

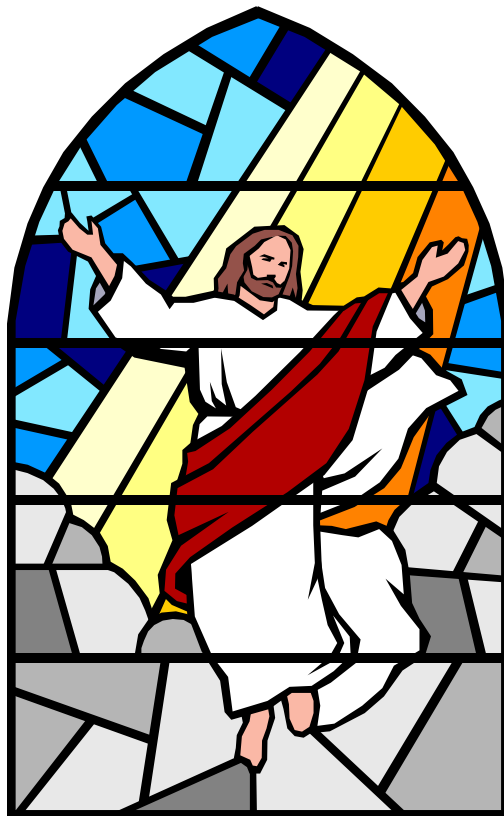
**RCIA  
Reflection on Holy Week  
Mystagogy**

**Session 24**

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**“The Third step of Christian initiation, the celebration of the sacraments, is followed by the final period, the period of postbaptismal catechesis or Mystagogy. This is a time for the community and 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.”**

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## Mystagogia

Mystagogia is a Greek word for understanding of the mysteries, which are primarily the sacraments. The formal period of the mystagogia begins at the Easter Vigil and ends with Pentecost. However mystagogia is also understood as ongoing faith formation. It is the continuous process whereby one deepens one's faith through Biblical studies, deeper catechism class or other forms of Adult education. Every baptized need ongoing faith formation as it reflects what someone said "we learn from the crib to the grave. "

It is a time for:

- living a sacramental life
- living out the gospel way of life
- becoming more involved in the parish

Also consider:

- Evangelization - spreading the faith by example, sharing your story, inviting someone to church, doing mission work.
- Stewardship - giving of your time, talent, and treasure.
- Lay Ministry - choosing a way to serve your parish.

WHY?

Not only do you help the church and serve the faith community, you also will find what you do will enrich your own faith life.

WAYS TO FULFILL THE ABOVE IN YOUR PARISH

1. Attend church more often than just on Sunday.
2. What are your talents and interests? Do you feel called to help in your parish?
  - a. Lector - read at mass
  - b. Distribute communion
  - c. Wash the linens
  - d. Mass coordinator
  - e. Music minister - choir, folk group, instrumentalist, cantor
  - f. RCIA team member
  - g. BASIC
  - h. Mailings
  - i. Fundraisers - organize, assist, attend
  - j. Parish gatherings - attend, organize, assist
  - k. Teach CCD - Pre-school - Bible school
  - l. St. Vincent de Paul
  - m. Ladies Society
  - n. Other parish sponsored activities
  - o. Other ministries like
    - 1) Marriage Encounter
    - 2) Engaged Encounter
    - 3) Prison ministry
    - 4)
  - p. Start, help with or join a
    - 1) Prayer group
    - 2) Base Community - faith sharing group

- 3) Discussion group
- 4) Bible Study
- 5) Why Catholic?
- 6) Catholic Scouting group
- 7) Lay Cistercians
- 8) An evangelical women's group