



The United States Association of

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd®

Writing a Sustainability Plan for CGS – Sample

As you meet with your fellow catechists, parish staff, board, and pastor to discuss sustaining CGS in the parish, what questions could one consider in writing a CGS Sustainability Plan? Where do we start?

Visioning and Planning

- How will we sustain CGS in the parish community?
- How has CGS factored into your parish visioning, your strategic plan, your five-year plan?
- Are there other individuals who need to be a part of our conversation? For example, parents of young children? Grandparents?
- While there may be challenges within your community to sustaining CGS, instead of focusing on obstacles, can we brainstorm what the ideal or preferred situation may look like for the community?

Catechists

- How will we ensure that we have enough catechists trained at each Level?
- How many are needed at each Level?
- With the average turnover rate of ___ per year, we need to add ___ number of catechists per year.
- Do we have written expectations of catechists, i.e., helping to pay a portion of their formation cost if they agree to be catechist for xx number of years.
- How do we support the catechist in their work?
- Does the parish provide membership in CGSUSA to support the catechist with essential resources, etc.

Environment / Space / Materials

- How do we care for and maintain the materials and the environment? Who is responsible for the updates and repairs for materials?
- Is set up and take down required for non-dedicated space? How much storage space is required for the atrium materials, shelving and furniture?
- How will the catechists work on maintaining and making materials? Are the materials owned by the parish? Do the catechists offer the materials as an in-kind donation to the parish or are the materials on loan to the parish while CGS is offered?

Financial / Budgetary

- How does the parish manage paying for Catechist Formation, core texts required for the course, and CGSUSA Organization membership as well as Individual memberships for each catechist?

- Hosting formation: Will the parish sponsor formation courses? How often will the courses be held on site?
- Once the atrium is established, how will the parish budget for paper, pencils, paste, i.e. yearly supplies, etc.

The CGS Community

How will parishioners be involved in the life of the atrium? Who are members of the CGS Community? It includes catechists, parents and families, the parish family, the region, or regional groups, and CGSUSA. How do each of these impact your sustainability plan?