

Mystagogy Session

APPRENTICES IN FAITH: A Resource for the OCIA
Sixth Sunday of Easter • Year C • May 25, 2025

Catechist Preparation

Readings

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29
Psalm 67:2-3, 5-6, 8
Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23
John 14:23-29

Liturgy of the Hours

Read and pray “The Word of Life and the Light of God,” the First Reading from the Liturgy of the Hours, Office of Readings for the sixth Sunday of Easter.

Mystagogy Session Guide

(Approximately 60 minutes)

Set the space with chairs and create a focal point with a candle, a chalice, a paten with an unconsecrated host, 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 consider how far they have come on their faith journey. Ask them to think about questions they had during the period of inquiry and the catechumenate. As they learned the answers to those questions, what, if anything, surprised, affirmed, consoled, or challenged them? As they think about those same questions today, in what way has their own understanding of the responses deepened?
2. After some time for quiet reflection, invite the participants to share their reflections with another person. Then encourage volunteers to share their thoughts with the large group. After they have shared, summarize the **Deepen** section of the participant handout. Highlight the fact that conversion is a lifelong process.

Meditate

1. Proclaim the First Reading (Acts 15:1-2, 22-29), highlighting the following points for the neophytes:
 - Tension between the Jews and the Gentiles is presented in this reading.
 - It is important to remember Christ’s Death and Resurrection and understand that his sacrifice was for the redemption of peoples of every time and place.
 - The early Church evolved in its understanding of Christ’s message.
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 highlight for the participants the point that each Sunday, we gather at two tables: the table of the Word and the table of the Eucharist. Both are a means to deepen our relationship with God and the Church and strengthen our commitment to be disciples.

Act

1. Lead the neophytes in a review of the structure and format of the Mass. Pay particular attention to the dismissal at the end of Mass. This sends us forth to announce the Good News to all we meet. It teaches that we are to live what we have prayed together. We are to be Christ in our homes, our communities, our workplaces, and wherever we are each and every day.
2. Read and discuss the **Act** and **For Reflection** sections of the participant handout. Invite the neophytes to think of one concrete thing they will do this week as a result of participating at the table of the Word and the table of the Eucharist.

Pray

Use one of the suggested hymns for today’s session as a prayer of quiet reflection.