30 years | CENTER for CHILDREN & THEOLOGY

2025 so far

In 2025, with your help we are:

- Continuing to offer the Center's CGS courses and continuing education for hundreds of catechists this year.
- Expanding our workshops on neurodiversity, baptism preparation, and assistant training to reach even wider community.
- Supporting new atria for new parents and toddlers and parents and infants.
- Providing resources to churches affected by the current shifts in our nation.
- Piloting a creation care curriculum for adolescents.
- Unveiling more of our family-focused resources including podcasts, videos, books, free resources, seasonal worship playlists, and a parent newsletter.
- Nurturing community atria projects around the country.
- Publishing a book about Gianna Gobbi.
- Celebrating Catherine at Weaving our Gifts

New Board Members

Craig Price, Treasurer, CFP, CTFA

- Destin, Florida
- Craig Price Wealth Advisor, Mesirow

Karen Broering

- Columbus, Ohio
- CGS - Levels 1-3, Catechist at St. Agatha
- Masters of Theology, Ohio Dominican University
- author, I am the Vine You are the Branches

Katy Beedle-Rice

- Boisie, Idaho
- CGS - Formation Leader - 1 & 2, Montessori 3-6
- Contributor to The Word
- MAPS class of 2019

New Hires & Shifting Roles

Anita recognized the stresses in the staff who were working at capacity and beyond. She brought in assistance from two seasoned catechists who focus on community interactions and communications.

She also strategically moved staff assignments to be able to manage the high needs that will occur during the last year of the large multi-year grant. With the help of the staff, she is ensuring the online workshop and course process helps everyone learn best; creating more pathways to effectively expand our communications with our various groups; building bridges with more denominations; creating strategic Montessori partnerships; and allowing people to be available to support the grant projects in this crucial final year.

The Newsletters - Allison Winter, Editor

CCTheo's Notes:
2024 subscribers grew - 10% and continued growth this year
Grace Notes for Families:
opening subscribers - 68 families in December
2025 (6 mo growth) - 800%, with much higher than average opens to further read and explore.

How the Newsletters and Social Media support people.

The newsletters are a key place for us to reach folks who are engaged with the uniqueness of the Center for Children and Theology. We can see breadcrumbs:

- People buy items from the store at higher rates when we mention them in the newsletter.
- People share with us how they appreciate the high quality thoughts we share:"Thank you for your essay about Pope Francis' seeking to be those others may overlook - just like the Good Shepherd."
- Folks share our resources, like ideas for ways to pray with chalk or bells.
- They share files like building the City of Jerusalem out of LEGOs or ideas for a Liturgy of the Light order for service to use in their atrium.

To see these breadcrumbs being used brings us such joy. Yes, we support the formation of catechists through multi-year courses, but also we support parents and catechists through resources for smaller moments along the journey.

Our newsletter's themes are echoed in our social media along with Pro Tip Tuesday and Theologian Thoughts and Moments with the Masters.

- Pro Tip Tuesdays are moments where resources and "atrium tricks" are offered to the wider community.
- Theologian (and Saint) Thoughts help us see the diversity and the rich theologies which abound in the abundance of the Kingdom of God.
- Moments with the Masters brings refreshment for catechists by uplifting the greats in our work through words and photos.

Through our expanded presence on Facebook, we have the ability to share the gift of the Center for Children and Theology with people far beyond our existing community.

Scan to support our work.

Support Center for Children and Theology

Use your phone's camera to scan the QR code below

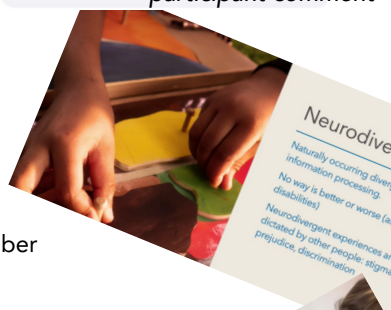
Or visit:
https://givebutter.com/center-for-children-and-theology

God's Unplanned Paths

As the new year began, we heard many stories of concern about mental health and trauma. We asked two counselors to volunteer with us. The first is a trauma therapist focused on people who experience long-term traumas. The second focuses on religious traumas in children.

We knew that the adults working with children had care needs, as well. So, we devised a Zoom event: Supporting Children Experiencing Traumas. It included guidance from a licensed therapist and space for participants to voice their own needs. We ended with a time to create prayer cards. 30 people registered. Over half asked to join a cohort to support each other.

> Frankly, I'm blown away by your ideas. Parish involvement of the kind you are speaking about is so surprising to me. I have never organized people in this way. The vulnerability you describe is so unusual to me.
>
> *-participant comment*



Exploring with Community 2025

Workshops and Collaborations

Baptism: January, October
Neurodiversity Overview: July, September, December
Autism in the Atrium: September
Dyslexia in the Atrium: November
Catechist Atrium Research Group: Monthly - completes October

Atrium Courses

CCTheo Parent-Toddler: (Greensburg, PA) August 4-8
CCTheo Parent-Toddler: (Chicago, IL) June 22-26
CCTheo Parent-Toddler: (Hybrid) July 22-26
CGS Level 1a: (Scranton, PA) June 8-13
Essentials Level 1: (Augusta, GA) weekly - completes June
CGS Level 1b: (Alexandria, VA) Saturdays - completes June
Essentials Level 1b: (Hybrid) weekly - completes in April
CGS Level 3b: (Washington, DC) weekends - completes December
CCTheo Atrium Assistants Courses: January, May, August, October