

Mystagogy Session

APPRENTICES IN FAITH: A Resource for the OCIA
Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord • Year A, B, C

Catechist Preparation

Readings

Acts 10:34a, 37-43

Psalm 118:1-2, 16ab-17, 22-23

Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8

John 20:1-9 or Luke 24:1-12

Liturgy of the Hours

Read and pray Romans 6:3-11, the third reading from the Liturgy of the Hours, Office of Readings for Easter Sunday.

Mystagogy Session Guide

(Approximately 60 minutes)

Set the space with chairs and create a focal point with a candle, a bowl of water, and a Bible. Provide name tags and have some refreshments available.

Welcome

Greet the participants as they arrive and allow time for informal conversation.

Deepen

1. Invite the neophytes to reflect back on their experiences of the whole initiation process using these or similar questions:

What prompted you to begin this journey? As you reflect on that prompting, do you see how God was working in your life to bring you to this time and place?

Who have been some of the people that have supported you on your journey of faith? In what ways did you experience their support?

2. After some time for quiet reflection, invite the participants to share their reflections with one other person. Then encourage several volunteers to share their thoughts with the large group.
3. Summarize or provide the group with time to read **Deepen** on the participant handout.

Meditate

1. Invite the neophytes to reflect back on their Baptism using these or similar questions:

How did you feel while preparing to come to the Easter Vigil? Were you excited? Nervous? Name and describe your feelings.

What did you observe when you arrived at church for the Easter Vigil? What did you sense about the liturgy that was about to begin?

As the water was poured and you heard the words, "I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit," what were you thinking and feeling?

2. Invite the participants to share their thoughts in small groups before sharing them with the larger group.
3. Summarize **Meditate** on the participant handout.

Share

Read and discuss **Share** on the participant handout. Then explore the following points with the participants.

- We become a new creation in Baptism. We die to the old self to be raised anew in Christ Jesus.
- Those who have celebrated the Sacraments of Christian Initiation have been marked and claimed in Christ, by Christ, and for Christ's mission.
- Neophytes have the light of Christ burning brightly within them.
- By celebrating the Sacraments of Christian Initiation, one experiences and is made a sharer in the Paschal Mystery.

Act

Explain to the neophytes that they are disciples of Jesus Christ sent to proclaim the Good News. Encourage them to consider the coming days and how they will be signs of Good News to all they meet.

Pray

Use the prayer from the participant handout as the closing prayer.