

Mystagogy Session

APPRENTICES IN FAITH: A Resource for the OCIA
Fourth Sunday of Easter • Year C • May 11, 2025

Catechist Preparation

Readings

Acts 13:14, 43-52
Psalm 100:1-2, 3, 5
Revelation 7:9, 14b-17
John 10:27-30

Liturgy of the Hours

Read and pray “Christ the Good Shepherd,” the Second Reading from the 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 with a white garment from the Easter Vigil. If this is not possible, prepare the space with chairs, a candle, a white robe from the Easter Vigil, and a bowl of water. Provide name tags and have some refreshments available.

Welcome

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

Deepen

1. At the baptismal font, invite the neophytes to remember the night of their Baptism. After some time for quiet reflection, ask them to take holy water and make the Sign of the Cross. Then invite them to share their reflections with another person.
2. Summarize or provide the group with time to read **Deepen** on the participant handout.

Meditate

1. Proclaim the Gospel (John 10:27-30), then invite the neophytes to consider their new status as one of the flock with Jesus as their shepherd by asking the following questions:

You are now a member of the Body of Christ with Christ as the Head. We belong to Christ. 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?

2. Refer to the **Meditate** section of the participant handout. Summarize or ask the participants to read this section quietly to themselves.

Share

Read and discuss the **Share** section of the participant handout. Then explore the following points with the participants:

- 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 way and time.
- Jesus continuously invites each one of us into a 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 Christ and with one another 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.

Act

Remind the neophytes that, as members of the Body of Christ, we are called to carry on the mission of Christ—to go out to the whole world and proclaim the Good News of Salvation. We do this primarily through the way we live. Invite the participants to consider the past week and reflect on the ways their words and actions proclaimed Christ. Ask them to think about what they want to continue doing and what they might want to change in the coming week.

Pray

Pray Psalm 23 or sing one of the hymns suggested for today's session.