

Mystagogy Session

APPRENTICES IN FAITH: A Resource for the RCIA
Sixth Sunday of Easter • Year B • May 10, 2015

Catechist Preparation

Readings

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48
Psalm 98:1, 2-3, 3-4
1 John 4:7-10
John 15:9-17

Liturgy of the Hours

Read and reflect on the Second Reading from the Office of Readings, Sixth Sunday of Easter (from the commentary on the second letter to the Corinthians by Saint Cyril of Alexandria, bishop).

Mystagogy Session Guide

(Approximately 60 minutes)

Set the space with chairs in a circle and a focal point of a prayer table with a candle, a vessel containing Sacred Chrism, and a Bible.

If needed, provide nametags. Have some refreshments available for the group.

Welcome

Greet people as they arrive. Take time for introductions and check in with everyone to find out how they are doing.

Deepen

1. Invite the neophytes to consider how far they have come on their journey called the RCIA process. Ask them to quietly think about questions they had during the periods of inquiry and the catechumenate and - as they heard the answers - what, if anything, surprised, affirmed, consoled, or challenged them. As they recall those same questions today, how has their own understanding of the responses deepened?
2. After some time for quiet reflection, invite them to share some of their thoughts first with one other person. Then gather some of the fruit of their sharing.

3. Refer to *Deepen* section of the participant session.

Meditate

1. Discuss these points:
 - The Mass is divided into two parts: The Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist.
 - Readings from the Bible are proclaimed every week. These readings and the homily provide guidance for all present. During the Easter season, these readings are significant for those who are newly baptized.
 - The community warmly welcomes new members and continues to offer support and example of what it means to be a fully initiated Catholic.
2. Refer to the *Meditate* section of the participant handout.

Share

1. Proclaim the First Reading: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48.
2. Explore with the neophytes:
 - Their experience of being confirmed
 - The laying on of hands
 - The anointing with the Sacred Chrism
 - The sign of peace
 - Their understanding of the coming of the Holy Spirit
 - The role of the Holy Spirit in the Church and in our lives
3. Read and discuss the *Share* section of the participant page.

Do!

1. Read and discuss the ***Do!*** and ***For Reflection*** sections of the participants' page. Encourage all to reflect on the many ways they do the Corporal Works of Mercy in the home, the workplace, and within the community. Use the following list as a guide for discussion.

- Feed the hungry.
- Give drink to the thirsty.
- Clothe the naked.
- Shelter the homeless.
- Visit the sick.
- Ransom the captive.
- Bury the dead.

Pray

Close by singing an Easter hymn or We Are Called (D. Haas/GIA Publications).