

Mystagogy Session

APPRENTICES IN FAITH: A Resource for the RCIA
Fourth Sunday of Easter • Year B • April 21, 2024

Catechist Preparation

Readings

Acts 4:8-12

Psalm 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 29

1 John 3:1-2

John 10:11-18

Liturgy of the Hours

Read and pray the Second Reading, Liturgy of the Hours, Office of Readings for the Fourth Sunday of Easter.

Mystagogy Session Guide

(Approximately 60 minutes)

If possible, gather in the space surrounding the baptismal font with the Paschal candle lit and a white garment from the Easter Vigil. (If not, then prepare the space with chairs, a candle, a white robe from the Easter Vigil, and a bowl of water.)

If needed, have nametags. Have some refreshments available.

Welcome

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

Deepen

- At the baptismal font, invite the neophytes to remember the night of their Baptism:
 - The water
 - Their sponsors/godparents
 - The words the priest (deacon) used when baptizing
 - Their words that spoke their rejection of Satan and professed their belief in God

- After some time for quiet reflection, ask them to take holy water and pray the Sign of the Cross. Invite them to share some of their reflections with one other person. Then gather some responses to their sharing.

- Refer to the Deepen section of the participant session.

Meditate

- Proclaim the Gospel, John 10:11-18.
- Invite the neophytes to consider their new status as one of the flock of Jesus, their Shepherd.
- You are now a member of the Body of Christ, and Christ is the head. You belong to him.

What does it mean for you that you have been marked and claimed by Christ?

In what way do you hear the voice of the Shepherd?

How do you recognize him in the midst of all the other voices that call out to you?

Jesus is the gate for the sheep. In what ways do you experience Jesus as guide?

- Refer to the Meditate section of the participant session.

Share

Read and discuss the Share section of the participant page. Explore these points:

- Jesus knows each of us by name and has called to us to follow him. He allows us the freedom to respond in our own time and way.
- Jesus continuously invites each one of us into a deeper and deeper relationship with him and the Father. His prayer is that we will all be one as he and the Father are one.
- Our relationship with God in Christ is nurtured in and through the community gathered on Sunday to remember who we are, whose we are, and who we are called to be.
- The Church acts as our guide, pointing out the way of the Lord.

Do!

As members of the Body of Christ, we are to carry on the mission of Christ—to go out to the whole world and proclaim the Good News of Salvation. We do this through the way we live—in word and deed. Consider the past week. In what ways did your words and actions proclaim Christ? What do you want to continue with in the coming week? What do you want to change? After a few minutes, invite participants to share with another person.

Pray

Recite together or sing a familiar setting of Psalm 23.