



# RCIA

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## MYSTAGOGY

**9-12**  
YEARS



# CONTINUING JOURNEY

## Aim

To share the experience of the Sacraments of Initiation and to look at being peacemakers. It is a time to deepen their understanding of God's word, the sacraments and what it means to their lives.

## Information for Catechist

The word *Mystagogy* means mystery in Greek. The fourth period of RCIA is the time when the newly baptised (neophytes) begin their lifelong commitment to living a Christian life. It marks a shift from learning about faith to living faith in everyday life and a shift from looking within to looking outside, to the community.

This is a time for the community to help “strengthen the neophytes together to grow in deepening their grasp of the Paschal mystery and in making it part of their lives through meditation on the Gospel, sharing in the Eucharist, and doing works of charity.” RCIA 234

Catechumens are now referred to as Neophytes.

The Mystagogy period is important for the young neophyte and their companion to complete as it allows them to unpack the mystery of what they experienced in the Sacraments of Initiation. It is a time for the community and the neophytes to deepen their understanding of the faith, to participate in the Eucharist and to live their mission.

This period includes contemplation of the scriptures, sharing the Eucharist through Sunday Mass and involvement in the parish community and ministry of the Church.

## Preparation for the Catechist

Spend time in prayer for the child. Consider your experiences of living your Christian faith. Be willing to share these with the child.



## Exploring

How did you feel after receiving the Sacraments of Initiation?

Think about the night that you received the Sacraments.

What did you smell?

What did you hear?

What did you see?

What did you taste?

How did you feel?

Think about the symbols that were used.

How did they speak to you?

If the Sacraments were at the Easter Vigil, what meaning did the fire/the darkness have for you?

What meaning did the Paschal Candle have for you?

What stories from the readings spoke to you?

What was it like to go into the waters or to feel the waters of Baptism poured over you?

What did the Oil feel like?

## Scripture

Listen to the following reading from John, a story of what happened after Jesus' resurrection.

From the Gospel of John.  
***Glory to you, O Lord***

**John 20:19-21**  
Jesus Appears to His Disciples

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

The Gospel of the Lord  
***Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ***

Following a couple of minutes of silence to reflect on the scripture, invite the children to share a word or two from the passage that was particularly meaningful for them.

What is one important message for you in this scripture passage?

How can you respond to this scripture passage in the coming week?

How do you think the disciples were feeling when Jesus appeared to them after rising from the dead?

## Activity

Jesus tells the disciples “Peace be with you” more than once.

Why do you think Jesus said this and what does it mean for us?

How can you bring peace to people around you?

Create a list of Peace Actions.

What actions can you take to be a peacemaker?



## Prayer



St Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy.

O, Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled  
as to console;  
to be understood as to understand;  
to be loved as to love;  
for it is in giving that we receive;  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;  
it is in dying that we are born again to eternal life.