

Young Apprentices

A RESOURCE FOR THE RCIA

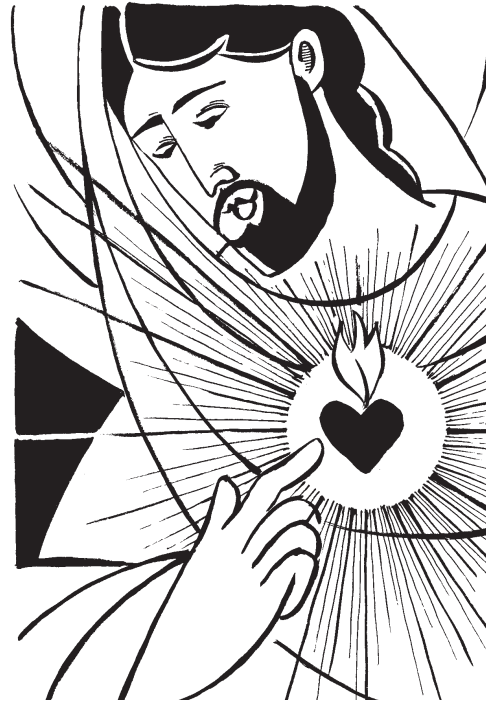
CATECHUMENATE SESSION: THE APOSTOLATE

Sixth Sunday of Easter • Year B • May 5, 2024

Loving God,
you called the Apostles
to share in Christ's mission of
telling all people of
God's love for us.

Help us to take our part
in that mission
by sharing your love
at home, at school,
in our neighborhood,
and in our world.

Amen.



Sunday Word

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48

Psalms 98:1, 2-3, 3-4

1 John 4:7-10

John 15:9-17

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

To Help You Remember



1. Peter visited the house of Cornelius and preached of God's love for all. The Holy Spirit fell upon all who listened to Peter's words.
2. God is love. God showed his great love for us by sending his Son to die for our sins.
3. We remain in Christ's love by keeping the Commandments and by doing what Christ commanded us to do, especially loving one another.

Key Teachings



Formed by Love

As our Creator, God formed us in love. As our Redeemer, God saves us from sin and death because he loves us. As our Sanctifier, God places his holiness in our hearts that we might love one another as he loves us.

Sent Forth by Love

The original Apostles received a special calling from Christ to witness to the Good News. God's love sent them forth! Every Christian has a vocation, or calling, to be a contemporary apostle. We work under the guidance of the Church to promote the apostolate on earth.

Faith Words



Apostles

The Apostles were the first twelve leaders of the Church. Jesus chose them to baptize and teach in his name.



vocation

A vocation is a special call from God to live a life of holiness in a particular way.

Apostolic

One of the four Marks of the Church is **apostolic**. The pope and other bishops share in the responsibility Jesus gave to the first Apostles to teach in his name and make all people his disciples. We live this Mark of the Church by following the teachings of our bishops and the pope.

With My Family



We Listen

God chose you. Jesus tells us that in the Gospel today. And God chose Cornelius, too. In the First Reading, we hear how Cornelius was filled with the Holy Spirit and was baptized. Those who are chosen have a responsibility to share God's love with others. Jesus' command is clear: "Love one another."

We Believe

God is love. When love is present, there God is. We know God by knowing love. The love of God compels us to go forth and tell others about God's love.

We Live As Disciples

Those who are baptized share in the work of the Apostles. Name the Twelve Apostles. (Hint: See Matthew 10:2.) Then do an "apostolic work." Do a good deed for your neighbor, your parents, your brothers and sisters, or your friends. Use the Corporal Works of Mercy handout to help you think of even more ways to do apostolic works!

We Pray

Sit quietly, close your eyes, and feel the love of God deep within your heart. Think about the people you love. Think about those people who love you. Say their names in the quiet of your heart. Praise God for his gift of love.

With My Family: The Corporal Works of Mercy



You have seen this handout a couple of times this year. In today's session, we are reminded of our apostolic call—our call to give witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ. The Corporal Works of Mercy are very practical ways we can share the Good News with our neighbors, family members, friends, and those in need. Review the list again and share in Christ's mission by doing Works of Mercy in the days to come.

Feed people who are hungry.

- Call the parish office and ask whether your family could take a meal to a homebound parishioner.
- Go grocery shopping for canned goods and take them to your local food pantry.
- Visit your local farmers' market and ask one of the vendors what they do with their food that is left over.
- Call your local soup kitchen and ask whether your family could
 - Help serve
 - Make sandwiches or desserts for a meal
 - Help set up or clean up
 - Donate milk or fresh produce for a meal
 - Make place mats for the patrons

Clothe people who need clothes.

- Volunteer at your local clothes closet.
- Donate your clothes and shoes to your local clothes closet.
- Schools often need clothes and shoes for emergency situations. Contact a local school nurse or health assistant and offer to donate what is needed.

Give drink to the thirsty.

- Set up a free lemonade stand in your neighborhood. Give away lemonade, smiles, and the love of Jesus!
- Take a cup of coffee or lemonade to your pastor, coach, youth minister, crossing guard, or someone else who may be thirsty.
- Take a bottle (or a case) of juice, protein drink, or another healthy drink to your local food pantry.

Visit people who are in prison.

- Call the parish office and find out whether there is a prison ministry in your parish. Ask whether you could make a greeting card for a person in prison or for the person's family.
- Contact your local juvenile detention center and ask whether you could donate books, games, toiletries, or other items.
- Pray for an end to the death penalty.

Shelter those who are homeless.

- Donate new sheets, blankets, or pillows to a local shelter.
- Support a housing ministry. Visit the ministry's website to find out the needs and the opportunities in your area.

Visit people who are sick.

- Call the parish office and ask whether you could send a greeting card to someone in the parish who is sick or homebound.
- Call a local senior citizen center or nursing home to ask whether you could visit with residents who might be lonely. You could visit in the community room and play a game of cards.
- Make a prayer blanket for someone who is sick. Or donate the prayer blanket to a hospital.

Bury people who have died.

- Find out whether your parish hosts funeral luncheons. Ask whether you can donate a food item.
- Visit the cemetery to pray for someone you know or for a stranger. Bring a flower to leave at the grave.
- Send a card to a widow or widower. Better yet, ask about making a visit.

Our Family's Ideas

