

## MYSTAGOGY:

*Listening to Sacred Scripture*

APPRENTICES IN FAITH: A Resource for the RCIA

**Catechist Preparation:****Read:**

- *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* # 27 – 64
- Readings from the Easter Vigil
- Responsorial Psalms from the Easter Vigil

**Music Suggestions:**

- “The Earth is Full of the Goodness of the Lord,” O. Alstott, OCP Publications
- “Psalm 16: Keep me Safe, O God,” J. Foley, GIA Publications

**Pray**

One or two of the Collects from the Easter Vigil

**Prepare**

If possible, gather around the Paschal candle. (If not, then prepare the space with chairs, a Bible, a large white candle as well as small white tapers – one for everyone.) If needed, have nametags. Have some refreshments available.

**Caution:** If the group is larger than five or six, guide people to share in smaller groups whenever possible.

**Gather**

1. Greet people as they arrive. Take time for introductions and check in with everyone to find out how they are doing.
2. Be prepared to share with the group the name of the person who is the “keeper” of the family stories. Include an example of one of the ‘family’ stories.

## 3. Ask everyone present:

- *When the family gathers, who has the role of storyteller?*
- *What are one or two of the family’s favorite stories?*
- *How does your family hand on the stories from one generation to the next?*

Invite them to share in twos or threes.

Gather some comments.

**Deepen**

1. Make a list of the group’s favorite Scripture stories.
2. Invite one or two people to share their favorite story and why it is their favorite.
3. Explore:
  - *What is the message that they hear in the Scripture story?*
  - *What insight does the Scripture story shed on their life experiences?*
4. Read and discuss the *Probe the Mystery* section of the participant page.

**Meditate**

1. Refer to the *Savor the Sweetness of Salvation* section of the participant page.
2. Explore with these points:
  - Sacred Scripture (the Bible) is the story of Salvation. It proclaims God’s faithfulness to the Covenant established with Abraham from then to the present time.

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- God does not give up on us even when we veer from the Covenant. In the Scripture stories, we hear of God's great love for us and His desire for us to be with Him in Heaven.
  - Every Sunday, in the Liturgy of the Word, passages from the Bible are proclaimed – God speaks to us in the Word proclaimed.
  - Sacred Scripture gives us hope, insight and guidance as we continue on our journey of faith.
3. Proclaim the Gospel from the past Sunday's Liturgy of the Word.

**Discuss**

- *What they heard as the message of the Gospel passage*
- *Who would be comforted by the message and why?*
- *Who would be challenged by the message and why?*
- *What would it cost to put the message into practice? Are they willing to pay the price?*

Summarize the discussion.

**Do**

Give everyone a sheet of paper with a large circle marked with the 12 months of the year. Ask them to indicate on it the significant family events. Encourage them to take this home and discuss these or other significant family events with the whole family during a family meal. Refer to the *Inspire Others* section of the participant handout.

**Pray**

Use the Collect from the past Sunday or the prayer found on the participant handout.

