



CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
SONFLOWER REGION

Serving the children
of Kansas and
Western Missouri

2013 Board

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*Formation Leader
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Janet Duke
Wichita, Kansas

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CGSKSMO@gmail.com.
Or contact it through
Corresponding Secretary
Jo Thornley Cox
6915 N. Woodland Ave.
Gladstone, MO 64118.*

Newsletter
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Mission leads all

The SonFlower Region of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd continues to be focused on its mission: *“to nurture understanding of the religious potential of children and support the growth of CGS atria in the state of Kansas and the Kansas City, Mo., metro area.”*

CGS has grown in the last few years as the regional board has offered several enrichment opportunities, awarded financial aid for catechists and leaders, and sponsored courses, all while going through its own changes.

The region has hosted several conferences over the last few years, generally in the fall and spring. The Fall Conference also includes a general-membership meeting, including the president’s report and elections for the upcoming board year.

Serving on the board in 2013 were Keri Cupp, Janet Duke, Millie Hill, Katie Lewis, Diane Olsen, Shannon Rasmussen, Cathe Sienkiewicz, and Katrina Taggart. Laurel Sharpe was to take a position when she completed her Level I formation in the spring.

The Catholic Diocese of Wichita has requested that all formation courses in its boundaries be sponsored by it rather than by the SonFlower Region, so the board members from Wichita resigned last winter. Millie’s and Katie’s resignations were effective immediately, but Janet decided to complete her term. In May, Laurel decided not to take the board position because a new baby, a new home, and a new job are priorities right now.

Therefore, the board lost three people, leaving those positions vacant. The board appointed Jo Thornley Cox to complete Millie’s, leaving two open positions. The terms of three other

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board members are complete at the end of 2013: Katrina, Shannon, and Janet. Bylaws stipulate a nine-member board.

So the SonFlower Region has five positions to fill in the elections this November. Katrina and Shannon have decided to run again for service on the board, but the region needs more leadership from its catechists, at least three more.

Are you willing to meet four times yearly, work for the good of CGS in our area, and lead the continuing growth of our regional association? Our work rests on the goodness and dedication of many volunteers.

Please pray on whether you can serve CGS beyond the atrium. The Good Shepherd calls each of his sheep; it’s up to the sheep to listen and follow.

Contact any of the board members if you are ready to enrich our CGS work in a post outside of the atrium. As in the atrium itself, the work is rewarding in ways you can’t imagine.



Sisters Raffaella Cavallin, Clara Remartini, and Josephine Plazzer of the St. Lawrence Catholic Center, University of Kansas

Fall Conference

featuring Sister Josephine Plazzer, OVI

The Fall Conference of the SonFlower Region is also the annual membership meeting to hear about the regional association and to elect new board members.

Katrina Taggart, president, will address the region's accomplishments and goals. Elections will be held, though with five board positions open and only two people running, the incomplete slate may be accepted by acclamation.

The 2013 board encourages catechists to step forward to take a leadership role in the region.

Keri Cupp, board vice president, is planning the fall event at St. John the Evangelist School, 1233 Vermont St., Lawrence.

The conference schedule is as follows:

- 8:00 Mass in St. John the Evangelist Church for those wanting to begin their day with the Eucharist
- 8:30 Registration, breakfast, voting in the St. John Bosco Room in the school *
- 9:00 Opening prayer
Board reports
Announcement of new board members
- 10:00 Keynote speaker: Sister Josephine Plazzer
- 11:30 Closing prayer
Socializing and tours of St. John's Atria

* To find the St. Bosco Room, enter the school through the south door in the parking lot on Kentucky Street. There will be signs and balloons to guide you.

See you there! Bring a friend!

The SonFlower Region has a new e-mail address. Please add it to your contact list so you'll receive all regional communications.

CGSKSMO@gmail.com

Also, find us on [Facebook](#). Search for SonFlower Region Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (Kansas).

Keynote speaker shows path of prayer

As catechists of the Good Shepherd, we are encouraged to deepen our own spiritual life. Thus, we can be authentic as we share the Word of God and our Liturgy with the children.

Sister Josephine Plazzer, AVI, keynote speaker at the SonFlower Region's fall conference Nov. 2, will offer ways to enrich our interior life through a desire for holiness and our relationship with Jesus through prayer. Her presentation will include guided meditation and time for questions.

Sister Josephine, a native Australian, joined the Apostles of Interior Life more than six years ago. She professed her religious vows in 2011 in Rome and since has been assigned to Lawrence to provide spiritual formation to the students at the St. Lawrence Catholic Campus Center.

The religious order of the Apostles of Interior Life, Le Apostole della Vita Interiore, was founded in Rome on the four pillars of prayer, community life, intellectual formation, and apostolate.

Reconnect with your fellow catechists and deepen your prayer life at the SonFlower Fall Conference, Saturday, Nov. 2, at St. John the Evangelist in Lawrence, Kansas.

Archbishop discusses CGS

The Most Rev. Joseph Naumann, bishop of the Archdiocese of Kansas City, Kan., invited Diane Olsen to discuss Catechesis of the Good Shepherd on his weekly radio show, The Shepherd's Voice, on KXES, 1090 AM. You can listen to the podcast at <http://archkck/libsyn.com/catechesis-of-the-good-shepherd>.

Diane recently was hired as CGS consultant for the archdiocese. She spoke with the archbishop on the child's religious potential, the history of CGS, and how parents can nurture children's relationship with Jesus. Diane hopes to increase the visibility of CGS with a presence on the website www.archkck.org.

Katrina Taggart said, "That is an awesome example of God's use of small and great: one catechist with a few hours per week, to the great impact it will have and has had for spreading and fanning the flame of CGS in our region. A true mustard seed!"

Congratulations, Diane, and may God continue to bless your journey and the SonFlower Region.

SonFlower Calendar

November 2, 2013

Fall Conference. Keynote speaker: Sister Josephine Plazzer, AVI

January 2014 (date TBD)

Final meeting of the 2013 Board
First meeting of the 2014 Board

Where are our atria?

We're still trying to get atrium information for our database. The hope is that as potential catechists want to know more about this approach, the Inquiry Committee can match those people with catechists and atria in their area.

Ask your atria director to send in the following information: name of atrium, location, levels, contact information.

They can send it to the Corresponding Secretary at the board's e-mail or postal address. We hope to have a published directory. Anyone who'd like to help compile it can let us know that as well.

Formation Courses

Financial aid is available through the regional association and the national association at www.cgsusa.org.

Level I, Part 1

Course No. 1-981

Curé of Ars Parish
Leawood, Kansas

Sept. 7, Oct. 5, Nov. 9,
2013; Jan. 4, Feb. 1,
March 29, April 5, 2014

Formation leaders:
Marilee Quinn and
Jeanne Wichman

Registrar:
Sandy Hawekotte
913-642-1990
Cure of Ars Parish
9403 Mission Road
Leawood, KS 66206
sandyhawekotte@cureofars.com

Level I, Part 2

Course No. 1-972

Benedictine College
Campus Ministry
Atchison, Kansas

Oct. 25 and 26, 2013
May 19-23, 2014

Formation leaders:
Diane Olsen and
Jo Thornley Cox

Registrar:
Elizabeth Slobodnik
913-240-1683
516 N. Second St.
Atchison, KS 66002
eslobodnik@benedictine.edu

Level II, Part 1

Course No. 2-340

Holy Trinity Parish
Lenexa, Kansas

Sept. 28, Oct 26, Nov. 16,
2013; Jan. 18, Feb. 15,
March 15, May 3, 2014

Formation leaders:
Diane Olsen and
Marilee Quinn

Registrar:
Pat Domann
4209 Timberline Court
Lawrence, KS 66049
domann@saint-johns.net

Level III, Part 1

Course No. 3-117

Holy Trinity Parish
Lenexa, Kansas

Aug. 24, Sept. 14, Oct.
19, Nov. 23, 2013;
Jan. 11, Feb. 8, March 8,
April 12, 2014

Formation leaders:
Julie Baltuska and
Marilee Quinn

Registrar:
Julie Baltuska
913-492-4842
11545 S. Carbondale St.
Olathe, KS 66061
johntentwentyeight@yahoo.com

The SonFlower Region has a new e-mail address.

Please add it to your contact list.

CGSKSMO@gmail.com

What is the SonFlower Region?

The Regional Board developed the following Purpose, Mission Statement, and Vision. Annual strategic goals are set each year in January. Read the following to have a better understanding of our SonFlower association.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the SonFlower Region of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is to assist the involvement of adults and children in a common religious experience in which the religious values of childhood predominate.

MISSION STATEMENT

With the guidance of Father, Son, and Spirit and in accordance with the National Association and the International Council of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, the mission of the SonFlower Region of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is to nurture understanding of the religious potential of children and support the growth of CGS atria in the state of Kansas and the Kansas City, Mo., metro area.

VISION

The SonFlower Region will provide ongoing formation and enrichment opportunities for regional catechists.

The SonFlower Region will spread the understanding of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd by educating church leaders and offering "Seed Plantings" at the school, parish, and diocesan levels.

The SonFlower Region will develop the infrastructure of the organization with the guidance of an elected board.

The SonFlower Region will establish regular contact with catechists through written, voice, and visual electronic media.

The SonFlower Region will promote membership in the National Association of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, work in harmony with it, and provide support when requested.

The SonFlower Region will develop methods of raising funds, including grant proposals, if a need is determined.

CGS-USA benefits every catechist

Why should you add your name to the list of 1,300 members of the National Association of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd?

- Updates about changes to materials or presentations in the atrium
- Ongoing formation opportunities
- Financial aid and grant monies that bring formation and materials to those in need
- Discounts on Level II and Level III formation in the SonFlower Region
- Publications that deepen our understanding of the child's religious potential
- Information from Sofia Cavalletti relating her continuing experiences with children in Rome
- Shared wisdom from the collective catechist experiences of those who have lived this work since the first generation of formation provided by Sofia
- Collaboration and communication with other catechists in and beyond our regions
- Online materials manuals

Join the National Association of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd today. See www.cgsusa.org for membership information.

Share your news

As catechists, we want to be supportive of one another, in all our sorrows and joys.

If you have prayer requests or news to share with the other catechists in our region, please send them to the Corresponding Secretary, whose address and the board's e-mail address are on the front of this newsletter.

Also, keep us updated on changes in your personal and atrium information. Thank you!