

## Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) is an approach to religious formation for children ages 3-12. It developed in Rome with the collaboration of two women: Sofia Cavalletti, a Hebrew Scripture Scholar, and Gianna Gobbi, a Montessori instructor. Over many years they observed children's reaction to scripture and liturgy and Catechesis of the Good Shepherd was born. This is a "hands-on" approach for passing on the faith. The children gather in a sacred space called an atrium. The room is designed with the child in mind centered on simplicity, order, prayer, work and community. Together with the catechist we hear, ponder and celebrate the mysteries of the Christian faith revealed through scripture and liturgy. This method is practiced internationally by many Christian schools.

*When something takes you where you do not know and yet, all along the way, God continues to provide, it is an adventure. And there is nothing more beautiful.*

*-Sofia Cavalletti*

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Level I course is the foundation course and prepares catechists to work with 3-6 year-old children. Level I course participants (Parts A and B) will receive certification from the National Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.

- Follow-up workshops for materials making and review optional.
- Access to online materials making manuals.
- Group rates for participants from the same parish or school.
- Fee includes course, snacks, handouts, and National Certification.

**For current Level I course information and online registration, go to:**

**[www.catholicahawaii.org/cgs-l1](http://www.catholicahawaii.org/cgs-l1)**

For payments, checks can be mailed to:

**Office of Evangelization and Catechesis  
6301 Pali Highway  
Kaneohe, HI 96744**

Make check payable to:  
**Roman Catholic Church in the State of Hawaii**



## UPCOMING TRAINING

### CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD 2025 - 2026

#### LEVEL I TRAINING

**45 course hours  
for each part**

**PART A: JUNE 23-JULY 3, 2025**  
Registration Fee: \$450

**PART B: JUNE 22-JULY 3, 2026**  
Registration Fee: \$450

**Sessions held weekdays**  
8:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
**Optional materials making**  
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM



#### **LOCATION**

Mary, Star of Sea  
Early Learning Center  
4470 Aliihoa Street, Suite 100  
Honolulu, HI 96821





### **LEVEL I** **FORMATION LEADERS**

**Joan Hiel** is a certified Formation Leader for catechesis of the Good Shepherd. She facilitates Atria for St. John Vianney in levels, 1, 2 and 3. She established Atrium for Mary Star of the Sea Montessori School. She has over 40 years combined experience as a Montessori lead guide on the mainland and in Hawaii. She is an adjunct professor at Chaminade University for early childhood education programs. She enjoys exploring God's beautiful creation with her husband and 2 daughters whenever and wherever possible.

**Maile Aiu Domingo** is a certified formation trainer for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) Level 1. She has a combined 25 years of serving as a CGS Catechist for Levels 1, 2, and 3. She offers Atria in a parish, homeschool, and private settings and enjoys bringing her Hawaiian culture into the atrium. Maile was born and raised on Kauai and is a mother of 6+. She is the Foundress of Hamau I Loko.



### **CERTIFICATION**

The National Association certificate will be issued upon completion of the course. This certificate honors your full attendance and participation in Level I, Parts A and B. The certificate fee is included in the tuition.



To inquire about current rates,  
or to register for lodging,  
call or email:

Joan Hiel  
[jhielcgs@gmail.com](mailto:jhielcgs@gmail.com)  
(808) 352-8032

## *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd*



### **LEVEL I** **PART A: 45 hours** **PART B: 45 hours**

Each Part is offered with a total of 45 course hours, in sessions within two weeks, or within four long weekends. We can also accommodate your parish or school needs.

#### **COURSE CONTACT:**

Joan Hiel  
[jhielcgs@gmail.com](mailto:jhielcgs@gmail.com)  
(808) 352-8032

In collaboration with the  
Office of Evangelization and Catechesis  
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