

Young Apprentices

A RESOURCE FOR THE OCIA

MYSTAGOGY: REMEMBERING

Pentecost Sunday • Year C • June 8, 2025

Introduction

A period of post-baptismal catechesis, or mystagogy, should be provided to assist the young neophytes and their companions who have completed their Christian initiation (see OCIA 330). Mystagogy is the final period of post-baptismal catechesis intended to help the neophytes and the Christian community grow in their understanding of the Paschal Mystery through continuing to reflect on God's Word, by taking their place in the assembly for the celebration of the Eucharist, and by continuing to answer Christ's call to love others through works of charity (see OCIA 244).

This session is offered to help neophytes and their companions continue to reflect on their experience of now being fully initiated members of the Church.

Supplies

If possible, gather in the worship space near the Paschal candle and display the Sacred Chrism. If this is not possible, set the gathering space with chairs in a circle around a prayer table covered in a red cloth and containing a large white candle, a Bible, and Sacred Chrism. You will also need copies of the participant handout and, if you choose, costumes or props for the retelling of the First Reading (see **Deepen** #2, below).

Word of God

Acts 2:1-11

Psalms 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34

Romans 8:8-17

John 14:15-16, 23b-26

Gather

1. Greet the children and their families as they arrive.
2. Take time for introductions and check in with everyone to find out how they are doing.
3. As a gathering prayer, sing together "Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit" and proclaim the First Reading.

Deepen

1. If time allows, invite volunteers to wear costumes or use the props you have provided as you proclaim again the First Reading (Acts 2:1-11).
2. Invite volunteers to share their favorite word, image, or phrase from the First Reading and to tell why it is their favorite.
3. Read the **Deepen** section of the participant handout.
4. Lead a discussion, highlighting the following points:
 - Pentecost Sunday is the last day of the Easter season.
 - On the first Pentecost, the Holy Spirit rushed upon the disciples and filled them with an urgency to proclaim the Good News of Salvation.
 - We too have been gifted with the Holy Spirit, and we too are called to share the Good News of Jesus with all.

Meditate

1. Proclaim the Gospel, John 14:15-16, 23b-26.
2. Invite the group to identify three important messages contained in this reading. If necessary, proclaim the reading again. (*Responses will vary, but may include that Jesus said that those who love him keep his Commandments; those who love Jesus will keep his word; the Father will send another Advocate to be with Jesus' disciples always; and the Advocate will teach Jesus' disciples everything and remind Jesus' disciples of all he told them.*)
3. Read and discuss the **Meditate** section of the participant handout.

Share

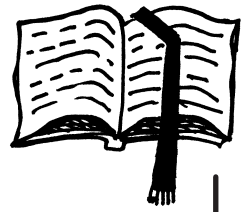
1. Lead the children in a guided meditation, as outlined on the third page of this handout.
2. After sharing in the guided meditation, invite volunteers to share their favorite memories of the Easter Vigil that came to mind.
3. Refer to the **Share** section of the participant handout.

Do

Read and discuss the **Do** section of the participant handout.

Pray

Conclude by again singing together “Ev’ry Time I Feel the Spirit.”



REMEMBERING: A GUIDED MEDITATION

*Lead all gathered in a guided meditation using these or similar words.
Pause to allow for quiet reflection throughout the meditation.*

Close your eyes and quiet yourselves.

Remember the Easter Vigil, the night of your initiation.

What do you remember seeing?

What do you remember hearing?

What did you smell?

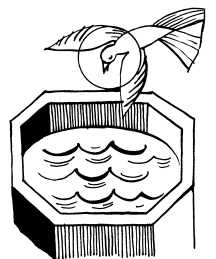
How did you feel?

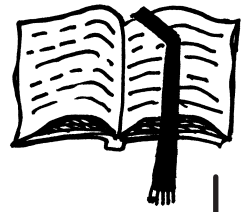
Remember your arrival at the church.
It was in darkness.

Remember gathering around the fire
and the lighting of the Paschal candle.

What did you see? What did you feel?

Remember the singing of the Exsultet
and the reading of many Scripture stories
that told the story of our Salvation.





Do you remember any of the stories told that night,
or any of the psalms we sang between the stories?

Did you have a favorite?

What did it feel like to stand before those present
and proclaim your faith in God the Father,
God the Son,
and God the Holy Spirit?

Remember entering the waters of Baptism.
What did it feel like to be baptized?
How did it feel to put on the white garment?

You received the gift of the Holy Spirit in Confirmation.
Do you remember the sweet smell of the Sacred Chrism?

What did it feel like to take your part in the Communion procession?
Who processed with you?

What were you thinking as you received the Body and Blood of Christ
for the first time?

You are a new creation.
You are a daughter, a son of God.
You have a new name—Christian.

When you have remembered,
and when you are ready,
open your eyes.

