

Young Apprentices

A RESOURCE FOR THE OCIA

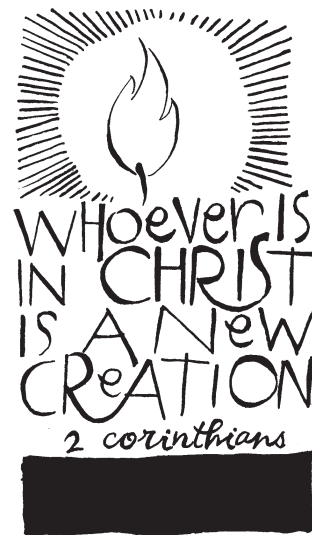
CATECHUMENATE SESSION: CONVERSION

Fourth Sunday of Lent • Year C • March 30, 2025

Loving God, as the forty days
of Lent continue,
help me to grow as your disciple.

Help me keep my Lenten promise
to spend more time
with you in prayer,
to do acts of love and kindness,
and to fast from things I like
so that I can give money and time
to those in need.

Amen.



Sunday Word

Joshua 5:9a, 10-12

Psalms 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

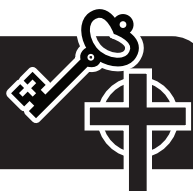
The above readings are available at
usccb.org/bible/readings.

To Help You Remember



1. The Israelites entered the Promised Land, and celebrated the Passover. On the day after the Passover, the manna ceased and they ate "of the produce of the land."
2. Those who are in Christ are new creations. The old things pass away, and new things come. We are given the ministry of reconciliation.
3. The parable of the Lost (Prodigal) Son reminds us that the Father is always waiting to forgive us and to show his deep love for us.

Key Teachings and Faith Word



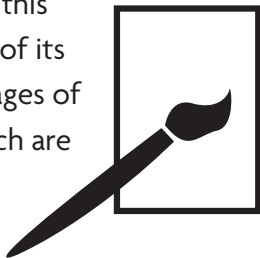
Conversion has many meanings. Among them is “to make a change.” The OCIA journey has all along invited us to “make a change” from old ways, old habits, and old behaviors to new ways, new habits, and new behaviors. Most importantly, this journey has invited us to a newfound or renewed faith in Christ and the desire to live out that faith as members of the Catholic Church.

Conversion is a lifelong process of turning from sinful ways to holy ways. Prayer, the Word of God, the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes, the sacraments, and the teachings of the Church help us to grow strong in our commitment to avoid all that leads us to sin and to live as followers of Jesus.

Conversion involves the head (putting on the mind of Christ), the heart (loving as Christ loves), and the feet (living as Christ lived).

The Parable in Art

One of the most famous paintings of the Prodigal Son is Rembrandt’s *Return of the Prodigal Son*. With your family, search the internet to find an image of this painting and an explanation of its meaning. Look for other images of this parable and discuss which are your favorites and why.



With My Family



We Listen

Take another look at the Gospel and make a list of all the things the younger son did. Despite all these things, when the younger son went back home, his father ran to him, embraced him, and kissed him. So it is with God. Imagine God running to you, hugging you, and kissing you!

We Believe

A conversion is the act of accepting God’s grace and turning away from sin. Conversion is at the heart of Lent. How is today’s Gospel story of the Lost Son a story of conversion? Where do you need to turn away from sin and turn back to God? What in you will change this Lenten season?

We Live As Disciples

Through Baptism the Holy Spirit makes us like Christ and gives us the ministry of reconciliation. *Reconciliation* means “to make friends again.” Invite each family member to name one way he or she will share the message of reconciliation with another person this week.

We Pray

With your family, use the parable of the Lost Son as the basis for prayer this week. One day, invite everyone to imagine they are the younger son and quietly talk to God from that point of view. The next day, invite everyone to imagine they are the father and talk to God from that point of view. Another day, do the same from the point of view of the older son. Invite everyone to listen to what God says in reply.