

Mystagogy Session

APPRENTICES IN FAITH: A Resource for the RCIA
The Solemnity of Pentecost • Year A • June 12, 2011

Catechist Preparation

Readings

Acts 2:1–11

Psalm 104:1, 24, 29–30, 31. 34

1 Corinthians 12:3b–7, 12–13

John 20:19–23

Liturgy of the Hours

Pray the Office of Readings on the Friday within the Octave of Easter, Second Reading (from the Jerusalem Catechesis): *The anointing with the Holy Spirit*.

Mystagogy Session Guide

(Approximately 60 minutes)

Have the space set with chairs, a candle and a Bible as your focal point. If needed, have nametags and some refreshments available.

Welcome

Greet people as they arrive. Take time to check-in with everyone to find out how they are doing.

Share

1. Lead the neophytes in a guided meditation using these or similar words:

Close your eyes and remember the night of your initiation. What do you see? Hear? Smell? How do you feel? Recall the darkened church, the fire and the lighting of the Paschal candle. Remember the procession and the singing of the Exsultet. Recall listening to the Scripture readings proclaimed.

Then remember when you were called to confess your faith in God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. You entered the waters of Baptism and then were clothed in white. By the anointing of Sacred Chrism, you were confirmed with gift of the Holy Spirit. You received Holy Communion for the first time. You became a new creation. When you are ready, come back to this time and place.

2. Invite some participants to share their thoughts with the large group. Refer to the Share section of the Participant Handout, as necessary.

Meditate

Proclaim the Gospel: John 20:19–23. Then refer to the Meditate section of the Participant Handout, and explore these points:

- ◆ Jesus greeted the disciples, “Peace be with you!” *Shalom* conveys all is in right relationship with God and one another. This is our mission as Christians to be in right relations with God.
- ◆ Just as Christ was sent by the Father to bring peace, Jesus also sends out the disciples to take his peace to the ends of the Earth.
- ◆ The Risen Lord breathed on them. The Holy Spirit will remain with the Church to guide and strengthen every member in her mission.

Deepen

Proclaim the First Reading: Acts 2:1–11. Discuss the Deepen section, emphasizing these points:

- ◆ Pentecost closes the formal time of Mystagogy. We continue to be witnesses for Christ, sent out to the world to make disciples of all nations.
- ◆ The Spirit continues to fill us with an urgency to proclaim the Good News of salvation. We have been gifted with the Holy Spirit to bring *shalom* to all peoples. We can begin with our families, parish, neighborhoods and our community.
- ◆ Because the Holy Spirit dwells within us, we carry the fragrance of God. Our souls are sealed and strengthened to boldly proclaim and carry on the mission of the Church, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Act

Read and discuss the Act and For Reflection sections of the Participant Handout. Encourage all present to continue their active participation in the Church.

Pray

Pray the prayer at the top of the Participant Handout.