



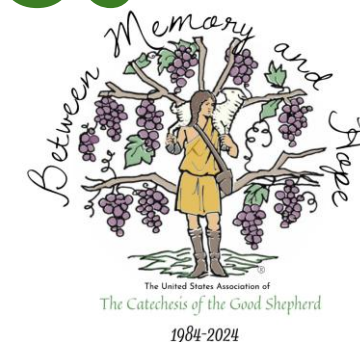
The United States Association of
The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd®

Welcome to our CGSUSA
Bienvenidos a nuestra CGSUSA

Annual Membership Meeting
Reunión Anual de Miembros

November 14, 2025

Miembros 14 de noviembre de 2025



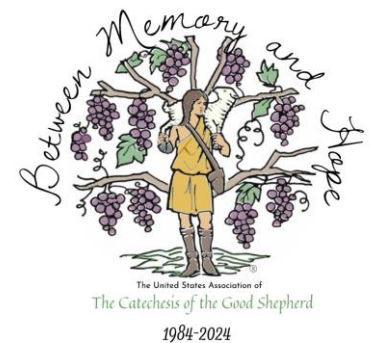
Our Purpose Nuestro propósito

- Our purpose is to assist the involvement of children and adults in a common religious experience in which the religious values of childhood, primarily those values of contemplation and enjoyment of God, are predominant.
- Nuestro propósito es ayudar a la participación de niños y adultos en una experiencia religiosa común en la que predominen los valores religiosos de la infancia, principalmente los de la contemplación y el disfrute de Dios.



Our Mission Nuestro misión

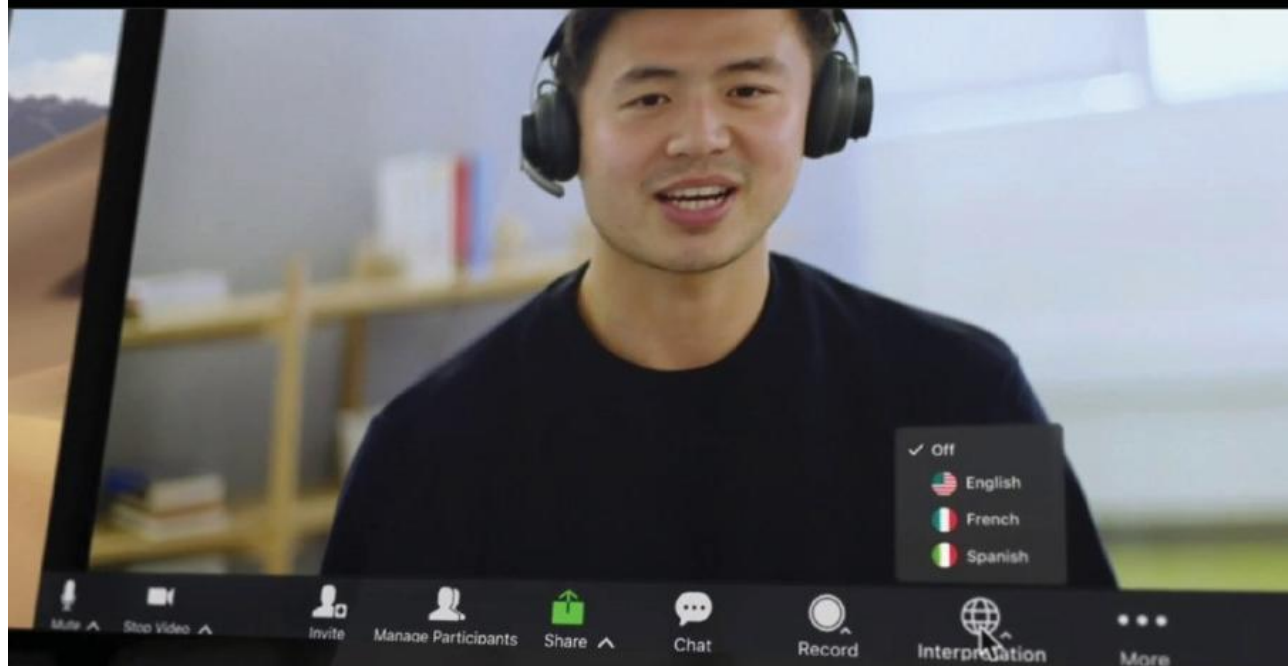
- Our mission is to support catechists, parents, and others in the Church and beyond, as they grow in their understanding of the religious potential of children.
- Nuestra misión es apoyar a los catequistas, a los padres y a otras personas de la Iglesia y de fuera de ella, en su comprensión del potencial religioso de los niños.



Esta reunión se presenta en español e inglés.

This meeting is being presented in English and Spanish.

Para escuchar la interpretación, en la parte baja de su pantalla de Zoom encontrara el icono del Mundo. Ahí seleccione el idioma que desea escuchar.



The Agenda

Welcome and
Call to Order

Opening
Prayer

The Year in
Review

Ministry
Reports

Board
Updates

A Call to
Action

Election
Results

Raffle

Closing and
Adjournment



Opening Prayer



“And whatever you do, in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

Colossians 3:17

Y todo lo que hacéis, de palabra o de hecho, hacedlo todo en el nombre del Señor Jesús, dando gracias por medio de Él a Dios el Padre.

Colosenses 3:17

May we reflect your truth, O Lord, and our deeds express your love and grace.

Good Shepherd, You call us each by name and lead us gently into the pasture of Your love. You entrust us with the care of this work— a gift born of silence, listening, and deep joy in Your presence.

Rx: May we reflect your truth, O Lord, and our deeds express your love and grace.

As we serve through CGSUSA, a body made visible in the world, help us to be faithful stewards of this mission. Let our decisions be rooted in Your peace, our structures shaped by humility, and our actions guided by the quiet wisdom of the child.

Rx: May we reflect your truth, O Lord, and our deeds express your love and grace.

May this association be a vessel, not of power, but of service; not of noise, but of invitation; not of ambition, but of love.

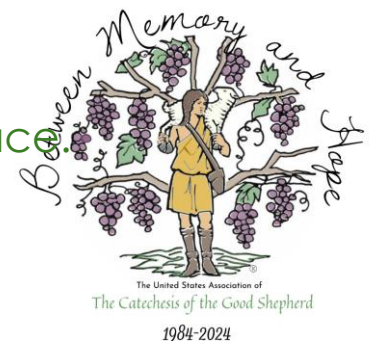
Rx: May we reflect your truth, O Lord, and our deeds express your love and grace.

Bless our planning, our speaking, our listening. Make us attentive to Your voice, present in the Scriptures, in the children, in one another, and in the silence.

Rx: May we reflect your truth, O Lord, and our deeds express your love and grace.

We entrust CGSUSA to You, knowing that all is gift, and all is grace.

Amen.



The year in review 2025



The United States Association of
the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
remembers,
rejoices,
and praises our loving God
for a year of abundant blessing.

Annual Membership Meeting
November 14, 2025



The Raffle

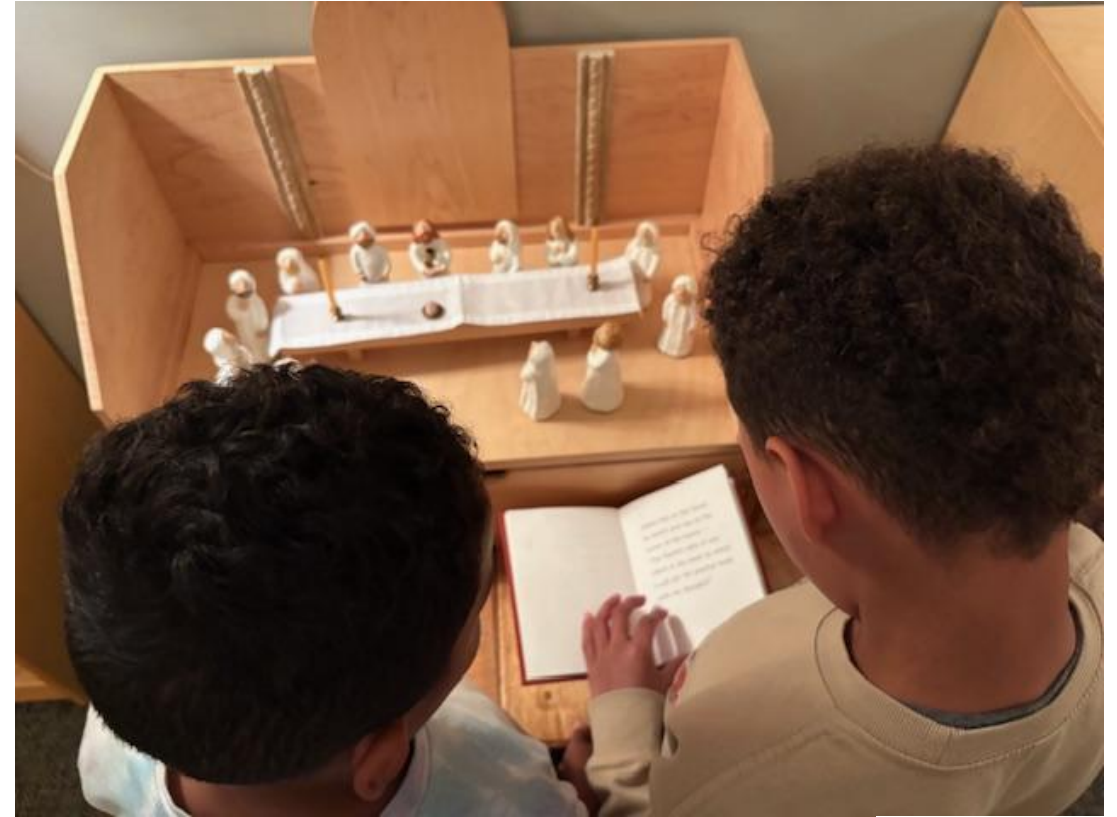
Each year we have a raffle for a fun way to encourage you all to stay here with us in the meeting! Tonight, we are raffling this lovely print of the Anniversary Artwork from the artist Jen Norton. If you have put your names on your screen, Lisa has added you to the raffle. If you have not done so, please do this now!



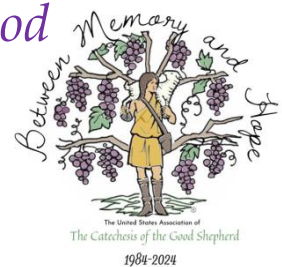
Cada año hacemos una rifa para animaros a todos a quedaros con nosotros en la reunión. Esta noche, estamos rifando este precioso crucifijo de madera que mide 12" de alto y es de El Salvador. Estas cruces son pintadas por diferentes individuos y firmadas en la parte de atrás. Cada una es única y son de comercio justo. Si habéis puesto vuestros nombres en la pantalla, Lisa os ha añadido a la rifa. Si no lo han hecho, por favor háganlo ahora.

Rooted in God, Growing in Mission

- We give thanks to God for a year of growth in unity, stability, and shared mission
- Our members and catechists continue to serve children in atria, parishes, and homes across the country
- Our donors and benefactors helped sustain the work, allowing us to accompany communities with care and faithfulness
- Collaboration with dioceses, schools, and ministry partners is helping more children encounter the Good Shepherd



*Together we serve the mystery of God
and the mystery of the child*



A Eucharistic Witness

National
Eucharistic
Congress –
Indianapolis

<https://vimeo.com/992563965/7b3b8ee696?fl=pl&fe=sh>



Building a Sustainable Future: Our Partnership with the Lilly Endowment

Christian Parenting and Caregiving



Nurturing Children through Liturgy



Lilly Endowment Inc.

A private foundation since 1937

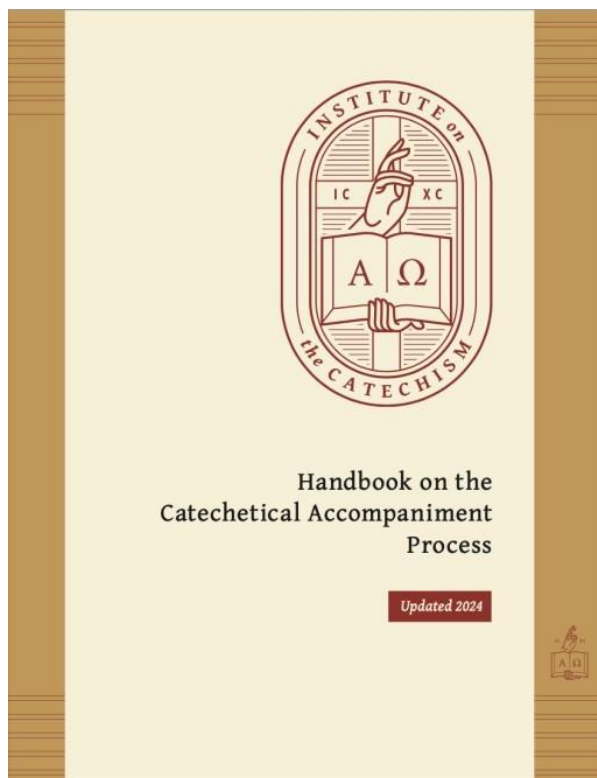
Our Work with the USCCB



INSTITUTE
on the
CATECHISM



United States
Conference of
Catholic Bishops



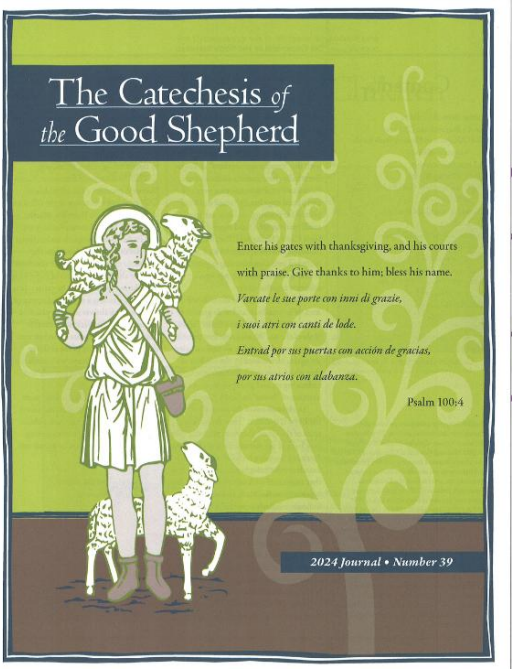
2025

The Catechesis of the
Good Shepherd
LEVEL 1
for children 3-6 years old



Mary Mirrione
marymirrione@cgsusa.org
4/8/2025

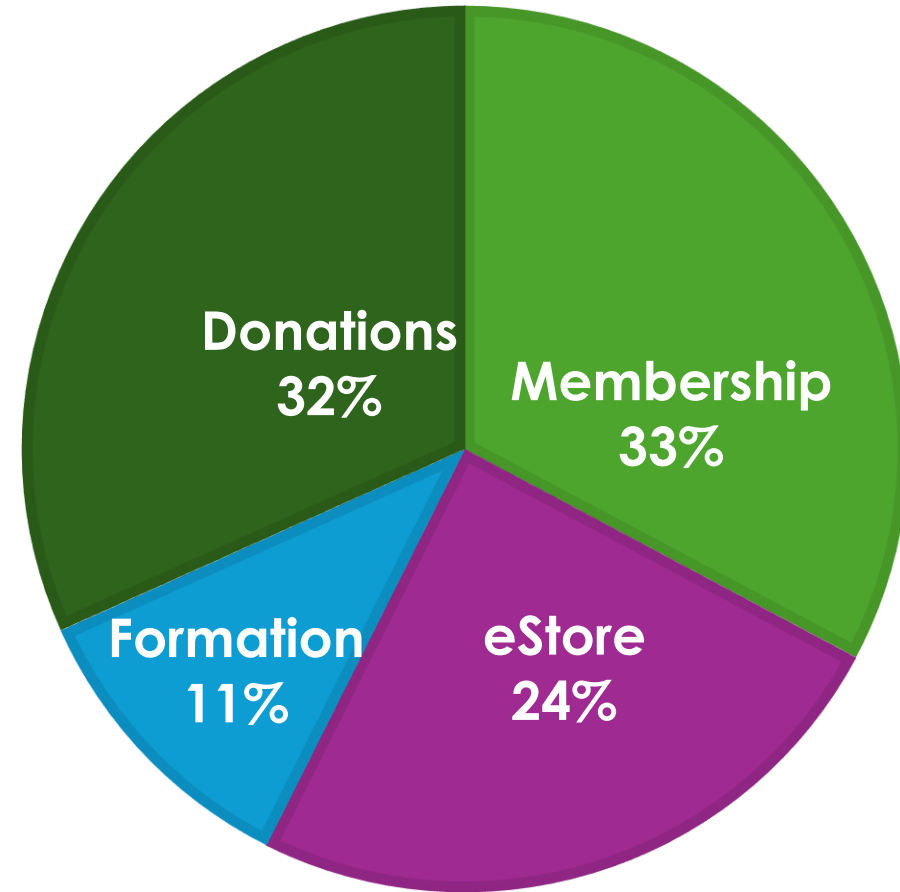
The CGSUSA Annual Journal 2025



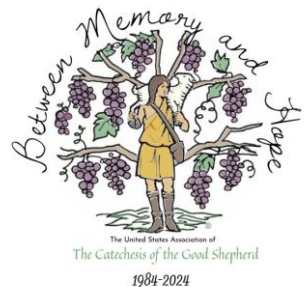
Treasurer's Report

INCOME

■ Membership ■ eStore ■ Formation ■ Donations



Income
July 2024 – June 2025
Total Revenue
\$1,151,743



Treasurer's Report

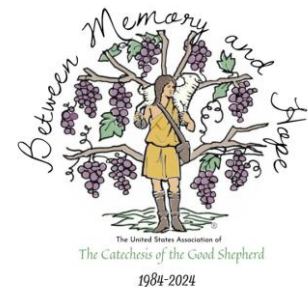
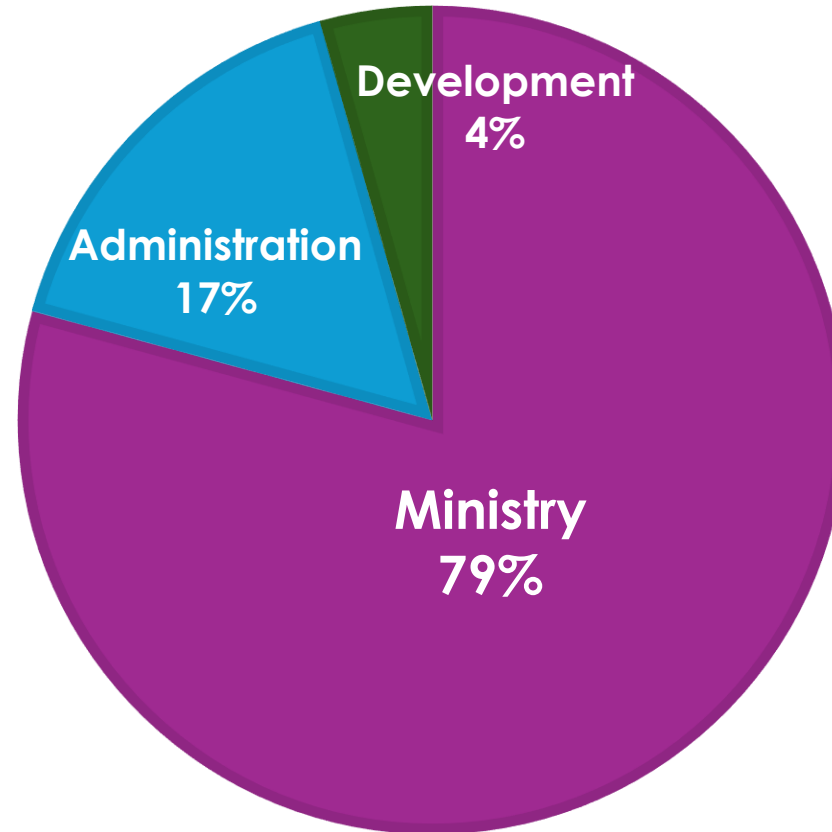
Expense

July 2024 – June 2025

Total Expenses
\$1,537,233

EXPENSES

■ Ministry ■ Administration ■ Development



Gifts Gratefully Received!

384 Donors

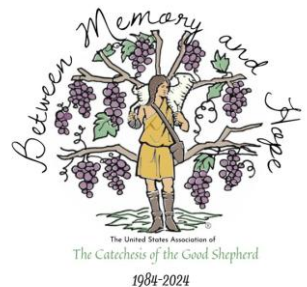
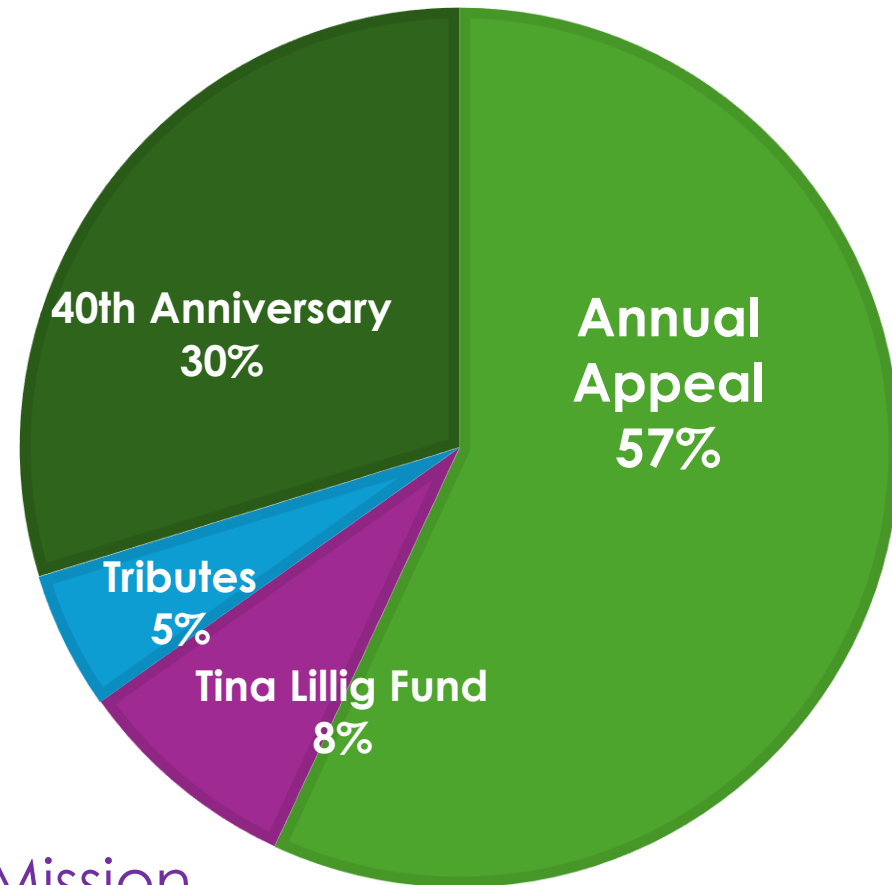
753 Total Gifts

\$260 Average Gift

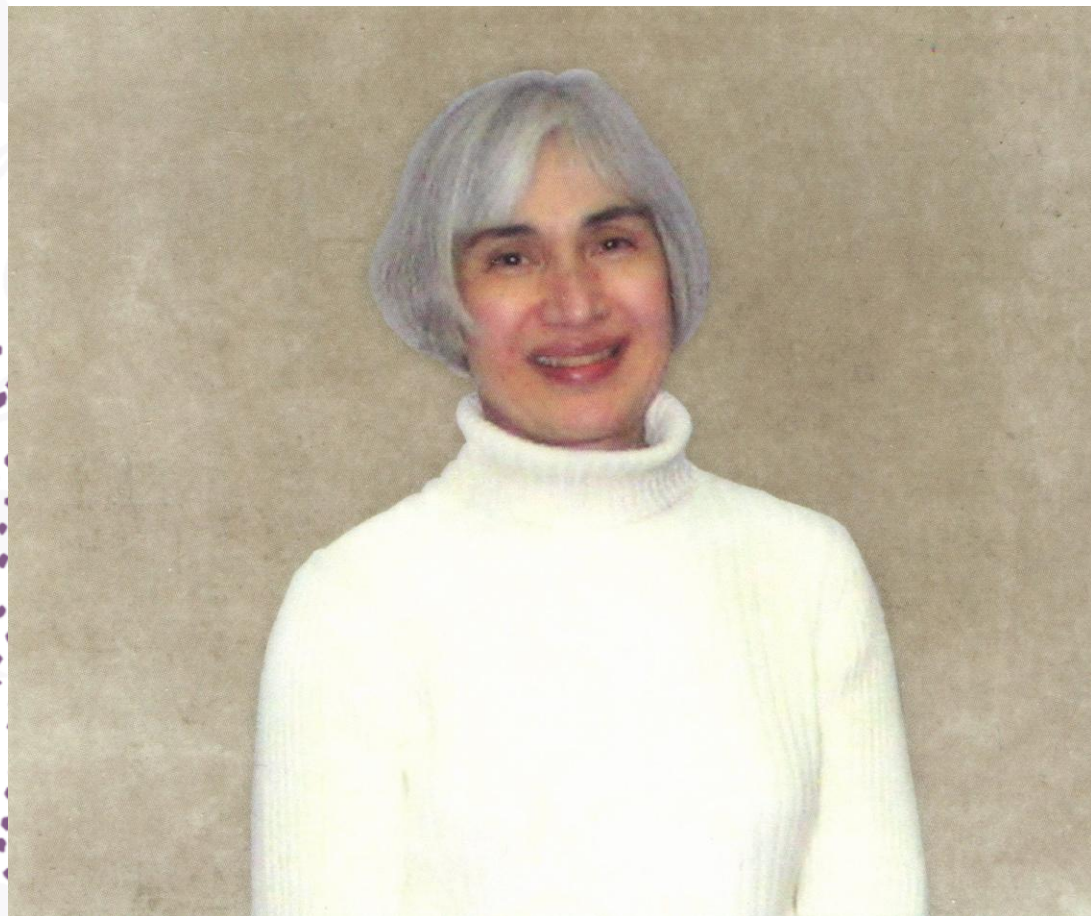
\$181,515 Gifts That Sustained Our Mission

2023-2024 DONATIONS BY CAMPAIGN

■ Annual Appeal ■ Tina Lillig Fund ■ Tributes ■ 40th Anniversary

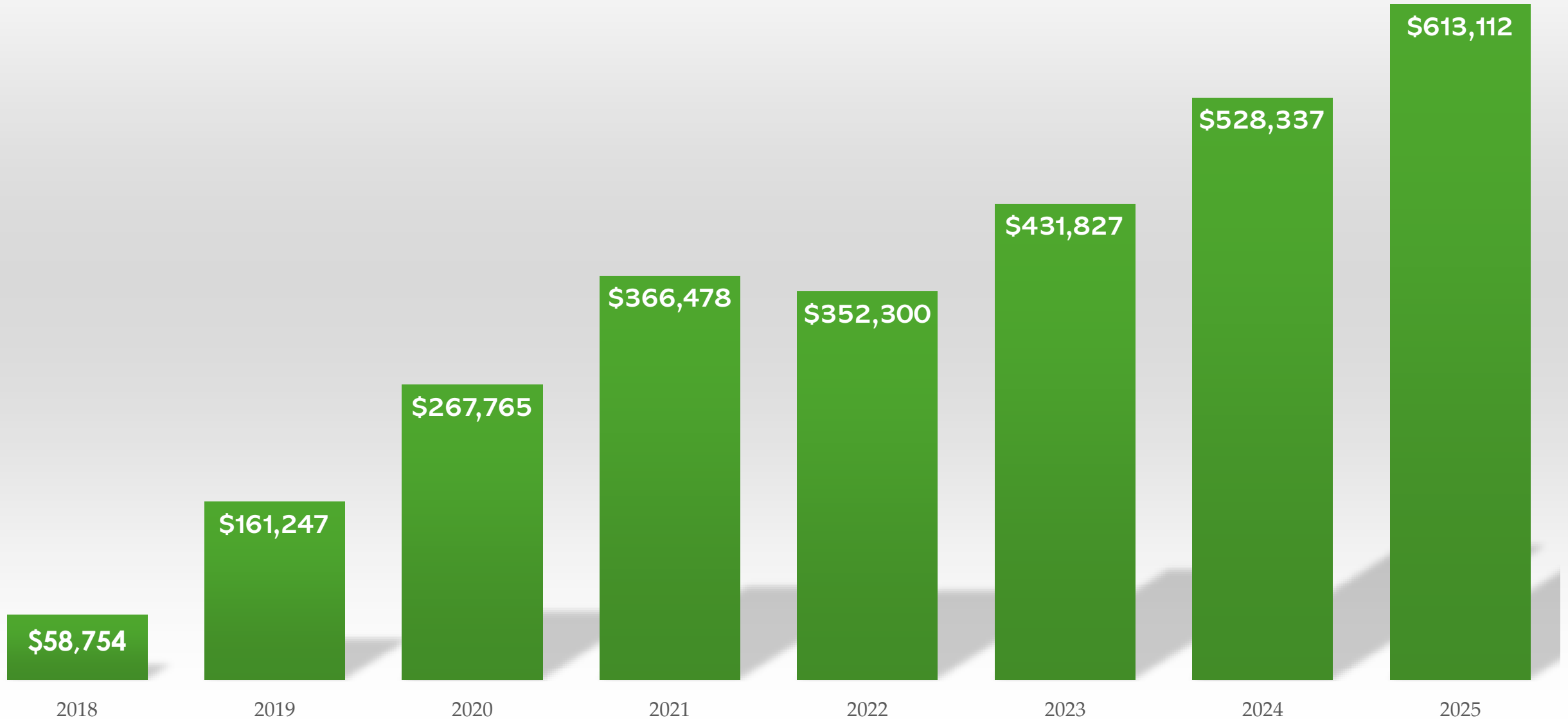


The Tina Lillig Memorial Fund



- Over \$235,000 distributed since 2002
- Supported 600 catechists and formation leaders
- Offered grants to more than 100 communities for missionary outreach.
- Vision Awards for last 3 years expanded Spanish-language formation and support

The Endowment Fund Balance



Annual Appeal

We invite you to abide with us as a supporter of CGSUSA's 2025-2026 Annual Appeal.

Help us to ensure the children and catechists yet to be born may abide together in the love of our True Vine 40 years from now.



Joclyn, age 8

Membership Report



Questions? email: maryheirich@cgsusa.org

- continued growth in members
- Increase in membership offerings and how our members are interacting with CGSUSA
- Zoom events:
 - Catechist Study Days,
 - CGS in School Setting,
 - Prayer for Christian Unity
 - Membership 101
 - upcoming Catechist Advent Retreat



Coming for ADVENT 2026

Advent for the Family

Advent Wreath prayers, Living the Word of God, Advent Son



- Coming for ADVENT 2026
- • Advent Calendar
- • Advent Prayers
- • Advent Wreath Blessing
- • Living the Word of God – Sunday Scripture
- • Advent Songs (videos)

Advent Wreath Prayers -
Year C (2024)

Living the Word of God -
Year C (2024)

Advent

Oración de la Corona de

Vivir la Palabra de Dios

Calend

Membership Council, Writing Team, and Card Club



The dedication of our members who volunteer on committees and councils continues to inspire and uplift us.

This year we have expanded

- Membership Council - meet quarterly
- Writing Team – meet quarterly
- Card Club – write and send notes monthly

MONTHLY COMMUNICATION

Member Meadow – for all members

In the Meadow – for organization members

In the Beginning...for new members



In the Meadow



November 2025

The Annual Membership Meeting - November 14

Join the Card Club!

The Unified Membership

Members

November

To Share v

Catechists

CGS in the

Monthly M

Resources



The United States Association of
The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

The MEMBER MEMO

November 2025

CGSUSA Annual Board of Trustees Meeting
Friday, November 14, 2025
7:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time



We are pleased to announce the 2025 CGSUSA Annual Meeting! Mark your calendars and be sure to join us!

Those elected to the board will begin their service just after the online *annual meeting* on **Friday, November 14, at 7:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.**

In the Beginning...



The United States Association of
The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

New Member Newsletter: Communication between the Child and the Adult



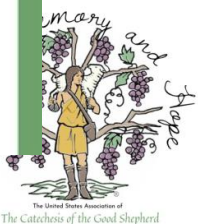
What is our pattern of communication with the child?

How does the child communicate with us? In words? In expression? In behavior?

How does communication nurture the relationship between the adult and the child?

What may we have to unlearn to better nurture this relationship?

What notes did you take when you completed your observation in an atrium or Montessori?



The United States Association of
The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

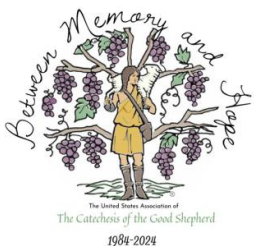
1984-2024

Membership Report

Pastoral Support

Our commitment to pastoral care remains an important aspect of our mission, a defining strength that allows us to serve the community.

We are grateful for the generosity of our members, which has enabled us to offer the gift of complementary and mission memberships, a necessary financial support to catechists facing hardship.



Membership Report

Thank you for sharing songs
with us. Note that we are in
need of at least five songs
for the spring.

SONGS OF THE ATRIUM



THE LAND OF ISRAEL

Sung by Judy Carlisi



GO NOW IN PEACE (with gestures)

sung by Marty O'Bryan and Karen
Maxwell

The Voice of the Good Shepherd calls...

CGSUSA Office of
Formation

Karen Maxwell,
Director

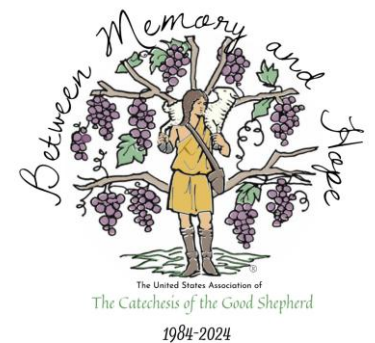
Beth Enz,
Assistant to Karen

Nancy Kujawski,
Course Coordinator

- Responds to inquiries about how to begin an atrium, find catechist formation courses, host catechist formation, finding formation leaders to lead catechist formation, pastoral concerns...
- Handles Registrations and Certificates for all CGSUSA Catechist Formation.
- Supports Formation Leaders with Resources
- Coordinates and serves on teams for national formation events

Catechist Formation – Fiscal Year 2024-2025

- 382 Catechist Formation – highest number to date
- 260 Level I courses
- 90 Level II courses
- 28 Level III courses
- 1 Toddler course



CGSUSA Events

August 2024

The 40th Anniversary Celebration of CGSUSA



December 2024

Infant Toddler Catechist Conference



CGSUSA Events

April 27-May 2, 2025

Infant Toddler Formation Leader Discernment Seminar



CGSUSA Events

May – October 2025

Level II Formation Leader Study Seminar



Formation Leader Discernment Process

Formation Leader Discernment Team

Lynda Catalano,
Marilee Quinn,
Lynne Worthington
Karen Maxwell

International Formation Leader Discernment Team

Rebekah Rojcewicz,
Linda Kaiel,
Claudia Margarita Schmitt,
Karen Maxwell

Application window to apply to begin the discernment process opened February 2025 –June 2025 for the 2025 Cohort.

Recognized for FY 2024-2025: 28 new formation leaders
19 – Level I Formation Leaders, 4 Level II Formation Leaders, 5 Level III Formation Leaders

Application window to apply to begin the discernment process for the 2026 cohort will begin February 2026 through May 2026.

Formation Advisory Council

We meet Annually at the Ignatius House, Atlanta

Rebekah Rojcewicz retired from the council in 2025 after serving for many years. She will be available for us to consult her wise counsel on issues as needed.

Hearfelt thanks to:

Rebekah Rojcewicz

Ann Garrido

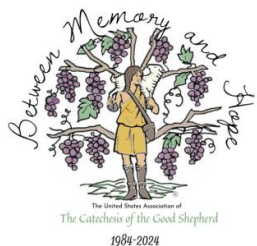
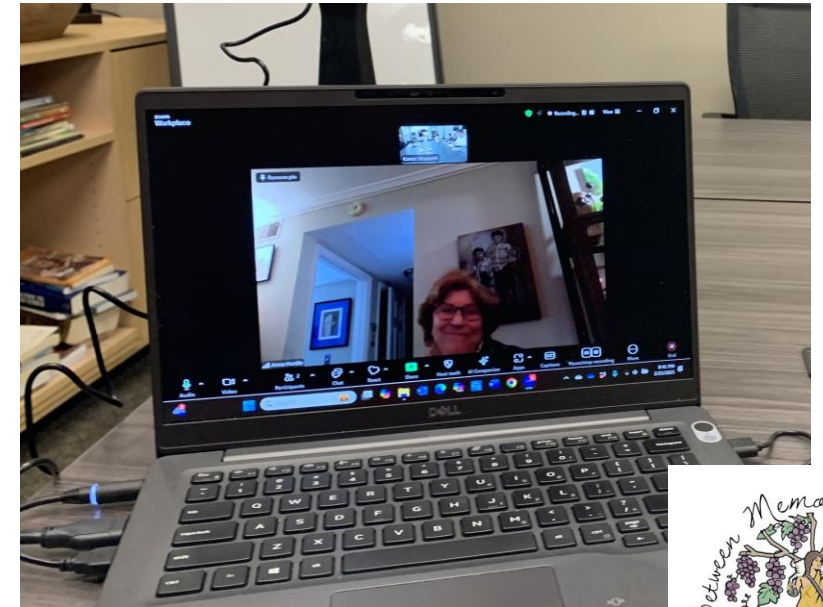
Anna Hurdle (who attends via Zoom)

Linda Kaiel

Claudia Margarita Schmitt

Donna Turner

Mary Mirrione



Spanish Speaking Report

- seeing an increase in the need for resources for Spanish speakers and are working to meet that need in a variety of ways.
- The Spanish Speaking Advisory Council is committed to meeting the needs of Spanish speakers in our association and have a history of providing translation assistance to make resources available and accessible to all

National Level 3 Course in Spanish



- Will begin in May 2026
- Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Scottsdale AZ
- Scholarships are available

New Podcasts in Spanish

- Will begin in January!

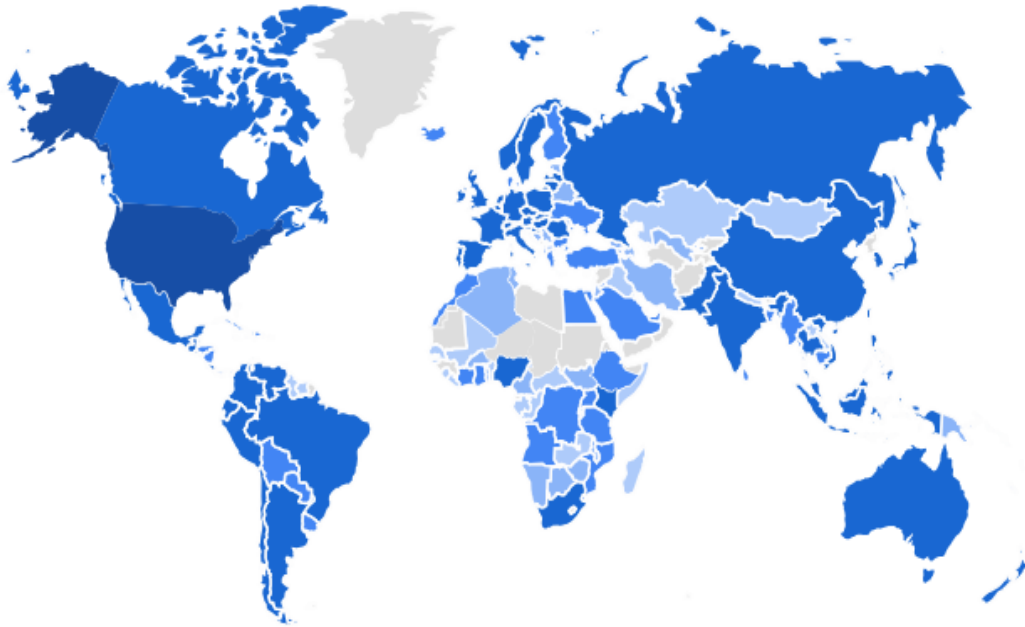


Podcast de
*El Buen
Pastor*
El Niño



Technology Report

We host visitors from around the USA & around the world



<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>ACTIVE USERS</u>
United States	103K
Germany	7.4K
Canada	2.7K
Singapore	2.3K
Mexico	1.2K
United Kingdom	961
Hong Kong	740



Technology Report

 We are CGSUSA







Contemplation and enjoyment of God

We foster religious values of childhood.

[Learn More](#)

[History of CGS](#)



-  Spanish
-  Italian
-  Chinese (Simplified)
-  French
-  Portuguese
-  Dutch

 EN ▾

Technology Report



The Good
Shepherd
& the
Child
Podcast



- hosted by Kerri Mecke-Lozano
- 5th fifth season!
- essential outreach and formation resource
- downloaded over 75,700 times this year
- nearing 376,000 all-time downloads!



Technology Report

Preparing to begin the Formation Leader Discernment Process

What you can do if you do not yet meet the application criteria or while the application window is closed.

Gain experience as a catechist: Continue to gain experience working with children in the atrium.

Audit another CGS Catechist Formation: If you completed your catechist formation ten years ago at the level you would like to be recognized as a formation leader and received a CGSUSA certificate, consider auditing another course at that level.

Write your personal catechist album so that it can be ready to be reviewed by a mentor formation leader.

Observe in a Montessori primary (for Level I) or elementary (for Levels II and III) at an AMI or AMS-accredited school. (Take notes. Montessori Observation Form)

[Complete Preliminary Interest Form](#)

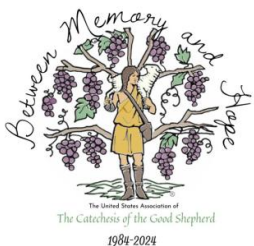
[Download PDF Discernment Process Overview](#)

eStore Report



It Really Is A Closet!

- We served thousands across the country
- offering over 100 publications
- nearly 250 unique materials,
- Our small but mighty team processed more than 3,000 orders and shipped over 3,500 packages—each one prepared with care and prayer.



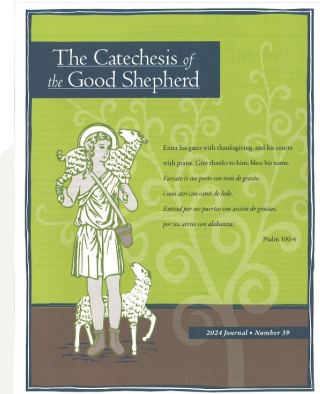
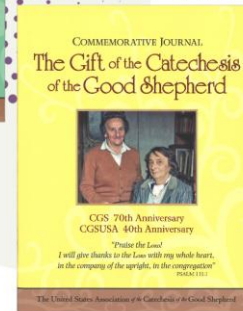
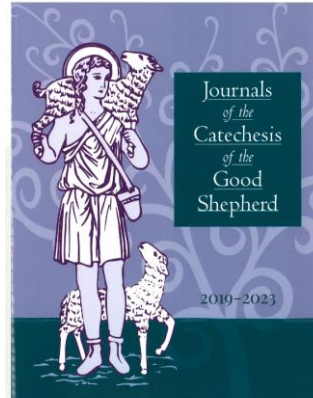
eStore Report



This year brought two major milestones:

- Supported the National Eucharistic Congress with 70 volunteers in 8 rooms
- The 40th Anniversary of CGSUSA, a joyful celebration

New Additions to Shepherd's Closet



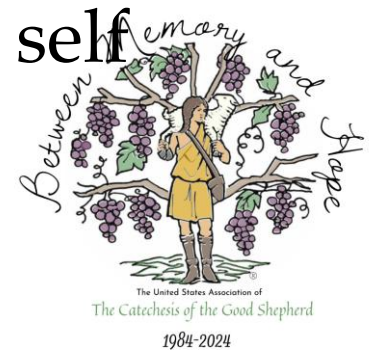
Good Fruit in Schools

2025 Annual Meeting
Karen Webb



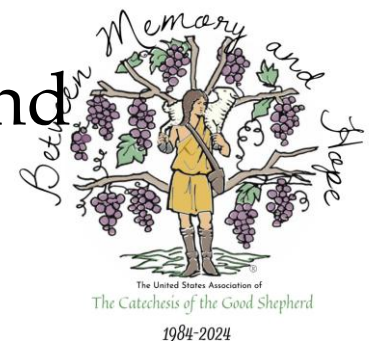
Rate Adjustment for Membership Individual

- Contributing Member 75 Closer to average cost
- Companion Member support 100 More sustainable
- Supporting Member 200 Mid-level commitment
- Visionary Member plus members 600 Covers the cost for self and mission



Rate Adjustment for Organization Membership

- Organization Sponsor 200 Closer to break even
- Organization Partner involvement 350 Better program
- Organization Collaborator 700 Higher impact
- Organization Benefactor 1,250 Premium support and recognition



Call to Action: Conne · Scout · Grow

Connect

- Build local CGS communities for prayer and support.
- Find **regional groups** on our website.
- Share **Parent Pages** and the **CGS Podcast** with families

Scout

- Recommend future leaders with skills in **marketing, finance, or tech.**
- Help us discover hidden talents for board and committee service.

Grow

- Strengthen your atrium and community through membership.
- Consider upgrading your membership or making a **recurring gift.**
- Give **in honor of a child or formation leader** who has inspired you.

Thank you for your service!

Claudia Pétursson



Katushka Olave



Welcome New Board Members!

Erica Dunning



Zachary Krueger



Maris Wimberly



Remaining close to our mission and purpose

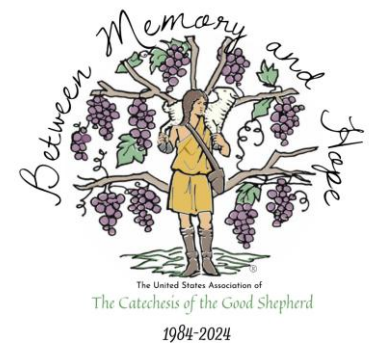


“Every gift calls forth a response.

Complementary to this first gesture of God’s gift, which comes from above, is the gesture of offering, which comes from us.”

All is Gift: Enjoying the Presence of God p.35.

If your question in the chat was not answered, please leave your email address in the chat so we can respond.



Thank you for joining us!

You Are The Shepherd

