

MYSTAGOGY

Dismissal into the World

APPRENTICES IN FAITH: A Resource for the OCIA

Catechist Preparation**Read**

- Matthew 28:18-20
- U.S. bishops' document on evangelization: *Go and Make Disciples*
- Pope Paul VI: *Evangelization in the Modern World*

Music Suggestions

- "Go Make a Difference," S. Angrisano and T. Tomaszek, OCP Publications
- "The Summons," Iona Community, GIA Publications

Pray

Pray from the Bible Ruth 1:16-17.

Prepare

Prepare the space with chairs, a Bible, and a large, white candle. If needed, have name tags. Have some refreshments available.

If the group is larger than five or six, guide people to share in smaller groups whenever possible.

Gather

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

2. Lead them in a guided reflection using these or similar words:

I invite you to close your eyes and take a few deep breaths. Think back to the beginning of your journey to the Catholic faith.

What prompted you to begin the OCIA process?

Who helped you to come to the parish?

What were your first impressions of the early sessions?

How did you feel at the rituals marking your journey to the fullness of the sacraments?

What were your questions along the way?

In what way(s) has your relationship with God in Christ deepened?

In what way(s) do you continue to grow in your understanding of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?

Take some time to think about your feelings, your thoughts, and the many affirmations and learnings of your journey to this time and place.

3. After several minutes of quiet reflection, invite them to share with one other person some of the key moments of their journeys.
4. Gather some feedback from their sharing.

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Deepen

Read and discuss the ***Probe the Mystery*** section of the participant page.

With the whole group, discuss the question:

In what way(s) do you continue to grow in your understanding of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?

Meditate

1. Refer to the ***Savor the Sweetness of Salvation*** section of the participant page.

2. Explore with these points:

- One of the words for liturgy, *Mass*, comes from the Latin, *Ite, missa est*; “Go, it is sent.” At the end of Mass, the deacon tells the assembly that the Mass is ended. He sends us forth in peace to glorify the Lord by our lives.
- All present at Mass are sent to go make a difference in the world. We are sent to be what we have just heard—the Word of God—and what we have just eaten—the Body and Blood of Christ. We are sent out to be Christ, to be Good News for the world.
- We are sent to bring healing to the sick, food to the poor, freedom to captives, sight to the blind . . .
- The Mass (Liturgy, Eucharist) is to be a life-changing encounter for us each and every time we celebrate it.

Do

The primary mission of the Church is to evangelize—that is, to take the Good News of Jesus Christ to the world that is in need of hearing the Good News.

1. Refer to the ***Inspire Others*** section of the participant handout.
2. Brainstorm the many ways to take the Good News into our homes, our communities, our workplaces, wherever we go during that week. Our lives are to be signs of Good News!
3. Invite everyone to choose one way they will strive to be the Good News for others in the coming week.

Pray

Sing or listen to a recording of a hymn about discipleship, such as “The Summons” or “Go Make a Difference.”

