

Initiation Ministry Resource Guide

The following are recommended resources and curriculums that could be used in initiation ministry. Some are designed for use in the catechumenate, and some are not. While each of these resources will present the faith fully and with charity, they might not fit your parish circumstances, nor is it exhaustive. Use this list as a tool to help you build your formation sessions!

General OCIA Leader Training & Guides

- *Franciscan at Home* – Initiation Ministry Track
- *OCIA Leader Manual* – Association of Catechumenal Ministry
- *Guide for Training Initiation Ministers* – Liturgical Training Publications

Evangelization & Pre-Catechumenate

Key Concepts:

- Explanation of the Gospel message (the *kerygma*)
- Explanation of the OCIA process
- Explanation of common Catholic “hang-ups”

Resources:

- *The Search* – Formed.org | Video Series
- *The Crux* – FOCUS | Bible Study
- *Discover* – CCO Faith Studies | Bible Study
- *Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life* – Ascension Press | Video Series
- *What We Believe: The Beauty of the Catholic Faith* – Ascension Press | Video Series
- *Catholicism* – Word on Fire | Video Series
- *The Rescue Project* – Father John Ricardo | Video Series
- *Discovering Christ* – ChristLife | Video Series

Catechumenate

Key Concepts:

- A gradual and complete catechesis (as outlined in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*)
- Accommodated and integrated into the liturgical year

Textbooks:

- *Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church*
- *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults*
- *A Journey Through the Catechism* – Fr. Daniel Mahan
- *Open Wide the Doors to Christ* – Lucas Pollice
- *Love Unveiled* – Edward Sri

Video Programs:

- *Symbolon: The Catholic Faith Explained* – Formed.org
- *Foundations of Faith: Journey Through the Catechism* – Ascension Press
- *Credo: An OCIA Program* – TAN publishing (Thomistic Institute)

Catechumenate (continued)

Curriculum/Lesson Plans:

- *Echoing the Mystery* – Barbara Morgan
- *Open Wide the Doors to Christ* – Lucas Pollice
- *OCIA Catechist Manual* – Association of Catechumenal Ministry

Purification & Enlightenment

Key Concepts:

- Interior reflection
- Perception of sin and desire for salvation

Resources:

- Reflection on the Sunday readings during Lent
- Reflection on the Scrutinies and other rights
- *A Biblical Walkthrough the Mass* – Ascension Press
- *Forgiven* – Formed.org
- *Presences* – Formed.org
- *No Greater Love: a Biblical Walkthrough Christ's Passion* – Ascension Press

Mystagogy & the Neophyte Year

Key Concepts:

- Fresh presentation of the mysteries with the eyes of Faith
- Helping neophytes develop the muscles of discipleship
- Fully integrating neophytes into the life of the parish

Resources:

- Participate in the next catechumenate (with a separate discussion group)
- Participate in adult faith studies at the parish
- Any of the catechumenate resources above
- Emmaus 90 | Archdiocese of Milwaukee
- *The Wild Goose* – Fr. Dave Pivonka | Formed.org and WildGoose.tv
- *Catholicism: the Pivotal Players* – Bishop Barron | Word on Fire
- *The Bible Timeline* – Jeff Cavins | Ascension Press