

The Church gives us guidelines about what to include in the programme in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults¹ – an essential text for all priests and catechists leading the RCIA in their parishes. An overview taken from the Rite is as follows:

- **Period of Evangelisation and Precatechumenate**

This is a time, of no fixed duration or structure, for inquiry and introduction to Gospel values, an opportunity for the beginnings of faith.

- **First step: Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens**

This is the liturgical rite, usually celebrated on some annual date or dates, marking the beginning of the catechumenate proper, as the candidates express and the Church accepts their intention to respond to God's call to follow the way of Christ.

- **Period of the Catechumenate**

This is the time, in duration corresponding to the progress of the individual, for the nurturing and growth of the catechumens' faith and conversion to God; celebrations of the word and prayers of exorcism and blessing are meant to assist the process.

- **Second step: Election or Enrolment 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.

- **Period of Purification and Enlightenment**

This is the time immediately preceding the elects' initiation, usually the Lenten season preceding the celebration of this initiation at the Easter Vigil; it is a time of reflection, intensely centred on conversion, marked by celebration of the scrutinies, presentations and of the preparation rites on Holy Saturday.

- **Third step: Celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation**

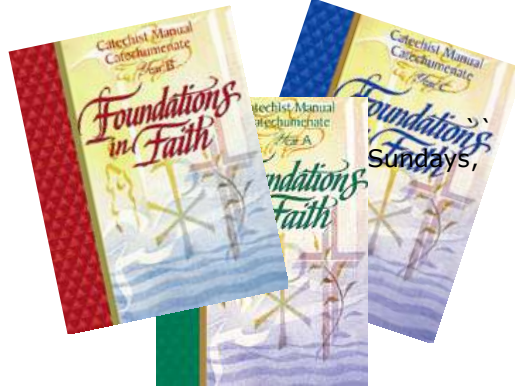
This is the liturgical rite, usually integrated into the Easter Vigil, by which the elect are initiated through baptism, confirmation, and the eucharist.

- **Period of Postbaptismal Catechesis or Mystagogy**

This is the time, usually the Easter season, following the celebration of initiation, during which the newly initiated experience being fully a part of the Christian community by means of pertinent catechesis and particularly by participation with all the faithful in the Sunday eucharistic celebration.

¹ Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, ICEL, 1985

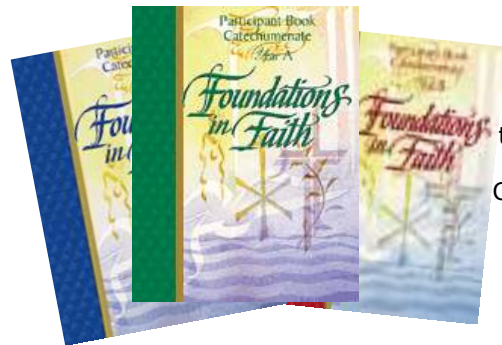
Foundations in Faith, Catechist Manual, Catechumenate, Years A, B and C, Bob Duggan, Carol Gura, et al., Resources for Christian Living, Allen, Texas, 1998



An RCIA program that has both catechetical and lectionary components. The Catechist Manuals have year-round catechetical sessions in separate spiral-bound editions for each liturgical year. A component of Foundations in Faith, a complete resource for RCIA, this manual is for Catechists, Team members, Pastors, Deacons and all those who lead the dismissal rite and catechetical sessions during the Catechumenate Period of the process. The manual provides an extensive Scripture and doctrinal background Holy Days and Feasts. Catechists are provided with a step-by-step guide for dismissal and extended catechetical sessions for the entire year. There is a detailed index of doctrinal themes in the back of the book.

Cost: £19.95 each

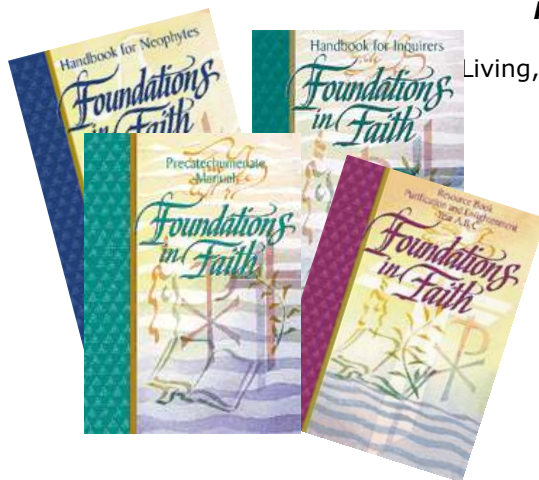
Foundations in Faith, Participant's Book, Catechumenate, Years A, B and C, Bob Duggan, Carol Gura, et al., Resources for Christian Living, Allen, Texas, 1998



Another component of Foundations in Faith, a complete resource for RCIA. Lectionary-based sessions for every week (and feast days, too!) make this a complete faith sharing and adult formation tool. It includes a summary of Catholic teaching and traditions, journal space, and a prayer for the week.

Cost: £2.95 each

Foundations in Faith, Pre-Catechumenate Book, an Enquirers Book, Purification & Enlightenment Resource Book, Mystagogy Resource Book and Handbook for Neophytes, Years A, B and C, Bob Duggan, Carol Gura, et al., Resources for Christian Living, Allen, Texas, 1998



More components of Foundations in Faith to offer a complete resource for RCIA; the Pre-Catechumenate and Enquirers books include easy-to-use sessions to affirm God's presence and help inquirers share their stories. Included in the books is a church tour, frequently asked questions, and tools for ongoing discernment. There are reproducible pages to support each session. The Purification and Enlightenment Resource Book invites the entire parish to pray, fast, and give alms. You'll find direction for involving the parish in the scrutinies as well as preparation for the penitential rite. (One book includes Years A, B, and C.) The Mystagogy and Neophytes Books foster ongoing reflection and to help the newly initiated understand that their faith journey has only just begun.

Cost: £22.95



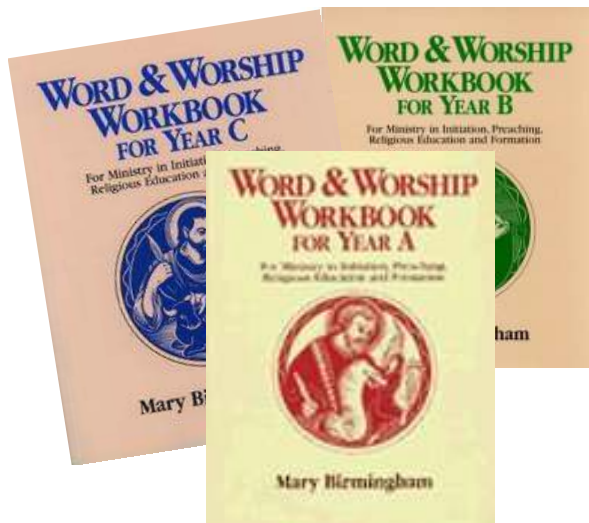
Breaking Open the Word of God: Resources for Using the Lectionary for Catechesis in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Cycles A, B and C (Paperback) by Karen Powell (Editor), Joseph Sinwell (Editor)

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults describes the period of the catechumenate as a time when the catechumens are helped and nourished by the word of God as presented each Sunday in the Liturgy. These three companion books provide theological and pastoral guidelines for the use of the Lectionary as well as outlines for sessions based on the readings of the Sundays and feasts for Cycles A, B and C. Articles by leading experts on the RCIA focus on catechesis through the Lectionary, the use of small groups and music and prayer. Outlines for each Sunday have been authored by active directors of parish catechumenates in the United States and Canada and offer a variety of models as springboards for local needs.

The primary source for catechesis in the catechumenate is the Lectionary. *Breaking Open the Word of God* is a resource that incorporates the principles of adult religious education with the movement of the liturgical year. Catechetical sessions based on the Lectionary and in a variety of formats are presented for each Sunday and holy day of the year. These books also offer helpful introductory articles on key issues in the catechumenate as well as Scripture commentary for each liturgical season by Eugene A. LaVeriere, S.S.

Cost: £11.50 per book

Word and Worship Workbook for Year B: For Ministry in Initiation, Preaching, Religious Education and Formation (Paperback) by Mary Birmingham (Author)



Here is an extensive liturgical and catechetical resource for preparing religious instruction and information for adults and children based on the season, Sundays and feasts of Year B. As the subtitle indicates, Word and Worship Workbook for Year B is for teachers "preparing" catechesis or religious instruction. This particular volume "breaks open" (explores and interprets) the seasons, Sundays and feasts of Cycle B (readings from the Gospel of Mark), which begins in November 1999. Word and Worship Workbook for Year B is directed primarily to adults and the understanding that what we do with adults is normative and flows to what we do with children according to their age and ability. Thus, this resource will assist catechists/teachers/facilitators to prepare age appropriate catechetical-religious education sessions based on the celebration of the liturgy in Cycle B. Cycles A and C books are available. N.B. Sold out before Columba took over - reprint available April.

Cost: £33.99 per book

RCIA Catechist's Manual, 2nd edition, Association for Catechumenal Ministry (ACM), Edited by Barbara A. Morgan and William J. Keimig

This newly revised, spiral-bound **Catechist's Manual** is part of the ON THE JOURNEY series. It is designed to be a practical help to catechists by offering a structured way of preparing for and presenting the catechetical portion of a Christian Initiation session. Together with the companion *Participant's Book*, this manual allows catechist to prepare thoroughly for each meeting.



The *Manual* provides users with

- 60 doctrinal lesson plans with full scripture and catechism references
- definitions of key terms participants need to understand
 - suggestions for music and prayers
 - questions to use at each session

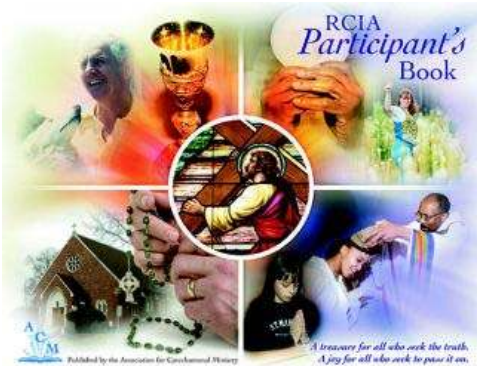
Sample pages of this book can be viewed online at: www.acmrcia.org

Published by Association for Catechumenal Ministry (ACM).

A Leader's Manual, Association for Catechumenal Ministry (ACM), Edited by Barbara A. Morgan and William J. Keimig

A Leader's Manual is part of the ON THE JOURNEY series of books, and is designed to provide a comprehensive aide for RCIA leaders in the work of implementing the full liturgical, catechetical, and pastoral aspects of the RCIA process. This book contains instructions for the RCIA director and team on how to facilitate an evangelising and welcoming mentality in the parish, how to train all members of a team, how to recruit and train sponsors, how to discern the signs and stages of conversion, handling annulments and issues of baptismal validity, etc. Practical appendices contain useful forms, sample letters, and sample retreat formats. The book also contains the entire set of handouts used in ACM's seminars.

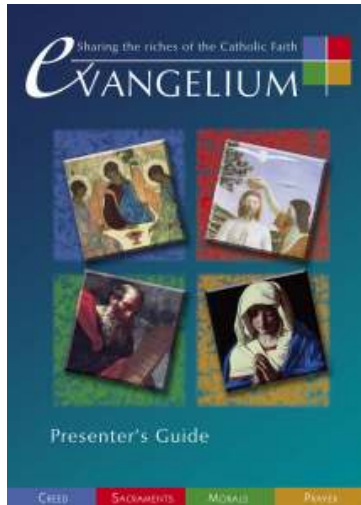
RCIA Participant's Book, 1st Edition, Association for Catechumenal Ministry (ACM), Edited by Barbara A. Morgan and William J. Keimig



This **Participant's Book** is part of the ON THE JOURNEY series of books intended to be used for the Order of Christian Initiation. This particular book, unlike the others in this series, is supplied as shrink-wrapped handouts that are designed to be masters for photocopying. The book contains materials for RCIA participants in the areas of doctrine, lives of the saints, conversion testimonies, liturgical year pieces, prayers, psalms, and many other pertinent topics. With all the handouts provided in the *Participant's Book*, an RCIA leader can opt to use as many or as few as he or she deems prudent, a decision that can and must be made at the parish level for the participants in each given year. The 380 different handouts provided here are designed to be used when, as, and if needed. Therefore, the intent of the *Participant's Book's* large size is to provide a thorough spread of material from which an RCIA leader may select what is most suitable for those whom God has guided to the parish's front door. The most unique aspect of this book is that it is endlessly copyable and printable from the hardcopy masters or enclosed CDs, making it not only one of the most content-rich and beautiful collections of handouts for adult formation, but also the most affordable by far. Sample pages of this book can be viewed online at: www.acmrcia.org

Costs: Catechists Manual: £27.95; Leader's Manual £27.95; Participant's Book: £199.95

Evangelium, Catholic Truth Society, London, 2006 (CTS http://www.cts-online.org.uk/Evangelium_products.htm)



Evangelium consists of 25 modules, 1 hour 10 minutes each, 10 sessions covering the Creed, 5 sessions for the Sacraments, 5 for Morals and 5 for Prayer.

Presenter's Guide -- *One per leader, includes*

- 64-page A4 guide to presenting the sessions with straightforward instructions on leading the presentations and using the software
- 2 pages of guidelines for each session, including suggested ways to introduce, lead and conclude the presentations

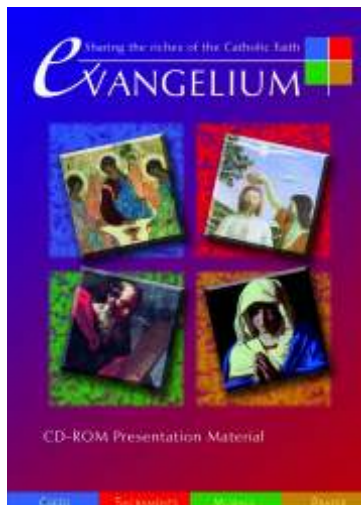
Participant's Book -- *One per participant*

- 56-page A4 book with 2-page summaries of the content of each presentation
- each summary includes the art used to illustrate the teaching

Evangelium CD-ROM -- *One per group*

- self-starting CD-ROM with 25 PowerPoint Viewer® presentations (1 per teaching module)
- no additional software required

To show the presentations requires a personal computer (PC) running one of the following operating systems: Windows XP; Windows Server 2003; Windows ME; Windows 2000 Service Pack 3; Windows 98 Second Edition. No additional software is required; a copy of PowerPoint Viewer® is included free on the Evangelium CD-ROM. The program starts automatically when the CD is inserted into your computer's CD drive. The best way to show the presentations is to use a PC projector to project the image onto a screen or white wall, or to use an interactive whiteboard. Many parishes and schools already own this equipment. Alternatively, an ordinary desktop or laptop computer screen can be used if it is clearly visible to all participants.

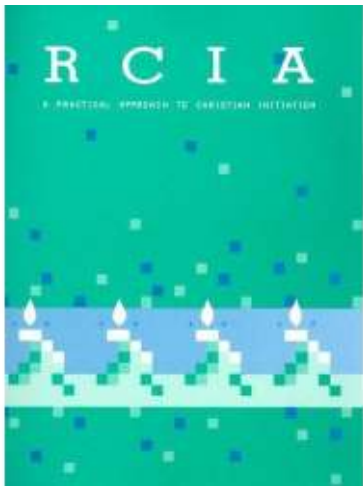


Adaptable to the needs of your parish

- modular course with each session is complete in itself
- order of sessions can be adapted to suit your needs
- two suggested alternative sequences are included: 1 for an RCIA course, 2 for "refresher" courses for Catholic adults
- shorter catechetical programmes can be made using selected sessions
- suitable for self-teaching (one CD-ROM, one Presenter's Guide and one Participants' Book are needed) *CD-ROM is a central tool to the course's teaching strategy and includes additional material not found in the books; however the books have been designed so that the essential points of each lesson can be communicated without the CD-ROM if necessary.*

Anyone willing to introduce, display the slides, and conclude each session can present the course. No special teaching expertise or training is required other than reading the guidelines in the Presenter's Guide. Visual aids and cues in the presentations make it easy for non-experts to give good and attractive presentations. The group will find it helpful to have a copy of the Bible and the Catechism and/or the Compendium of the Catechism for looking up references made during the sessions.

Costs: Presenters Guide: £19.95; Participant's Book: £7.95; CD-ROM: £25.00



RCIA: A Practical Approach (Spiral-bound), Rosalie Curtin, SCL, Carl Koch, FSC, et al, Brown-ROA, US (Dec 1990)

This book is developed on the premise that conversion, the coming to faith, is an ongoing process. While it is a lifelong journey, there are significant events which, when reflected upon, become experiences of grace and growth. While the RCIA process is designed to span certain liturgical seasons, the catechists should tailor it to fit the needs of particular groups with whom they are working. Conversion, growth in faith, and building community are processes of development that vary with each individual and group. All of the parts are seen as important, but not all are of equal importance. This book comes from the collective experience of the authors, but the materials are to be adapted to the individual group. The text is meant to be a resource for the director and team; it is not a final product, but rather an attempt to share what has worked and to encourage others to launch out and try it. The worksheets for participants can be handed out separately during a class or given in workbook form.

Cost: £22.13

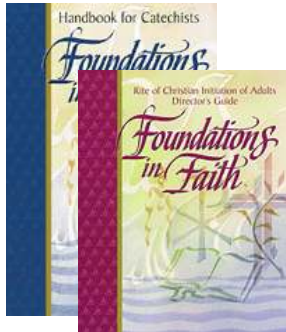


God for Grown-ups – Discovering Christ Today in the Catholic Church, Fr. Kenneth O’Riordan, Fr. Gerry Murphy, Sr. Ellen McGrath, Redemptorist Publications, Chawton Alton Hampshire, 1997

God for Grown-ups is a resource book for everyone engaged in teaching the Catholic Faith to adults. The starting point for such teaching is the life and experience of the inquirer. This experience is then related to the experience of Jesus Christ and the Church. It is an essential aid for everyone helping enquirers in the RCIA. It explains the basic thinking behind the RCIA process and offers important background information to the Rite based on practical experience. The book suggests possible outlines for sessions which help the catechist to take those interested in the Catholic faith through from first inquiry to the sacraments of initiation and beyond.

Cost: £19.95

Resources to support RCIA catechists



Foundations in Faith – Handbook for Catechists, Bob Duggan, Carol Gura, et al., Resources for Christian Living, Allen, Texas, 1998

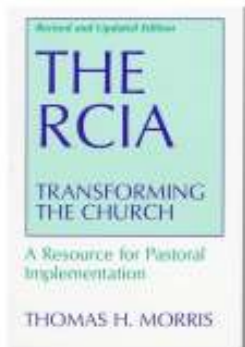
Another component of Foundations in Faith, a complete resource for RCIA. Your catechists will learn to do much more than present information; they will become ministers of the word with ideas to awaken conversation.

Cost £2.95

Foundations in Faith – Director's Guide, Bob Duggan, Carol Gura, et al., Resources for Christian Living, Allen, Texas, 1998

Whether you're new to initiation ministry or a veteran of the RCIA, here is the easiest and most comprehensive way to implement each period of the RCIA.

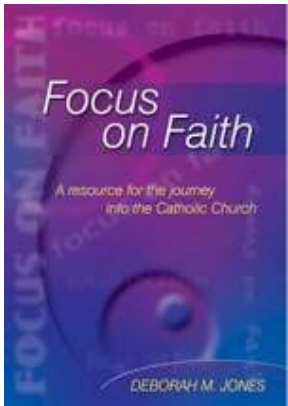
Cost £19.95



The RCIA: Transforming the Church, A Resource for Pastoral Implementation: Transforming the Church

"*The RCIA: Transforming the Church* is a basic resource for all Christian communities that implement the RCIA. Although the book is described as a revised and updated version, there is much that is new and that goes beyond the original 1989 edition. The place of liturgy and liturgical catechesis in the initiation process, the adaptation to children of catechetical age and to baptised candidates, the discernment process and the guided reading of the ritual text are some of the elements deepened and expanded in this version. The section of mystagogy is particularly helpful . . . Thom Morris's clear prose, through knowledge of the ritual text, insight into the pastoral issues and pastoral orientation are a gift to every community implementing the RCIA" Kate Dooley, O.P., Dept. of Religion and R.E., School of Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America. "The second edition of the RCIA: Transforming the Church is an insightful and comprehensive overview of the RCIA which should serve as a basic resource in every parish liturgical library. There is simply no more complete commentary on the rites for the initiation of adults than this book." Rev. James Moony, Executive Director, Secretariat for the Liturgy.

Cost: £6.93



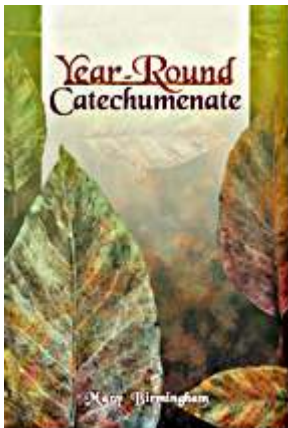
Focus on Faith – a resource for the journey into the Catholic Church, Deborah M. Jones, Kevin Mayhew (www.kevinmayhew.com)

For a decade, Focus on Faith has been the unchallenged resource for those on their journey to the Catholic Church. With this revised edition, its continuing usefulness and popularity are ensured.

Focus on Faith is a systematic exploration of the thinking and practice of Catholicism, primarily intended for use by those parishes in which people are embarking on the catechumenate period of the RCIA.

The contents are divided into 20 'sessions', each of which has an introductory text on a theme for home reading, followed by suggestions for group discussion and exploration, and concluding with a short period of prayer. The sessions include: the story, the journey, conversion, Jesus the Christ, Jesus and us, Scripture: the Old Testament, Scripture: the New Testament, the Holy Spirit and the Church, the Church's story, Catholic specialities, prayer, sign and sacrament, Baptism and Confirmation, Eucharist (Mass), Reconciliation, and Anointing of the Sick, Orders (Priesthood) and Marriage, love, sex and the Church, justice and peace, ecumenical and inter-faith movements and the Christian response.

Cost: £11.39



Year-Round Catechumenate, Mary Birmingham, Liturgy Training Publications, Chicago, 2002 (www.ltp.org)

How does the vision of Christian initiation outlined in *The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* fit into a programme modelled after the school year? It doesn't, argues Mary Birmingham. The RCIA describes an initiation process that exists at the heart of the Church's life and on the same schedule as the Church: every day, all year long. While that may sound overwhelming and unimaginable, Birmingham carefully explains how it is not only possible but also the best stewardship of the gifts and talents of initiation ministers. She then walks the reader step by step through the periods and rites of the RCIA, providing helpful insight along the way.

Chapters cover topics such as:

- sacramental catechesis
- the periods and rites of initiation
- the initiating community
- mystagogia
- doctrine and the catechumenate

With its helpful treatment of the rite as a whole and the community's role within it, *Year-Round Catechumenate* will help pastors, initiation teams, liturgy committees and other ministers imagine, envision, understand and implement a year-round catechumenate in the parish

Cost: £11.39

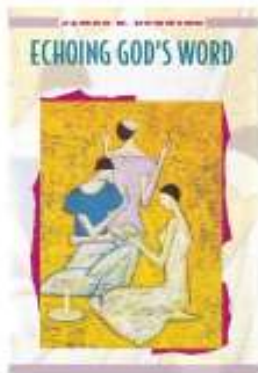


A Mystagogy of Sacrament – Saying Amen, Kathleen Hughes, Liturgy Training Publications, Chicago, 2002 (www.ltp.org)

“In liturgy, as in life, one thing regularly leads to another: understanding leads to loving, loving to participation, participation to commitment, and commitment to a reformed way of living. It seems so elementary. Believers simply need to understand what they are doing when they gather for prayer, and the rest will follow.” –Saying Amen, Chapter 1

This book explores a new way of contemplating the liturgy, a mystagogical way based on the actual experiences of women and men at prayer. Kathleen Hughes interviewed hundreds of ordinary believers about worship, how they had prepared for it, what it touched in their lives, how it helped them name God, and what it asked them to “say Amen” to. Using the language of the people she interviewed—including images, stories and metaphors—she explores the meaning of sacraments, including the Christian Initiation of Adults, Infant Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage and Vocation, Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, Funerals and Eucharist.

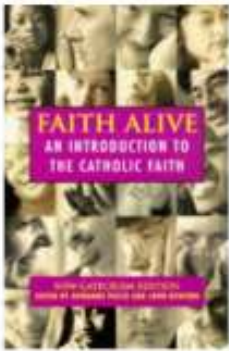
In these pages you are invited to share the experiences of many different types of people: young and old, lifelong Catholics, and those recently welcomed (or welcomed back) into the Church, newly confirmed teenagers, first communicants, newlyweds, those who have recently experienced the death of a loved one, a community of religious women. This book will help you and those you work with to understand and love the liturgy more, to participate more thoughtfully in its celebration, and to embrace a sacramental way of living. It is a valuable resource for students, pastoral ministers and anyone who wants to reflect on how we live our faith. Cost: £16.95



Echoing God's Word, James Dunning, Liturgy Training Publication, Chicago, 1993 (www.ltp.org)

Catechesis is the process of “echoing” the word of God. In this book, James Dunning offers his vision of catechesis in a Church called to mission in the modern world. Dunning then presents a method to help catechists and homilists prepare to open God’s word. This book is primarily for those who will preach or catechise during the period of the catechumenate, but it is also for all who strive to help make God’s word accessible and to echo it in ways that release its liberating message.

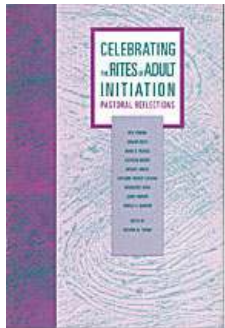
“Jim Dunning brings liturgists and catechists/religious educators together to encourage them to look over and then jump over the fences they have allowed to separate them.” from the foreword by Michael Warren. James Dunning was the president of the North American Forum on the Catechumenate, he was a priest of the Archdiocese of Seattle and was a pastoral minister and educator. He served as executive director of the National Organisation for the Continuing Education of Roman Catholic Clergy. Cost: £9.95



Faith Alive – an Introduction to the Catholic Faith, by Rowanne Pasco (Editor), John Redford (Editor) Hodder & Stoughton Religious; New Edition (6 May 1999)

Faith Alive is an introduction to the Catholic Faith. It explains what Catholics believe in clear language and provides plenty of examples and answers to all the questions that the reader is likely to ask.

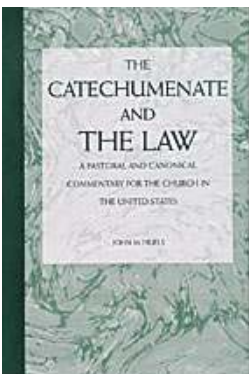
Cost: £14.99



Celebrating the Rites of Adult Initiation: Pastoral Reflections, edited by Victoria M. Tufano, Liturgy Training Publication, Chicago, 1986 (www.ltp.org)

This book offers the insights of Kathleen Hughes, Michael Joncas, Rita Ferrone, James Moudry, Catherine Mowry Lacugna, Mark Francis, Marguerite Main, Ronald Oakham and Edward Foley on the rites of initiation. These essays look at the Scrutinies, the Rite of Acceptance and the Presentations. Also included are commentaries on the minor exorcisms, the taking of a new name, and the liturgy of the word.

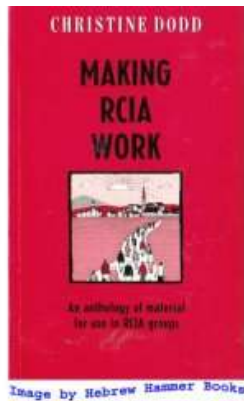
Cost: £4.00



The Catechumenate and the Law: A Pastoral and Canonical Commentary for the Church in the United States, John M. Huels Liturgy Training Publication, Chicago, 1986 (www.ltp.org)

Everyone who works with Christian initiation will encounter a predicament that only a knowledge of canon law can resolve. This helpful book reviews the various aspects of Christian initiation that are affected by the Church's many sources of canon law, including the canons, the rite itself and various documents from Vatican II and from the Bishops of the United States. Reading lists, legal texts and an index are included.

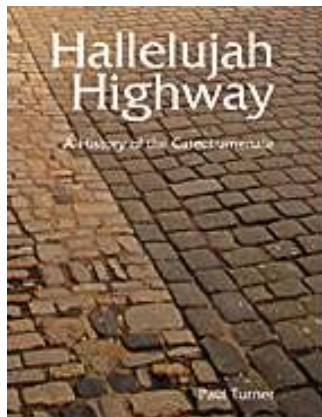
Cost: \$16.95



Making RCIA Work, Christine Dodd, Geoffrey Chapman, London, 1993

A full guide for leaders of groups accompanying people into faith; the Bible, the Christian tradition and everyday life provide the materials. It is a practical and down-to-earth guide to the RCIA based on Christine Dodd's own experience in parishes. It contains lively stories and case studies and includes worksheets and follow-up sessions. It offers some group formats for a process-centred small group that address possible questions for the four phases in the catechumenate: What can we make of a mystery? What is God like? What do I think of Jesus? What is baptism, confirmation, eucharist? What about justice?

Cost: £5.00



The Hallelujah Highway: a History of the Catechumenate, Paul Turner, Liturgy Training Publications, Chicago, 2000.

A large-format, attractively presented, history of the development of the catechumenate from the early church onwards; contains illustrations. Christian initiation is a journey marked with the teachings, rituals, actions and songs of faith—a Hallelujah highway, one might say. The history of how the Church has initiated adults and children over the centuries is itself a journey from a vibrant process adapted in many ways according to local need, through a period of dormancy, and back to a vibrancy just beginning to be understood and appreciated. In this exciting new book Paul Turner relates the history of the catechumenate through the stories of people and documents that played a significant role in developing the rites and recording its development from the earliest days of the Church to the present. Quotations from the documents, maps and photos of significant places and artifacts enrich and enliven the story. A comprehensive index and a helpful bibliography make this book immensely useful for pastoral ministers, Christian initiation teams, adult education classes, students, scholars and Church historians.

Cost: £19.95



A Sacramental People, Vol One: Initiation, Michael Drumm and Tom Gunning, Columbia Press, Dublin, 1999

One of the most urgent questions facing the Catholic Church is how best to celebrate its sacraments. The authors face this problem directly and realistically. Re-examining the power and potential of the symbols and ritual acts themselves, they offer a range of ideas and approaches for enabling the symbols of initiation to speak directly and powerfully to the people of God. Their suggestions for enhancing the celebration of the Sunday Mass should be useful to priests and people alike. The book also contains a range of tried and tested rituals for various occasions.

Cost: £9.50

Resources to support Godparents and Sponsors

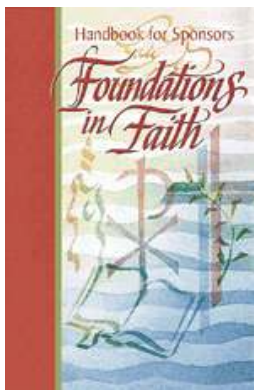


RCIA Godparent and Sponsor Handbook, Association for Catechumenal Ministry (ACM), Edited by William J. Keimig
This inexpensive and succinct booklet provides a straightforward and practical aide to those serving as sponsors or godparents in the Christian initiation processes in their parish. It is pragmatic, spiritual, down-to-earth, and easy to read. It enables parish RCIA leaders to provide a high-quality means of effectively communicating the Church's intentions for this crucial ministry of companionship and conversion in the catechumenate.



When you are an RCIA Sponsor: Handing on the Faith, St. Anthony Press, Rita Burns Senseman

This book has 2 purposes, one as a guide for all those sponsoring someone through the RCIA course and also it makes a great gift to give to the person you want to sponsor you so that both parties are fully aware of the commitment. Rita manages to reflect on the responsibility and significance of being chosen to share your faith and personal experience with someone less familiar with that path. It includes a description of the rituals and also theology surrounding baptism and RCIA. Each chapter gives a chance for reflection on learning, introductions to the faith, church and prayer. This book also contains information on sponsoring a family.



Foundations in Faith, Handbook for Sponsors

A component of Foundations in Faith, a complete resource for RCIA. Sponsors are the backbone of your process. Help them reflect on their own faith and the skills they need to share faith with others.

Essential resources for catechists in the parish



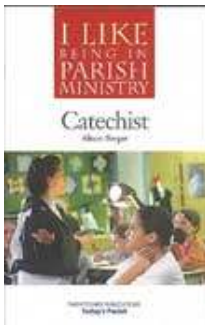
The Catechism of the Catholic Church, Geoffrey Chapman, London, March 2000, London £10.99
The Catechism of the Catholic Church is the first new edition of the catechism in 400 years. It is the authoritative summary of Catholic belief regarding the Church creeds, sacraments, commandments and prayers. The book is exceptionally well organised, with line-by-line explanations of every conceivable aspect of orthodox Catholic belief. Extensive cross-referencing, indexing and footnotes and "In Brief" summaries of each section further ease the project of finding the precise answers to any questions a reader might have.

Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Catholic Truth Society, London, £6.95
The new essential guide to the Catholic faith is a faithful and sure official synthesis of the Catechism of the Catholic Church (1992) Prepared by a commission presided over by the then Cardinal Ratzinger, now Pope Benedict XVI,

General Directory for Catechesis, The Congregation for the Clergy, Catholic Truth Society,
The General Directory for Catechesis provides religious educators, teachers, and catechists with a single point of reference for all aspects of catechetical instruction. Also available in easy-to-read language: **The General Directory for Catechesis in Plain English: A Summary and Commentary (Paperback)** by Bill Huebsch, Twenty-third Publications, 2001, £7.99.

On Catechesis in Our Time (Catechesi Tradendae) Pope John Paul II s timeless apostolic exhortation reflects on the realities and joys of bringing the mystery of Christ to all the world. (available on line: http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/john_paul_ii/apost_exhortations/documents/hf_jp-ii_exh_16101979_catechesi-tradendae_en.html)

Vatican II documents: Sixteen documents produced by the Second Vatican Council (available on line: <http://www.vatican.va>).



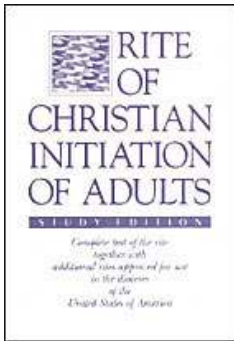
I like being in Parish Ministry – Catechist, Alison Berger, New London, CT: Twenty-Third Publications, 2006

This is an ideal introduction to being a catechist for both those beginning their ministry and ministry veterans affirming their calls to service.

Alison Berger invites catechists to probe the heart of their vocation: to help those they minister with to know, celebrate, live, and contemplate the mystery of Christ and so grow in communion with him. With stories, reflections questions, and concrete suggestions, she guides readers in exploring the spiritual and practical dimensions of catechising as Jesus did. Ideal for both those beginning their ministry and ministry veterans affirming their calls to service

Cost: £4.95

An essential resource for RCIA catechists



Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, Study Edition, Veritas Publications, Dublin, reprinted 2004, £14.99

This paper-bound edition of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is exactly like the Ritual Edition; but it enables people involved with the RCIA to have a 'working copy' of the entire document. Who should have a copy of this book?

- All those responsible for parish catechesis
- All those responsible for preparing the liturgies of initiation
- All those – clergy and lay – who preside at the rites
- Seminarians and theology students

Internet Resources

There is a vast array of resources on the internet that can assist in the RCIA process. It is impossible to list them all here. Our suggestion is to use google or your favorite search engine to find what you may be looking for. But a word of caution: you need to be careful that what you find is "authentic" Catholic teaching since anyone can supply information on the internet.

- RCIA Network (www.RCIA.org.uk)
- North American Forum on the Catechumenate (<http://www.naforum.org>)
- Resources for Christian Living (www.rclweb.com)
- St. Anthony Messenger (www.catalog.americancatholic.org)