



# One Flock, One Shepherd

Newsletter of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Association of Canada

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## A DVD for the CWL and You!

A year ago, I was asked to be a guest speaker for the Catholic Women's League Convention for the following summer, in Vancouver, 2015, to speak to their members about the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. Although honoured to be asked, I had to turn down this invitation to travel, and find a more practical way to send our message and help serve the needs of the CWL members as well as spread the news of what we (CGSAC) do for children.

It became very clear that the best way to use the time scheduled for this talk would be to create a DVD to outline our work using photos of children working with materials in atriums across the country. Since many of the CWL members have children and grandchildren, I wanted to give them new hope for their own families and for the future of the church. Knowing these women have personal lives of many ups and downs, in one way or another, I wanted each member to have an experience of relating to scripture. I chose to present the Parable of the Leaven. This parable helps each adult reflect on their place in God's Plan and as a community of women, and helps affirm and encourage their call to God's service.

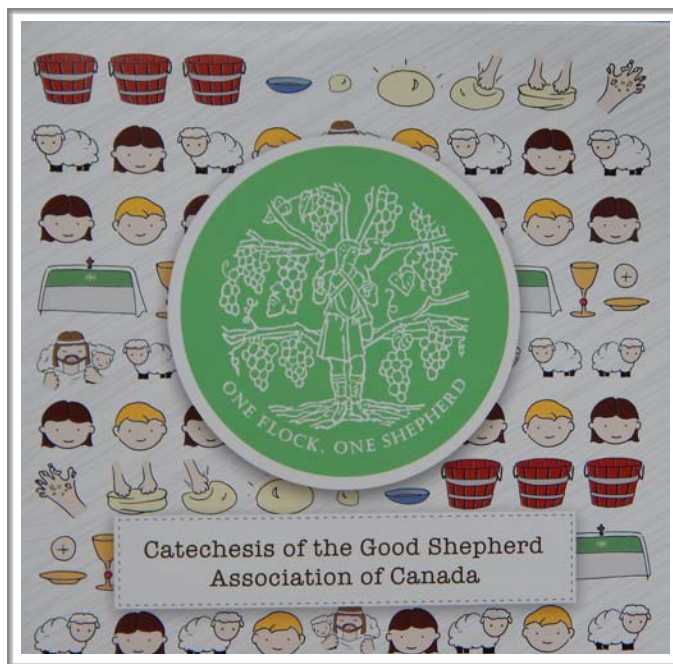
Last winter, The DVD was generously produced by The Fountain of Love and Life Catholic TV station in Richmond Hill. We filmed it in the atrium at St. Justin Martyrs Parish and copies were flown out to Vancouver to be seen at the convention and to be given to the provincial and regional representatives across Canada.

The response has been good, very good. A special thanks to the Vancouver catechists who answered questions at our display table and handed out DVD's to the overwhelming crowd of CWL members, and to Sue Reid for hosting the filming at St. Justins Parish. Thanks to the staff at Fountain of Love and Life who

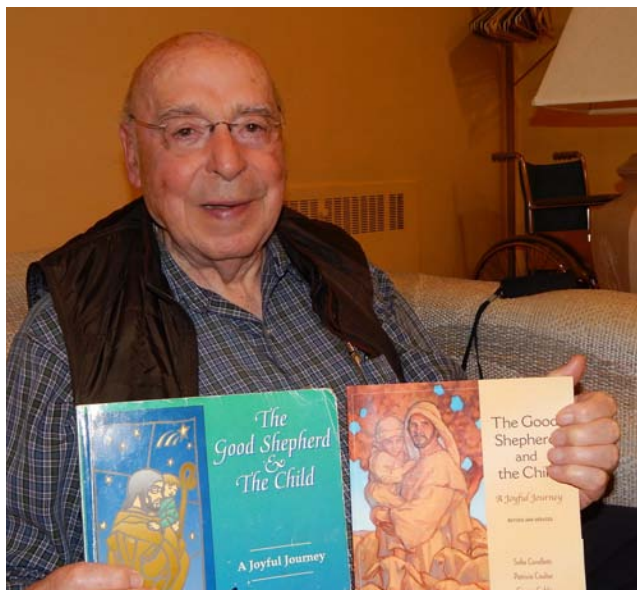
shared this vision and freely gave of their time and talents.

We would like you to have a copy to share with anyone in your parish or community who would benefit from hearing about CGSAC and the message in the Parable of the Leaven. Although this DVD is only 18 minutes long and it does not say everything that would be included in an epic movie, it is a beginning. DVDs will be provided as a thank you to all donors; if you would like to order several, please contribute a minimum of \$10/CD requested.

Susan Perna



**Inside this issue:** How One Canadian Bishop Helped CGS Grow  
New board members arise  
Ottawa Level 1; Vancouver Level 2



## Note from the Chair

What an exciting time for the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Association of Canada!

In this 10th year of CGSAC, we have produced our first DVD and spread the message nationally through the Catholic Women's League. Thank you, Susan, for the immense work you did building those connections and producing the DVD.

At our upcoming Annual General Meeting, we have new board members joining us from Calgary, Winnipeg and Georgetown (ON), filling the board to capacity (8 members) for the first time in my history with the Board. New workers in the Vineyard - and more thinking about it for next year. What a gift! To know that people are not only working hard to spread God's love to children in their own communities, but also to help our national organization fulfill its mission to spread and support this work from coast to coast to coast. I am excited to work with the new members, and to know that God will find new ways to work through us.

Please let us know what you need from CGSAC - how can we best support you in your work? And continue to spread the word!

Blessings - Heather Lampman, Chair and Editor

## Coming next issue:

News from our Gathering with Rebekah Rojciwicz on November 13-14

Silent auction results and thanks. Please make sure you participate in our on-line auction, as well as the live one if you can make it. And please donate materials! You and/or your atrium community will be acknowledged for your contribution to our work.

Go to URL: [www.32auctions.com/CGSAC2015ThisURL](http://www.32auctions.com/CGSAC2015ThisURL)

## How One Canadian Bishop Helped CGS Grow!

In 1984, Archbishop Marcel Gervais, along with a small handful of Canadian participants, met Sofia Cavelletti in St. Paul, Minnesota at a CGS Level I, II and III course. He was so impressed with Sofia's work that he invited her to come to Canada.

Archbishop Gervais could see the great need to give Canadian families, who might not have the opportunity to travel for training, a resource to know more about CGS. He wanted a book written so that this "good news" could be shared and asked Patricia Coulter to write *The Good Shepherd and The Child, A Joyful Journey*.

Patricia wrote the book. Getting it published was difficult and she found that the publishing companies really did not want a book about children's spirituality and felt that it would not be profitable to print. So, the manuscript sat and sat and sat.

I encouraged Patricia to send it to The Salesians of Don Bosco Printing House in New York. As soon as they saw it, they said, "yes" and printed it. Since 1994, it has sold thousands of copies and is in Atriums in 37 countries around the world. Last July, I visited Archbishop Marcel Gervais in Ottawa. I asked him if I could take his picture holding the original book and the new edition. He said, "yes, this is marvellous!"

Susan Perna



## New Faces for the CGSAC Board

### DOROTHY BURNS



**Burns, Dorothy**  
Director of  
Religious Ed.

I am a Catholic educator working in Christ the Redeemer Catholic Schools in southern Alberta as the Director of Religious Education. I am married and have two daughters (22 and married and the youngest just graduated from high school). I have been in education since 1978, twenty years in the classroom (five as a principal) and this present position since 1998. In my current position I am responsible for religion curriculum K – 12 and the faith formation of teachers.

I have known about the work of Sofia Cavalletti for many years, having read The Religious Potential of the Child in one of my courses for my Master in Religious Education. I love how Scripture and Liturgy are woven together in this method. In addition to teaching religion in the classroom I have always been involved in sacramental preparation and RCIA in the parishes to which I have belonged. Learning about and reading Scripture has been a passion of mine since my university days. In 2013 I took the Level 1 training for CGS and now I am keen to promote it wherever I can encouraging especially teachers in my school to come to know it.

I believe we need a voice from Western Canada at the table. As a classroom teacher for 20 years I have knowledge of working with children and desire for them to come to know Jesus no matter what their age. In my role as Director of Religious Education for Christ the Redeemer Catholic Schools I have experience with budgets, overseeing programs, doing professional development with teachers and networking. I am involved with strategizing and implementing programs. I am an experienced writer and have been responsible for editing a journal.

### CLAIRE HERBERT REIS

I was born in England and baptized into the Church of England. I moved to Canada as a child and became a member of St. George's Anglican Church, Brandon, MB.

I am a freshwater biologist working at the University of Manitoba, administrating a science data and outreach web portal. I worked in Uganda, East Africa for six months on a Canadian internship program studying Lake Victoria. While in Africa, I distributed clothes, books and bibles brought from Canada to Uganda Christian University. I also conducted trips to schools in the surrounding area to educate the children about health issues and water quality.



I completed my Level 1 CGS atrium training in Winnipeg, MB and have volunteered for the last four years with St. Luke's Anglican Church, Winnipeg, MB. I joined St. Luke's vestry in 2014 and work with Father Paul on setting up outreach programming. I was also on the membership committee and the planning committee for the 2014 CGSAC Annual Gathering.

I also attend Mary Mother of the Church, Winnipeg, MB (Roman Catholic), where my husband and I volunteer as ushers. (My husband is Roman Catholic.)

## DEBORAH BAKER



I have assisted with the financial record keeping and reporting for the CGSAC for the past few years and am currently a member of the Advisory Committee. I look forward to this opportunity to take on a more integral role with CGSAC as a member of the Board.

My husband and I live in Georgetown with our two young adult children. I am a member of the Holy Cross Catholic Parish Community and have been a leader in their Children's Liturgy Program for the past 20 years. Previously I ran the Children's Liturgy program at St. John Brebeuf RC Church in Erin and assisted with the children's programs at St. Dominic's RC Church in Oakville. Every week my faith is strengthened by sharing with the children of our parish and experiencing their pure and unquestioning faith and love.

I am Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and part Owner of a mid-size, custom design, engineering and manufacturing firm located in Oakville. Responsible for day-to-day operations, I oversee more than 70 employees. With this dedicated and talented team, we create unique and breathtaking projects to our global clientele.

I have a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Wilfred Laurier University and received my Chartered Accountant designation through the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants. I am currently a Director on the Board for PACE Savings and Credit Union and Chair of their Audit Committee.

As the CGSAC embarks on this exciting time of growth, I believe I can provide the financial support and guidance necessary to achieve our goals. I look forward to growing in faith with the CGSAC community and helping to share God's joy as we grow. I believe I can be a valuable contributor on the Board of Directors. I am committed to you our members and dedicated to serving our Association to the best of my ability.

Support formation! Donate to CGSAC online at [www.canadahelps.org](http://www.canadahelps.org).

Your monthly or one-time donation will help us do more - build up resources and opportunities for catechists and spread the

## Formation 2015-16

- Level 1A: Calgary - February, 2016  
Saskatoon - February, 2016
- Level 1B: Winnipeg- Oct/Jan/March, 2015-16  
Ottawa (National) July 2016
- Level 2B: Vancouver - June 2016
- Level 3A: Guelph - July 2016

*If you are looking for formation in your area, let us know! Contact Susan Perna at [susanvince@sympatico.ca](mailto:susanvince@sympatico.ca).*

### CGSAC Board

Chair & Newsletter	Heather Skublicks Lampman
Past Chair & Treasurer	Debbie Zeni
Secretary	Ruth Ann McClure
Formation	Susan Perna
Membership	Dale Balkovec
Communications	Erin Tayler
Member at Large	Léa Young

[www.cgsac.ca](http://www.cgsac.ca)  
[catechesis.Canada@gmail.com](mailto:catechesis.Canada@gmail.com)



## Ottawa National Course - July 2015

Le cours de catéchèse du Bon Berger a été pour moi une expérience inoubliable! La présence du Saint-Esprit était très évidente parmi le groupe pendant toute la semaine. L'apprentissage que j'ai reçu à travers chaque session/leçon m'ont permis de grandir et d'approfondir ma foi spirituelle en Jésus-Christ.

La dynamique du groupe était très forte, amusante et ancré dans la foi: WOW! Les personnalités de chaque personne complimentaient les unes aux autres; en peu de temps des liens avaient été tissés.

J'ai bien hâte de concevoir et d'offrir ce programme de la catéchèse du Bon Berger à ma communauté francophone.

Cette expérience était un cadeau du Ciel rempli de cadeaux. Comme l'Amour de Dieu goûte bon!

Mylaine Collins, North Bay



Lunchtime chatting with French and English-speaking participants from Nova Scotia, Ottawa and North Bay

Although I live in Ottawa, where this summer's National CGS Level 1 Formation Course took place, it took me a six-hour round trip on Highway 7 to get to Holy Redeemer Parish, some 15 km from my home. Fearful lest our two boys would drive my husband crazy on his only week of summer holidays, all four of us headed to my in-laws' cottage in Marmora, where Nana and Papa were going to help my husband adjust to his week as primary caregiver. Then, because I needed the family Jeep to shuttle myself back and forth to Holy Redeemer, I returned to Ottawa myself.

Many of the registrants, who came from as far west as Washington State and as far east as the Canadian Maritimes, had to make similar practical preparations. One woman, a mother of three, even celebrated her birthday with us instead of with her family, who were eight car-hours away. Picnic lunches on the grass outside the church became standard for many of us, with our decision to spend even our breaks together illustrating the genuine affection and mutual respect we developed for each other.

For my part, that fellow-feeling among registrants was a key part of my learning process. Entering the

formation with only a cursory and theoretical understanding of the Montessori method, I was surprised – shocked, really – by the calm and quiet that characterized the presentations. No way, I thought, would my three-year-old (lovely as he is) ever sit still and wait patiently to work with the materials. By the afternoon of day two, I was beginning to feel like oil on water, floating on an understanding of what CGS was supposed to be, but not sounding the depths of its power to speak to and form young children, and certainly not internalizing the information I was receiving as lived and believed-in knowledge. Shy by nature, though, I was not about to object when all my peers seemed to subscribe so whole-heartedly to what we were experiencing.



Imagine my relief, then, to hear a voice protest from the back of the room, “This is all working great here because we’re an ideal audience, but do young children really sit still, just watching and listening? I just don’t see it working.” Laughter and expressions of similar skepticism spread throughout the rows, as we all faced the elephant that I had feared was tramping through only my head space. *Okay, I thought, I might be a ‘problem student,’ but at least I’m not the only one.*

By day 3, the long days of formation, the time away from my boys, and the evenings spent reading and reflecting on the day’s work were starting to wear on me. So, too, was the emotional and intellectual roller-coaster I had experienced: so enthusiastic about CGS in principle, I had looked forward to formation with weeks of excitement. Then, as my skepticism grew, enthusiasm gave way to disillusionment, and excitement gave way to exhaustion. I headed to formation Wednesday morning aiming only to get through the day, and hoping that I’d have enough stamina to endure the rest of the week.

Unreceptive as I was, it was that morning that the Holy Spirit opened my eyes to the wonder of CGS. Two moments were key in my transformation. Heather Skublics Lampman (chair of the CGSAC Board), in Ottawa for other reasons, took time out of her schedule to address us at the beginning of the day. She startled me into renewed appreciation of CGS with the near-paradox she voiced: “Remember: CGS is so good, it’s worth doing badly.” (i.e. with less than perfect resources).



Then, later in the day, Carolyne-Marie Petch provided another light-bulb moment. We were discussing “canned” background music, and one of the leaders shared a story about how a little boy singing along with background music distracted a little girl from her work. The story was meant, as I understood it, to elicit sympathy for the little girl, whose prayer work was repeatedly interrupted by her loud peer, and to demonstrate why silence was preferable to ambient music. Once again, I found myself starting to feel like oil on water, only this time I spoke up to defend the little boy, whose joyful singing was silenced to satisfy the needs of an overly-sensitive child. Why is his singing rather than her sensitivity the problem? Why is background music bad? “Because,” Carolyne-Marie interjected, “background music is managed by the adult

instead of by the child, and the atrium exists for the child.” Music by and with the children is an essential part of atrium life, I was assured.

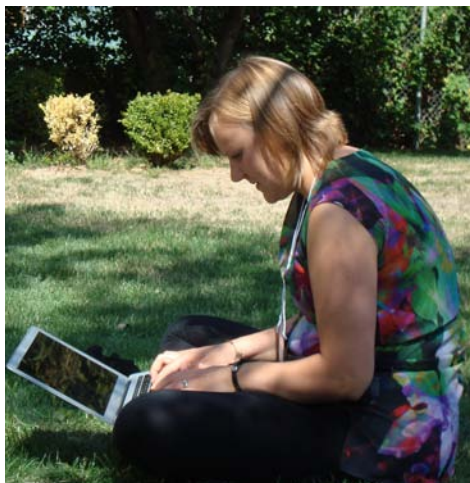
These are the two ideas that allowed my conversion to, immersion within, or adoption of all that CGS represents. I don’t have quite the words to describe, exactly, the change of mind, heart, and spirit that I experienced, but “a method worth doing badly” and a place that exists for the religious development of the child are things that I can stand behind. The excitement is back, and ten-fold.

Tobi Kozakewich, Ottawa



## "Higher Up and Farther In": Level 2 Training, Vancouver

Before I had even finished my Level 1 course, already I knew I wanted to take the Level 2 course... And Level 3 too. I wanted to get the full picture of where this Catechesis was going. Initially, I wanted this understanding for myself. But then, observing my own children go through CGS, and working in the Atrium with the children at St Maurice Parish in Ottawa last year, it became unthinkable to me to turn those who would be participating at my home parish away at 6 years of age, when such great things would have begun in them. I needed to take Level 2 so that the children could continue in their growth and formation... I needed to take Level 2 so that the families of these children could also continue in their growth.



Amidst the great work of opening a Level 1 Atrium this summer, I also had the privilege of going to Vancouver for Part A of my Level 2 Formation course. CGSAC granted me a scholarship and my parish paid for my flight.

All that is good and true and beautiful about Level 1 continues in Level 2. For me, it met the next plane of development in my underdeveloped inner child. I learned and experienced many things. Most importantly, it freed me of much judgement I unknowingly carried in my heart. It opened me up to God's love for all people of all time... His desire from the beginning of creation to be all in all. Further, what I learned in Level 2 challenged me to remain in Christ, and to trust that I am enough. My doing is good and important and God wants me to be his co-laborer, but first I must first remain in Him. And He remains in me. What a gift!



Rosemary Heights Retreat Centre will be the site of Level II part B, Vancouver, BC: a peaceful retreat space with various "prayer corner" areas throughout the grounds and buildings.

When I heard there would be a Level 1 course offered this past summer in Ottawa, I invited several people I knew to attend. I told the people I invited that even if they had no intention of ever serving in an Atrium, they should go for the training. I told them they would be changed by what they learned and experienced. I told my mom friends that it would affect the way they

mothered their children. I told my teacher friends that it would impact the way they taught in the classroom. Two women responded to my invitation and went on the training. Both described to me with an uncontrollable excitement how they had been changed by what they experienced and learned.

I don't believe it is possible to go on CGS training and not be impacted. If you've done Level 1, you must know what I mean!

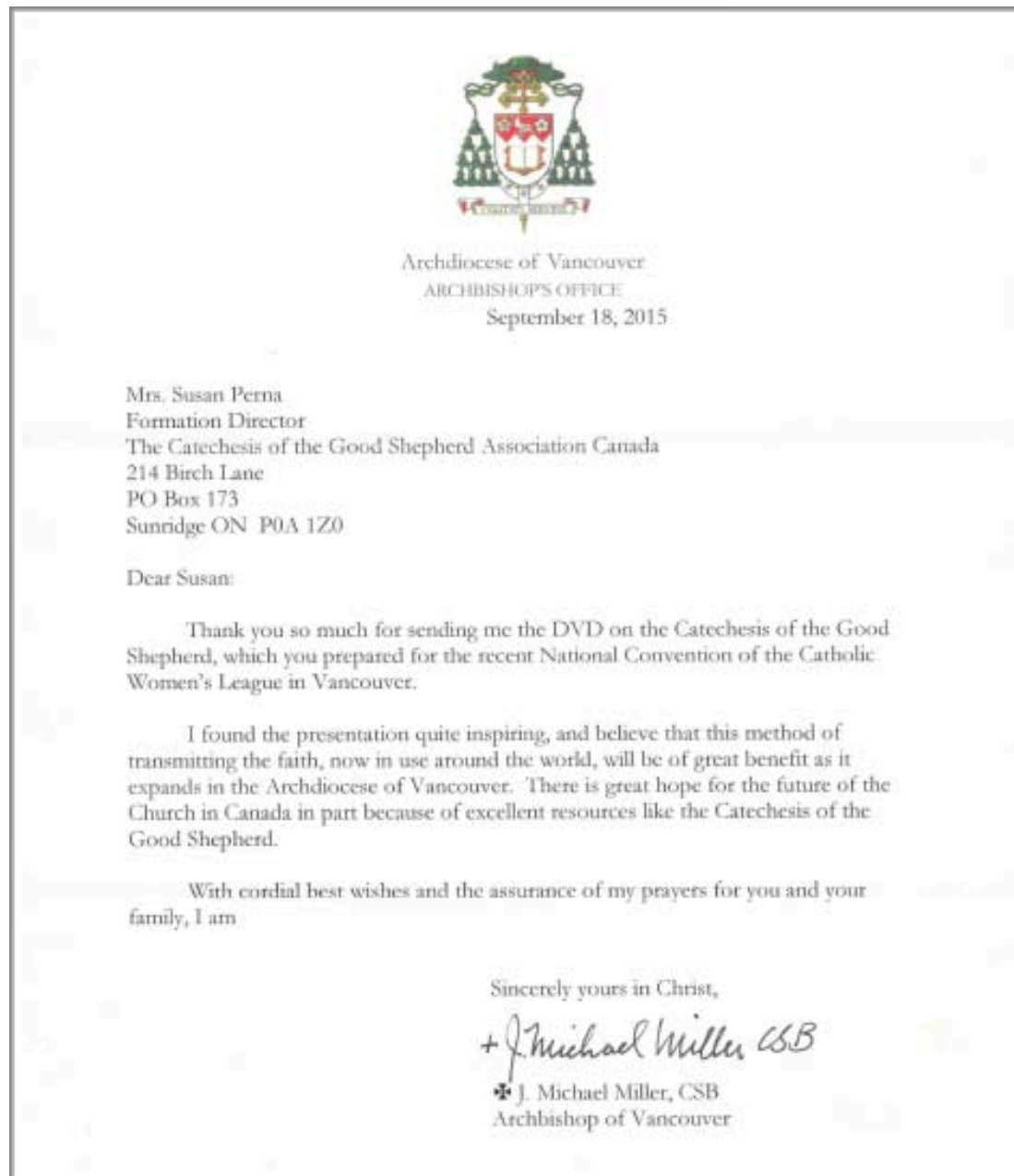
I firmly believe that CGS has the potential to transform the engagement of my parish. I believe the program can renew the face of our diocese, can alter the course of our nation, and beyond. But it begins with me. It begins with each of us. We must allow ourselves to be transformed by the Holy Spirit. And surely we know that the Holy Spirit is working through CGS!

Go get your Level 2 training! As C.S. Lewis describes in the *The Last Battle* go "higher up and further in." You won't be disappointed!

Meghann Baker  
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Parish  
Russell, ON



A letter from Archbishop Miller, reprinted with his permission:



Thanks to Joseph's Inspirational for supporting Catechesis of the Good Shepherd through direct donation to CGSAC and by providing essential resources for catechists.

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