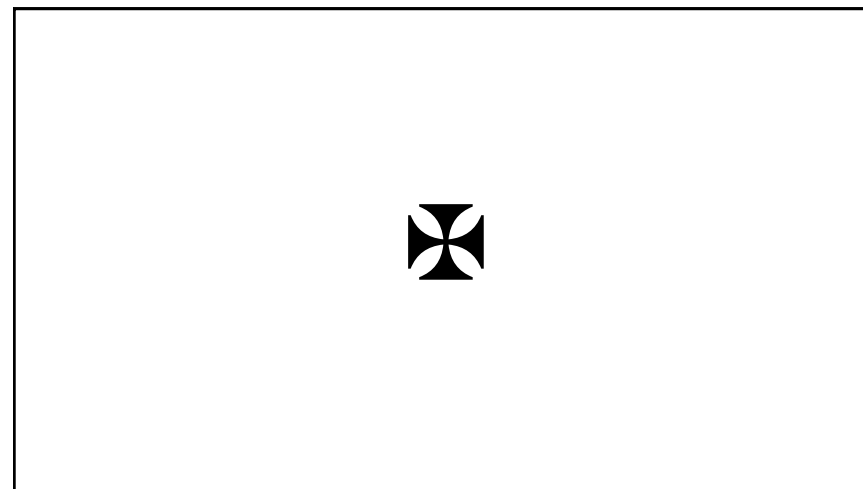




1



2

Thus says the Lord: Ezekiel 36:24-28

I will take you away from among the nations,  
gather you from all the foreign lands,  
and bring you back to your own land.

I will sprinkle clean water upon you  
to cleanse you from all your impurities,  
and from all your idols I will cleanse you.

I will give you a new heart and place a new spirit within you,  
taking from your bodies your stony hearts and giving you natural hearts.

I will put my spirit within you and make you live by my statutes,  
careful to observe my decrees.

You shall live in the land I gave your ancestors;  
you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

3

God of all creation,  
for those true to your covenant  
you have placed within them  
a heart of love and truth.

May we have life through your statutes  
and proclaim your decrees  
in our words and actions.

As we journey with our catechumens and candidates,  
may we celebrate in the joy of the Holy Spirit  
and therefore continue to build  
your Church in our midst.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

4



5

# Discernment

*throughout the  
Initiation Journey*

3.3

6

## Defining Discernment

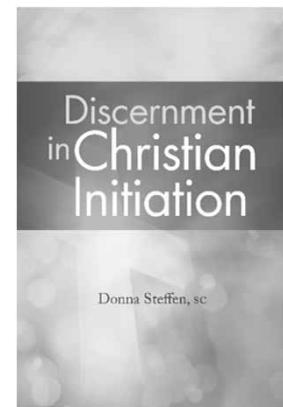


- ... the bridge connecting our belief that God loves us with our moral behavior ...
- a clear example of our aspiration to be holy ... working together with our attempts to be good ...
- Reaches into the heart to find our desire for God and our commitment to cooperate with God's love in all that we do.

Richard M. Gula, *The Way of Goodness and Holiness: A Spirituality for Pastoral Ministers* (Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 2011), 66-67.

7

1. Noticing what spirits are operating
2. Recognizing it differs from decision-making
3. Listening for God's way
4. Image of God
5. Will of God
6. Seeing ourselves



Donna Steffen, SC, *Discerning Disciples: Listening for God's Voice in Christian Initiation*, chapter 2.

8

7. Feelings
8. Resistance
9. Inner voices
10. Desire
11. Opening to ourselves and to God
12. Support from other disciples



Donna Steffen, SC, Discerning Disciples: Listening for God's Voice in Christian Initiation, chapter 2.

9

### OCIA Paragraphs Crucial for Healthy Discernment

|                         |                                                            |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| OCIA, 42                | Before the <b>Rite for Entrance</b>                        |
| OCIA, 75.2              | During the <b>Period of the Catechumenate</b>              |
| OCIA, 76, 119, 120, 121 | Before the <b>Rite of Election</b>                         |
| OCIA, 139               | During the <b>Period of Purification and Enlightenment</b> |
|                         | After <b>Baptism</b> and during <b>Mystagogy</b>           |

*How do you invite the neophytes into a discernment that includes a larger perspective of mission beyond the parish boundaries?*

10

See **OCIA, 120**

### Readiness for Election

- Conversion in mind and in action
- Sufficient acquaintance with Christian teaching
- Spirit of faith and charity
- Deliberate will and an enlightened faith
- Intention to receive the sacraments of the Church

11

### The Role of the Sponsor and Godparent



Learning to be quiet and just listen to Sharon . . .  
was the most difficult part of my role as a sponsor.  
I was so used to telling other people  
how they should live their lives;  
now I had to learn to be quiet and listen  
in a new way,  
without trying to give unasked-for-advice.  
I think I grew more from learning to listen  
than anything else I did as a sponsor.



Photo by Edward Cisneros on Unsplash

Lydia K.

in Handbook for Sponsors, Foundations in Faith, 1997

12

## The Role of the Initiation Team

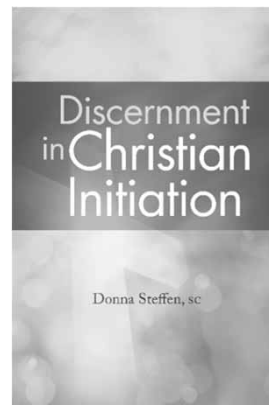


Photo by Dylan Gills on Unsplash

- Listen
- Observe
- Engage
- Discuss

13

Discernment with baptized candidates is important, too!



### Readiness for Reception of the Baptized Uncatechized Candidate

A person who comes with little or no catechesis ordinarily requires a considerable time of preparation, which usually parallels the formation process of catechumens, and is coordinated with the liturgical year (401, 408). The particular time of readiness depends on conversion in mind and action, the same prerequisite a catechumen has for celebrating the Rite of Election. Over time the sponsor, catechists, and coordinator will be able to see concrete changes within the candidate. Just as it is necessary to take time with sponsors and catechumens to name these shifts, a similar process is needed for candidates. Signs of growth in the person's relationship with self, family, church, and God need to be articulated.

### Readiness for Reception of the Baptized Catechized Candidate

The rite intends that the doctrinal and spiritual preparation for each baptized catechized candidate will be discerned individually (478). After assessing through conversation the areas of catechesis that are already in place, and a sense of the more that is needed, ways of attending to these are determined in dialogue. Asking the candidate what he or she believes is lacking or needed is very helpful. Often the candidate will be able to express the areas he

14

## The Rite of Election

15

### SECOND STEP: ELECTION OR ENROLLMENT OF NAMES

This is the liturgical rite, usually celebrated on the First Sunday of Lent, by which the Church formally ratifies the catechumens' readiness for the sacraments of initiation and the catechumens, now the elect, express the will to receive these sacraments.

16

See OCIA, 120

## Readiness for Election

- Conversion in mind and in action
- Sufficient acquaintance with Christian teaching
- Spirit of faith and charity
- Deliberate will and an enlightened faith
- Intention to receive the sacraments of the Church

17

*A quick glance...*

## Rite of Election: Outline of the Rite

Presentation of Catechumens (130)

Affirmation by Godparents *and Assembly* (131)

Questioning and Petitioning of the Catechumens (132)

*Enrollment of Names* (signing the Book of the Elect)

Reception or Election (133)

Intercessions for the Elect (134)

Prayer over the Elect (135)

Dismissal of Elect (136)



18

### PRESENTATION OF THE CATECHUMENS

AFFIRMATION BY GODPARENTS (& THE ASSEMBLY)  
QUESTIONING & PETITIONING OF THE CATECHUMENS

RECEPTION OR ELECTION

INTERCESSIONS FOR THE ELECT

PRAYER OVER THE ELECT

DISMISSAL OF THE ELECT

**Let those who are to be chosen as the elect come forward with their godparents ...**

OCIA, 130



19

### PRESENTATION OF THE CATECHUMENS

AFFIRMATION BY GODPARENTS (& THE ASSEMBLY)  
QUESTIONING & PETITIONING OF THE CATECHUMENS

RECEPTION OR ELECTION

INTERCESSIONS FOR THE ELECT

PRAYER OVER THE ELECT

DISMISSAL OF THE ELECT

**The holy Church of God now wishes to ascertain whether these catechumens are sufficiently prepared to be received into the order of the elect for the solemn paschal celebrations to come.**

[To Godparents]

- **Have they faithfully listened to God's word proclaimed by the Church?**
- **Have they begun to walk in God's presence, treasuring the word they have received?**
- **Have they persevered in fraternal communion and in the prayers?**

OCIA, 131B

20

PRESENTATION OF THE CATECHUMENS

AFFIRMATION BY GODPARENTS (& THE ASSEMBLY)

**QUESTIONING & PETITIONING OF THE CATECHUMENS**

RECEPTION OR ELECTION

INTERCESSIONS FOR THE ELECT

PRAYER OVER THE ELECT

DISMISSAL OF THE ELECT

3.3a1

**Presider: Is it your will to be initiated into Christ's Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist?**

**Elect: It is.**

**Presider: Then offer your names for enrollment.**

OCIA, 132



21

PRESENTATION OF THE CATECHUMENS

AFFIRMATION BY GODPARENTS (& THE ASSEMBLY)

QUESTIONING & PETITIONING OF THE CATECHUMENS

**RECEPTION OR ELECTION**

INTERCESSIONS FOR THE ELECT

PRAYER OVER THE ELECT

DISMISSAL OF THE ELECT

**Presider: N. and N., you have been chosen for Initiation into the sacred mysteries at the forthcoming Easter Vigil.**

**Elect: Thanks be to God.**

OCIA, 133

22

OCIA, 121

[After their election,  
bishops, priests, deacons, catechists,  
godparents, and the entire community]  
embrace the elect with prayer,  
so that the whole Church  
takes them with her to meet Christ.

23

RITE OF SENDING CATECHUMENS FOR ELECTION  
(Optional)

106. At the conclusion of the Period of the Catechumenate, a Rite of Sending Catechumens for Election by the Bishop may be celebrated in parishes wherever this seems beneficial or desirable. When Election will take place in the parish, this rite is not used.

107. As the focal point of the Church's concern for the catechumen, admission to Election belongs to the Bishop who is usually its presiding celebrant. It is within the parish community, however, that the preliminary judgment is made concerning the catechumen's state of formation and progress.

This rite offers that local community the opportunity to express its approval of the catechumen and to send them forth to the celebration of Election assured of the parish's care and support.

108. The rite is celebrated in the parish church at a suitable time prior to the Rite of Election.

109. The rite takes place after the Homily in a Celebration of the Word of God (cf. no. 89) or at Mass.

110. When the Rite of Sending Catechumens for Election is combined with the Rite of Sending Candidates for the Calling to Continuing Conversion, the alternate rite given in Appendix 1, 2 is used (nos. 530-546).

PRESENTATION OF THE CATECHUMENS

111. After the Homily, the Priest in charge of the catechumens' Initiation, or a Deacon, a catechist, or a representative of the community, presents the catechumen, using the following or similar words.

Reverend Father, these catechumens, whom I now present to you, are beginning their final period of preparation and purification leading to their Initiation. They have found strength in God's grace and support in our community's prayers and example.

Now they ask that they be recognized for the progress they have made in their spiritual formation and that they receive the assurance of our blessings and prayers as they go forth to the Rite of Election celebrated this afternoon (or, next Sunday [or specify the day]) by Bishop N.

## Rite of Sending

See OCIA 106

Optional rite

Beneficial to the community

POLL

24



## DISCUSSION

Describe how you currently include discernment in the initiation process.  
What challenges do you encounter with discernment in the process?

How would you describe the Rite of Election to your average parishioner?

3.4a

25

# The Period of Purification and Enlightenment

26

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                              |           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|
| PRECATECHUMENATE<br>CATECHUMENATE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | PURIFICATION & ENLIGHTENMENT | MYSTAGOGY |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Remember:</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p> The Period of Purification and Enlightenment is for the <b>unbaptized elect</b>. It is a time of spiritual preparation for the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil.</p> <p> It is envisioned that <b>baptized candidates</b> that received into full communion when they are ready – not necessarily at the Easter Vigil. The “Lenten rituals” for candidates are USA adaptations.</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%; text-align: right;">  </div> </div> |                              |           |

27

*Period of Purification and Enlightenment* **OCIA, 138**

Both in the liturgy and in liturgical catechesis, through **remembrance of Baptism or preparation for it**, and by penitence, Lent renews the community of the faithful together with the elect and disposes them to recall the **Paschal Mystery**, which the Sacraments of Initiation apply to individuals.

28

## OCIA, 139

The time of purification and enlightenment is given to a more **intense preparation of spirit and heart**, which has the character of recollection rather than of catechesis...

**What are the characteristics of intense spiritual preparation?**

**How is it different than catechetical instruction?**

29

## OCIA, 139

[It] is intended **TO PURIFY hearts and minds** by examination of conscience and penitence.

This period is intended as well **TO ENLIGHTEN the minds and hearts** of the elect with a deeper knowledge of Christ the Savior.



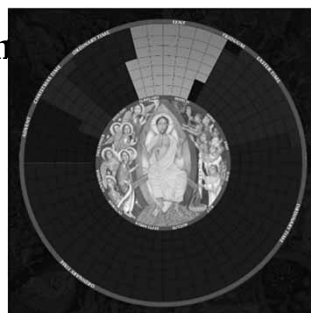
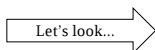
30

## Purification & Enlightenment

- more like a retreat than class
- prepare for the liturgies and reflect upon them after

### RETREAT CONTENT:

- three scrutinies
- two handing ons
- Holy Week and the Triduum
- No need to add another retreat. In fact, adding one might detract from the liturgical catechesis the Church instructs us to do during Lent (138).



31

## OCIA, 9.4

During Lent...

**[the faithful]** should take care to be present at the Rites of the Scrutinies and of Handing On and

**give the catechumens the example of their own renewal in the spirit of penitence, faith and charity.**

32

# The Scrutinies

33

See OCIA, 141

## Reveal and Heal

weak, sick  
and sinful  
*liberation  
from sin and  
the Devil*



## Reveal and Strengthen

honorable, strong  
and holy  
*give strength in  
Christ, who is the  
way, the truth,  
and the life*

34

See OCIA, 141



**How do you  
thirst for  
God's mercy?**



**How are we  
blind to God's  
presence?**



**How do we give  
new life to those  
who suffer?**

35



The Scrutinies are set forth to

- purify minds and hearts
- fortify against temptations
- convert intentions
- awaken the will

so that the elect may

- cling more closely to Christ
- pursue more vigorously  
their desire to love God

36

## OCIA, 20

Three Scrutinies should be celebrated... Third, Fourth and Fifth Sundays of Lent ...or even on weekdays.

*However, the Bishop can dispense from one of them in view of serious impediments or even, in exceptional circumstances, from two.*



3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday  
The Woman at the Well



4<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
The Man Born Blind



5<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
The Raising of Lazarus

37

# Rites of Handing On

38

## OCIA, 147

The “Rites of Handing On,”  
by which the Church entrusts to the elect  
ancient texts of faith and prayer, that is,  
the Creed and the Lord’s Prayer,  
have the purpose of enlightening them.

39

## Handing On of the Creed



During Week following  
the First Scrutiny

### OCIA, 147

In the case of the Creed, in  
which the mighty deeds of God  
for the salvation of humans are  
recalled, their eyes are filled  
with faith and joy.

40

## Handing On of the Lord's Prayer



During Week following  
the Third Scrutiny

### OCIA, 147

In the Lord's Prayer they discover more deeply the new spirit of sons and daughters by which they call God their Father, especially in the midst of the Eucharistic Assembly.

41

## Rite of Immediate Preparation on Holy Saturday

42

Think of them not as the end of the period of purification and enlightenment, but as the beginning of the rites of baptism.

*Paul Turner, Celebrating Initiation: A Guide for Priests, 92.*



Fr. Rhobby Mojolou anoints the ear of one of the elect during the Preparation Rites at the Sacred Heart Cathedral Chapel, Archdiocese of Kota Kinabalu, Mar 26, 2016

43

### Rite of Immediate Preparation **OCIA, 185.1**

The elect are to be reminded to keep themselves free on Holy Saturday as far as possible from their usual tasks, and to give time to prayer and recollection and to fast insofar as they are able.

#### Considerations

**When?** morning of Holy Saturday; before decorating  
**Who?** Priest presides, initiation team, decorators, choir, staff, daily Mass goers, neighboring parishes  
**How?** after Morning Prayer/Tenebrae, its own celebration, chapel

44

*Recitation of the Creed* **OCIA, 193**

With this rite the elect are prepared for the baptismal Profession of Faith and are instructed in their duty to proclaim the message of the Gospel.

You are Christ, the Son of the living God.

*Matthew 16:13-17*

To whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

*John 6:35, 63-71*

45

*Ephphatha Rite* **OCIA, 197**

By the power of its symbolism the Ephphatha Rite impresses on the elect the need of grace in order to be able to hear the word of God and profess it for their salvation.



Ephphetha, that is, be opened.

*Mark 7:31-37*

46

## The Sacraments of Initiation

47

### THIRD STEP: CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

This is the liturgical rite, usually integrated into the Easter Vigil, by which the elect are initiated through baptism, confirmation, and the eucharist.

48

|                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM               | <div>←</div> <div>OUTLINE</div> <div>CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM</div> <div>Presentation of Those to Be Baptized<br/>[Procession to the Font]<br/>Celebrant's Instruction<br/>Liturgy of Saints<br/>Blessing of Water<br/>Acclamation<br/>Profession of Faith<br/>Renunciation of Sin<br/>Profession of Faith<br/>Rite of Baptism<br/>[Acclamation]<br/>Explanatory Rites<br/>[Anointing after Baptism]<br/>[Clothing with a White Garment]<br/>Handing On of a Lighted Candle</div> <div>CELEBRATION OF CONFIRMATION</div> <div>[Procession to the Sanctuary]<br/>[Chant]<br/>Invitation<br/>The Laying On of Hands<br/>The Anointing with Chrism<br/>[Chant]</div> <div>RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES</div> <div>Invitation<br/>Renunciation of Sin<br/>Profession of Faith<br/>Sprinkling with Baptismal Water<br/>Chant</div> <div>CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST</div> <div>Universal Prayer (Prayer of the Faithful)</div> |
| Presentation of Those to Be Baptized |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Celebrant's Instruction              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Liturgy of Saints                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Blessing of Water                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Profession of Faith                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Rite of Baptism                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Explanatory Rites                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| CONTINUED... ↓                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

49

|                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MR1<br>Sacraments of Initiation                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |
|  |  |  |
| Baptism                                                                             | Confirmation                                                                        | Eucharist                                                                           |
| Washed                                                                              | Strengthened                                                                        | Nourished                                                                           |
| Adopted                                                                             | Deepen                                                                              | Become Body                                                                         |

50

|                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM               | <div>O God,<br/>who by invisible power<br/>accomplish a wondrous effect...</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Spirit hovering over the waters flood</li><li>• passage through the Red Sea</li><li>• baptism of John the Baptist</li><li>• blood flowing from Christ's side</li><li>• Jesus' command to baptize</li><li>• human nature washed clean, newborn children</li></ul></div> <div></div> <div>OCIA 222A</div> |
| Presentation of Those to Be Baptized |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Celebrant's Instructions             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Liturgy of Saints                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Blessing of Water                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Profession of Faith                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Rite of Baptism                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Explanatory Rites                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| CONTINUED... ↓                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

51

|                                      |                                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM               | <div></div> |
| Presentation of Those to Be Baptized |                                                                                                 |
| Celebrant's Instruction              |                                                                                                 |
| Liturgy of Saints                    |                                                                                                 |
| Blessing of Water                    |                                                                                                 |
| Profession of Faith                  |                                                                                                 |
| Rite of Baptism                      |                                                                                                 |
| Explanatory Rites                    |                                                                                                 |
| CONTINUED... ↓                       |                                                                                                 |

52

**MR1** Perhaps add a short line (description) from the General Introduction, Christian Initiation  
Michael Ruzicki, 2024-06-09T14:12:06.435

|                                |                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM         |  | <p><b>Clothing with the Baptismal Garment</b><br/>OCIA, 229</p> <p>You have become a new creation and have clothed yourselves in Christ.</p> |
| Presentation of the Candidates |                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                              |
| Celebrant's Instruction        |                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                              |
| Litany of Saints               |                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                              |
| Prayer over the Water          |                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                              |
| Profession of Faith            |                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                              |
| Rite of Baptism                |                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                              |
| Explanatory Rites              |                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                              |
| CONTINUED... ↓                 |                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                              |

53

|                                      |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM               |  | <p><b>Presentation of a Lighted Candle</b><br/>OCIA, 230</p> <p>You have been made light in Christ.</p> <p>Walk always as children of light, that persevering in faith you may run to meet the Lord when he comes . . .</p> |
| Presentation of Those to Be Baptized |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Celebrant's Instruction              |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Litany of Saints                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Blessing of Water                    |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Profession of Faith                  |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Rite of Baptism                      |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Explanatory Rites                    |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| CONTINUED... ↓                       |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

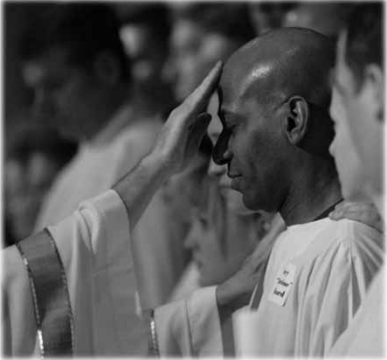
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|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| CELEBRATION OF CONFIRMATION     | <b>Invitation</b> OCIA, 233                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |  |
| Invitation                      | Dear neophytes, you have been born again in Christ, and have become members of Christ and of his priestly people. Now you are to share in the outpouring among us of the Holy Spirit, who was sent by the Lord upon the Apostles at Pentecost to be given by them and their successors to the baptized.   |  |
| The Laying On of Hands          | Therefore, you also are to receive the promised power of the Holy Spirit, so that, being more perfectly conformed to Christ, you may <b>bear witness to the Lord's Passion and Resurrection and become an active member of the Church for the building up of the Body of Christ in faith and charity.</b> |  |
| The Anointing with Chrism       | Dearly beloved, let us pray to God the almighty Father, that he will graciously <b>pour out the Holy Spirit</b> on these neophytes to confirm them with his abundant gifts and through this anointing conform them more fully to Christ, the Son of God.                                                  |  |
| RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES ↓ | All pray in silence for a while.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |  |
| CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST ↓  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |

55

|                                       |                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CELEBRATION OF<br>CONFIRMATION        |  | <div><b>The Laying On of Hands</b><br/><i>OCIA, 234</i></div> <div>Wisdom   Understanding   Counsel<br/>Fortitude   Piety   Knowledge<br/>Fear of the Lord</div> |
| Invitation                            |                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                  |
| The Laying on of<br>Hands             |                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                  |
| The Anointing with<br>Chrism          |                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                  |
| RENEWAL OF<br>BAPTISMAL<br>PROMISES ↓ |                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                  |
| CELEBRATION OF<br>THE EUCHARIST ↓     |                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                  |

56

|                                 |                                                                                   |                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CELEBRATION OF CONFIRMATION     |  | <b>The Anointing with Chrism</b><br>OCIA, 235<br><br>Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit. |
| Invitation                      |                                                                                   |                                                                                                  |
| The Laying On of Hands          |                                                                                   |                                                                                                  |
| The Anointing with Chrism       |                                                                                   |                                                                                                  |
| RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES ↓ |                                                                                   |                                                                                                  |
| CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST ↓  |                                                                                   |                                                                                                  |

57

|                               |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CELEBRATION OF CONFIRMATION   | <b>Celebration of the Eucharist</b>                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Invitation                    |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Universal Prayer</li><li>• Presentation of the Gifts</li><li>• Instruction before receiving Holy Communion</li><li>• Communion under both kinds</li><li>• Sent Forth</li></ul> |
| Laying on of Hands            |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Anointing with Chrism         |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST  |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

58

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <br><br> | <h3>DISCUSSION</h3> <p>Consider the Rite of Sending, Scrutinies, Rites of Handing On, and Rite of Immediate Preparation (Holy Saturday).... how can these celebrations impact the lives of your parishioners?</p> <p>Easter Vigil: Name a sign, symbol, ritual gesture of the liturgy. Why is it important to celebrate the rites with an abundant use of signs, symbols, and ritual gestures?</p> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

59

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><i>For Baptized Candidates<br/>(baptized in another Christian denomination)</i></p> <p>OUTLINE</p> <p>LITURGY OF THE WORD</p> <p>Readings</p> <p>Homily</p> <p>CELEBRATION OF RECEPTION</p> <p>Invitation</p> <p>Profession of Faith</p> <p>Formula of Reception</p> <p>[CELEBRATION OF CONFIRMATION]</p> <p>The Laying On of Hands</p> <p>The Anointing with Chrism</p> <p>Celebrant's Sign of Welcome</p> <p>Universal Prayer (Prayer of the Faithful)</p> <p>[Sign of Peace]</p> <p>CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST</p> | <p><b>Order of Reception into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church Of Those Already Validly Baptized</b></p> <p>475a. The rite of the celebration should appear as a celebration of the Church, and <b>its high point should be realized in Eucharistic Communion.</b> Therefore the admission normally <b>should take place during Mass.</b></p> <p>481. It is for the Bishop to receive the candidate. <b>A Priest</b>, however, to whom he entrusts the celebration to be performed, <b>has the faculty of confirming the candidate in the very Rite of Reception,</b> unless the one being received has already validly received Confirmation.</p> <p>Note: This ritual is NOT for those baptized in the Catholic Church.</p> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

60

## The Period of Mystagogy

61



62

### OCIA, 244

After this last step is complete, the community together with the neophytes,

- by meditation on the Gospel,
- by participation in the Eucharist, and
- by the exercise of charity,

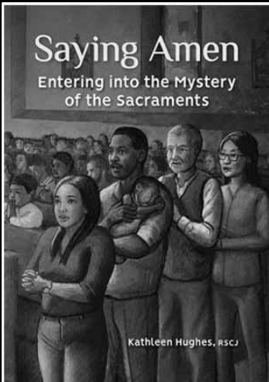
makes progress in understanding the Paschal Mystery more deeply and carrying it over more and more into the practice of daily life.

63

### OCIA, 245

**From this experience,  
proper to a Christian and  
enhanced by day-to-day living,  
they draw forth a new understanding of  
the faith, the Church, and the world.**

64



*In the early Church, mystagogy was a form of instruction meant...*

- “to help its [participants] enter the world of the liturgy,
- walk around inside it,
- explore their experience of its sights and sounds and smells,
- savor its memory,
- ponder the meaning of what was said and done,
- and live out of its vision.”

*Saying Amen, Kathleen Hughes, RSCJ (LTP)*

65

“A sacramental celebration,”  
and therefore  
our faith,  
“is woven from signs and symbols.”

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1145*







66

***Mystagological Reflection***

THREE-PART PROCESS

Common Experience

Reflection

Sharing





***What did you hear... see... feel...?***

What part of the celebration had an impact on you?

What still strikes you about it?

What does that say about you?

...God? ...the Church?

67

They also touch and move a person  
to **conversion of heart** and  
not simply to enlightenment of mind.

...the liturgy and its **signs and symbols**  
do not exercise merely a teaching function.

*-Built of Living Stones, 26*







68

## OCIA, 245

**For neophytes**  
**have been renewed in mind,**  
**have intimately tasted the good word of God,**  
**have shared communion in the Holy Spirit, and**  
**have come to realize how sweet the Lord is.**

*Invite your neophytes to reflect on these points.*

69

## OCIA, 246

Therefore the Period of Mystagogy is of great importance in enabling the neophytes, assisted by their godparents, to **form closer relationships with the faithful** and to communicate to them a new view of things as well as new enthusiasm.

To strengthen their first steps, it is desirable that, in all circumstances, neophytes receive thoughtful and friendly **help from the community** of the faithful, their godparents, and their pastors.

The greatest care should be taken that they receive a **full and joyful inclusion into the community.**



70



the principal place for  
“Mystagogy” is the so-called  
“Masses for the neophytes”  
or Masses of the Sundays of  
Easter Time.

OCIA, 247

neophytes should be  
allowed their own  
special places among  
the faithful. OCIA, 248

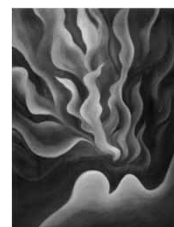
homily... Universal Prayer...

OCIA, 248

71

...some sort of  
celebration should be  
held near Pentecost  
Sunday, even with  
additional festivities...

OCIA, 249



3.3a3

On the anniversary of  
Baptism it is desirable for  
the neophytes to be gathered  
again to give thanks to God,  
to share their spiritual  
experience, and to renew  
their fervor. OCIA, 250

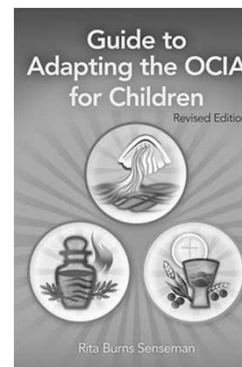
(a neophyte mass with  
the bishop) OCIA, 251

72

# Adaptations

73

## Children of Catechetical Age



### Models of Implementation

- Intergenerational Initiation
- Religious Education Inclusion with Rites Attached
- Children Only Catechumenate
- Catholic School Plus
- Youth Ministry

74

## Baptized Candidates / Adult Catholics



- Formation Catechized and Non-Catechized
  - Catechized: “Catholic Classes”
  - Uncatechized: Similar to the Catechumenate (OCIA 75)
- Timeline
- Rites
  - Baptized Candidates: Welcoming, Penitential Rite / Reconciliation, Reception
  - Catholics: Reconciliation, Communion, Confirmation

75

## Combined Rites

*These are adaptations used in the USA.*



Why were they created?

- To reflect the pastoral reality of parishes
- To express unity of the Christian initiation process
- To preserve theological distinctions

| Appendix I Combined Rites                                                                           |  | 342 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|-----|
| 1. Rite for Entrance into the Catechumenate and of Welcoming the Candidates                         |  | 342 |
| 2. Rite of Sending Catechumens for Election and Candidates for the Calling to Continuing Conversion |  | 360 |
| 3. Rite of Election of Catechumens and of Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion           |  | 369 |
| 4. Celebration at the Easter Vigil of the Sacraments of Initiation and the Rite of Reception        |  | 388 |

76

## Combined Rites

*These are adaptations used in the USA.*



**An internal scrutiny for you!!**

*Instead of always saying,*

**Of course they are always together!**

*Ask yourself and your team,*

**What are the pastoral reasons / justifications for actually celebrating these as a combined rites?**

77

## Combined Rites

*These are adaptations used in the USA.*



### Best Practices

- Script Preparation
- Worship Aid
- Choreography
- Catechizing the Assembly

### To Avoid

- Catechumens and Candidates (and presiders, and parishioners) who do not understand the different circumstances
- “They are all on the SAME journey... the SAME class...”
- Ritual with Blurred Lines (*signing of the senses, etc.*)
- Everybody Together When They Shouldn't Be (*scrutinies, etc.*)

78

## DISCUSSION



How well is your parish celebrating the rites of Purification and Enlightenment? How robust is your use of sign, symbol, and ritual gesture during the Easter Vigil? What obstacles/struggles do you encounter when celebrating these rites?



Mystagogical reflections can be used throughout the initiation journey. How have you used this method? When might you include such reflections?

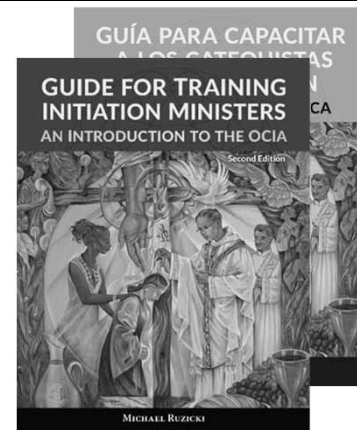
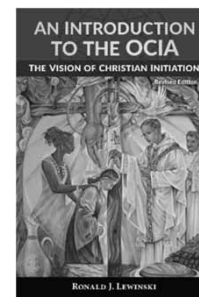


What remaining questions do you have about the OCIA process?

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79

## Essential Resources



Small Booklets

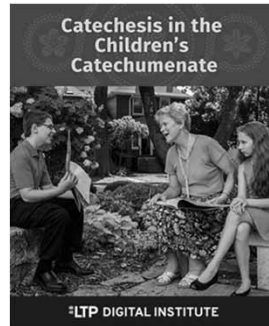
Training Manual with 13 videos

80

**Name your one TAKE-AWAY in the chat on the left.**



8:00-9:30pm ET  
September 14, 21, 28



8:00-9:30pm ET  
October 14, 21, 28