Materials Manual is available for members as a flash drive to those who have completed formation for Level III and soon will also be found on our website.

JOYFUL! The growth in our publication sales is a sign of the increase in the number of formation courses being offered in the United States as well as in other countries that seek CGS resources for catechists and to begin new atria for children. Through its publications, CGSUSA gives the child a voice, passes along the wisdom of Sofia Cavalletti, provides an authoritative resource for catechists on the religious life of children, and educates parents on the life of the atrium and the spiritual life of the child.



ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF THESE PUBLICATIONS SUPPORT THE VISION AND MISSION OF CGSUSA.

Shepherd's Closet

The tasks of the catechist include: preparing an environment and maintaining order in that environment (the atrium) so that it fosters concentration, silence and contemplation in both the child and adult;

GRATEFUL! That Shepherd's Closet began as a messy little area of a garage in the Southwest, filled with "treasures", raw materials and unfinished resources. These things came from many places and had one thing in common: they were helpful to catechists preparing Catechesis of the Good Shepherd atrium materials for children. The work that began in that garage moved to the National Office in Scottsdale, AZ. Our greatest hope is to help make the atrium more accessible to children everywhere.

Shepherd's Closet provides raw materials and unfinished resources for the Atrium, as well as those items that seem to be more difficult to find or not as readily available, such as practical life sets, brass items for the Altar work, and Good Shepherd statues from Rome. In 2017 Shepherd's Closet grew to offer more than 160 items and expanded to include Toddler Atrium materials and many beautiful gifts for catechists.

The resources found within Shepherd's Closet assist the catechist in his or her role to build a prepared environment and evoke a spirit of gratitude, thanksgiving and enjoyment. We are grateful for the materials and writings of Sofia Cavalletti and Gianna Gobbi, that guide the work of Shepherd's Closet.

As #20 of the 32 Characteristics of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd states: "The materials prepared by catechists for the atrium are faithful to the experimental models of the

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. The designs of these models are the result of a long, collaborative work of observation and experimentation and have been developed according to the needs of the child at each developmental stage."

THANKFUL! For the catechists and others in the community who told us what items they were looking for, like the Last Supper statues and the mini crucifix for the Cenacle, both from Rome, brass items, like the patens, chalices and bells from India, and Paschal Candles from Mexico; as well as those items that are created for the hands of the catechist, like the charts, booklets, time lines, and unfinished wooden materials.

JOYFUL! To hear from catechists around the country about how these resources impacted their work to build a prepared environment. We find great joy in seeing the photos from formation courses where catechists are working with and exploring the materials, or photos of the children using materials from Shepherd's Closet. As Sofia once told us, "I hunger for the art of the child." An even greater treasure is found in the artwork and prayers of the child who encountered the Mystery of God in these simple yet beautiful materials.

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