

# Mystagogy Session

APPRENTICES IN FAITH: A Resource for the OCIA  
Pentecost Sunday • Year C • June 8, 2025

## Catechist Preparation

### Readings

Acts 2:1-11

Psalm 104:1ab, 24ac, 29bc-30, 31, 34

1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Romans 8:8-17

John 20:19-23 or 14:15-16, 23b-26

### Liturgy of the Hours

Read and pray “The Sending of the Holy Spirit,” the Second Reading from the Liturgy of the Hours, Office of Readings for Pentecost.

## 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. Lead the neophytes in a guided meditation using these or similar words, pausing throughout to allow time for reflection: *Take a few deep breaths. Close your eyes and remember the night of your initiation. What do you see? What do you hear? What do you smell? How do you feel? Remember the events of the evening—your arrival at the darkened church; the fire; the lighting of the Paschal candle; the procession of light; the singing of the Exsultet; listening to the Scripture readings proclaim the story of our Salvation. You then expressed your belief in God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. You entered the waters of Baptism; you were clothed in white; you received the light of Christ; you were confirmed with the gift of the Holy Spirit; you received Communion for the first time. You were made a new creation; you received a new name—Christian. When you are ready, come back to this time and place.*
2. After some time for quiet reflection, invite the participants to share some of their thoughts with another person. Then invite several volunteers to share with the large group.

3. Provide some brief time for the participants to read **Deepen** on the participant handout.

### Meditate

1. Proclaim the Gospel (John 20:19-23), then explore the following points with the neophytes:
  - Jesus greets the disciples with the words: “Peace be with you!”
  - *Shalom* conveys all is in right relationship. Harmony abounds—harmony with God; harmony with all peoples, cultures, and families; harmony with all creation.
  - Just as Christ was sent by the Father to bring peace, so too does Jesus send out the disciples to take this peace—this shalom—to the ends of the earth.
  - The gift of the Holy Spirit will remain until the end of the world to guide and strengthen Jesus’ disciples in their mission.
2. Refer to the **Meditate** section of the participant handout. Summarize or ask the participants to read this section quietly to themselves.

### Share

Proclaim the First Reading (Acts 2:1-11), then read and discuss the Share section of the participant handout. Emphasize the following points:

- Pentecost closes the Easter season and the formal time of Mystagogy. We continue to be the witnesses of Christ sent out to the world just as the disciples spoke out on that first Pentecost.
- The Spirit rushed upon the disciples on that first Pentecost and filled them with an urgency to proclaim the Good News of Salvation. We too have been gifted with the Spirit to take the message to all—to bring *shalom* to all people.
- We are coworkers in the vineyard, gifted with the Spirit to strengthen us in our commitment to carry on the mission of Christ.

### Act

Read and discuss the **Act** and **For Reflection** sections of the participant handout. Determine how you might spend this day in celebration.

### Pray

Use the prayer from the participant handout or a song from the liturgy of Pentecost.