

Mystagogy Session

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

*Loving God, your Son, Jesus Christ, gave himself to us,
and through the Holy Spirit you gather into one body
all who share in the one bread and the one cup of the Eucharist.
Make us truly one; a living sacrifice of praise. Amen.*

Sunday Word

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

Reflection

Deepen

You have come through the waters of the font, dying with Christ to rise with him to newness of life. Anointed with fragrant Chrism and imprinted with a spiritual seal, you approach the Eucharistic table for the first time, partaking of the one bread and the one cup, the precious Body and Blood of Christ. Life and resurrection are yours in the Risen Lord.

Meditate

Upon hearing from Mary of Magdala, Peter and the other disciple run to the tomb of Jesus. Arriving, they discover that the body is not there and that the burial cloths and head covering are rolled up and set aside. No tomb robber would be so careful as to fold up the cloths.

From the Paschal Mystery proceeds our redemption. And from our redemption proceeds our sanctification. One mystery gloriously unfolds into another. In Christ, God takes upon himself our human condition, pays the price for our sinfulness, and rises that we might rise with him.

Share

You have undergone a lengthy journey. It has accelerated over the past weeks of the Lenten season and through Holy Week, culminating with your

initiation into the Church at the Easter Vigil. Now you pause and contemplate how far you have come in Christ. Sharing in the Eucharist, you are not only intimately joined to the God who saves us, you are joined to a great company of saints, martyrs, and ordinary people who are members of the Church, one holy communion made possible by the Paschal Mystery of Christ.

Like Peter and the other disciple, you have hastened to the mystery. We are all drawn into the mystery of Christ's dying and rising. This is what Christians have been doing from that first Easter morning until today.

For Reflection . . .

As you survey how far you have come and where you are now in the journey of faith compared to the starting point, how would you describe the change in your relationship with God?

Act

Rejoice, child of God! You are remade. It may take a long time to appreciate this gift of renewal and re-creation. Like any precious gift or deeply moving experience, time is needed to savor its substance and understand its effect.

Nevertheless, the waters of the font, the anointing with Chrism, and the partaking of the sacred meal of the Lord have changed you, a change toward which you progressed from the moment you entered the catechumenate.

For Reflection . . .

What will you do to show others that you are, indeed, a new creation?