



The United States Association of

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Our Purpose, Mission, and Vision *and Goals for 2021-2022*

Our Purpose

CGSUSA's purpose, prepared in consultation with Sofia Cavalletti and Gianna Gobbi, 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.

Our Mission

CGSUSA's 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.

- ❖ Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) began with the work and observations of Sofia Cavalletti and Gianna Gobbi. CGSUSA sustains and advances the legacy of CGS by forming adults in this method and serving as the resource to the CGS community so that a prepared environment can be created that nurtures the religious life of the child.
- ❖ CGSUSA is a membership association that serves in collaboration with those in the Church and beyond as a respected voice on the child's spiritual development.
- ❖ CGSUSA is the representative in this country to the International Council of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.

Our Vision

- ❖ Making the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and the writings of Sofia Cavalletti and Gianna Gobbi accessible to all.
- ❖ Recognizing the need for clear and available communications using written, voice and visual electronic media to maintain contact with catechists and others.
- ❖ Providing formation in accord with the work of Sofia Cavalletti and Gianna Gobbi, through the provision of a discernment process and training for formation leaders, offering regular retreats and conferences and the use of approved Formation Leader Handbooks.
- ❖ Holding courses in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd in colleges, universities, and seminaries across the United States.
- ❖ Supporting the work of the International Council and working in harmony with it.
- ❖ Translating and distributing materials changes and new materials as recommended by the International Council to formation leaders and catechists through the United States Association.
- ❖ Providing a manual at each level with accurate and most excellent plans and schematics for constructing atrium materials.
- ❖ Encouraging regional groups in every part of the nation.
- ❖ Establishing and maintaining links with diocese and denominations represented by the membership and other formation and educational groups.
- ❖ Providing help and resources to assist catechists in adapting this work to the liturgy of their denominations.
- ❖ Establishing and maintaining historical archives of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, making them accessible to members.
- ❖ Ensuring proper governance of the United States Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd while sustaining and advancing the legacy in a financially sustainable way.

CGSUSA 2021-2022 Goals

Formation Goals:

- ❖ Offer Part I of National Level II and III Formation Course in Rapid City, SD. June 14-23, 2022.
- ❖ Prepare and present seasonal *Servant Song* retreats on Zoom.
- ❖ Update/revise Materials Manual based on discussions in Level I and Level II Study Groups.
- ❖ Update/revise/create Episcopal, Spanish language, Orthodox, Methodist and Extraordinary Form materials adaptations for Materials Manual as they are prepared.
- ❖ Continue to translate and publish the *I Am the Good Shepherd* book series and orient pilot groups leading to its implementation.
- ❖ Update Hosting Formation information.
- ❖ Offer online continuing formation for Formation Leaders and those in the formation leader discernment process, including Study Groups.
- ❖ Survey the Spanish-speaking community and other bilingual communities to learn how to best support their needs for CGS Formation.
- ❖ Continue to develop Infant-Toddler atrium environment and course content.

Publication Goals:

- ❖ Publish Audio Book of *The Religious Potential of the Child Ages 3-6*.
- ❖ Publish a hard-covered large print *Book of the Gospels* for the second plane children, especially those preparing for First Communion.
- ❖ Publish e-books of *The Religious Potential of the Child Ages 3-6*, *The Religious Potential of the Child Ages 6-9*, *The Good Shepherd and the Child: A Joyful Journey* and *Life in the Vine: The Joyful Journey Continues*.
- ❖ Publish second edition of *Mustard Seed Preaching*.
- ❖ Publish and mail to all members the 2021 *Journal*.
- ❖ Translate *Life in the Vine: The Joyful Journey Continues* into Spanish.
- ❖ Produce podcast series on Montessori principles in response to survey answers.

Membership Goals

- ❖ Develop a plan to onboard new members to the benefits of CGSUSA and the website.
- ❖ Increase CGSUSA membership by 10 percent.
- ❖ Add 25 new organization members.

- ❖ Increase members with automatic renewal by 15 percent.
- ❖ Offer a Summer 2021 seminar series on Zoom.

Development Goals

- ❖ Launch Annual Appeal and raise \$120,000.
- ❖ Increase number of recurring gifts to Annual Appeal by 10 percent.
- ❖ Establish Legacy Giving program and identify ten founding members.

Collaborative Goals

- ❖ Attend the International Consiglio Meeting.
- ❖ Maintain links with United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.
- ❖ Enter into agreements with CGSUSA vendor members and develop source list for website.