



# A Bibliography of Books, Periodicals, and Newsletters for the Catechumenate

## OFFICIAL BOOKS

### *The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*

The rite itself! *Every* catechumenate team member should have their own copy. Available from the Office of Worship in English and in Spanish. \$19

### *The Register of Catechumens; Reception into Full Communion*

These 2 books are available from DPMurphy. They constitute the official listing of names that each parish must keep. (Cf. *RCIA Handbook*, page 13)

## DIOCESAN GUIDES AND HELPS

### *Pre-Initiation Inventory/Inventario de Pre-Iniciación*

An excellent checklist for the interview to be conducted prior to acceptance into the Order of Catechumens. In particular, it helps to uncover marriage problems that must be settled. Available online, or in print from the Office of Worship in Spanish and in English.

### *Pre-Initiation Inventory for Children, with Worksheet/Inventario para la Pre-Iniciación de Niños, Junto con Hoja de Plano.*

Like the one for adults, an excellent checklist for the interview to be conducted upon receiving a child seven years of age or older into the parish initiation process. Available online, or in print from the Office of Worship in Spanish and in English.

### *RCIA Handbook: A Guide to the Most Frequently Asked Questions.*

Written and developed by the Diocesan Committee for the RCIA in collaboration with other interested groups, to answer your questions. In Spanish, *Manual de Rica: Guía par alas Preguntas más Frecuentemente Formuladas*. Both are available online, or in print from the Office of Worship.

*Summit and Source. A Publication of the Office of Worship and the Liturgy Commission of the Diocese of Rockville Centre.* Published quarterly, it has articles of interest to all who work for the implementation of the sacred liturgy in the diocese as well as registration materials for workshops given in the diocese. Summit and Source is available **only** online at [www.drvc.org/](http://www.drvc.org/)

*The Confirmation of Catholic Adults. Programs to Prepare Catholic Adults for the Celebration of Confirmation at Pentecost.* Developed as an aid for parishes, these programs aim at assisting parishes in the preparation of already baptized Catholic adults for Confirmation at Pentecost. The booklet contains an extensive list of Catholic Updates arranged by topic.

### **NEW!** *Sorting It All Out. Children and Adults in the Initiation Process.*

This leaflet presents 9 people who seek initiation into the church. These different scenarios are offered as helps to know what to do in each of these different situations. Available online, or in print from the Office of Worship.

## RECOMMENDED BOOKS

Contact information (websites and phone numbers) for the various publishers are listed at the end of this bibliography

### *The RCIA: Transforming the Church. A Resource for Pastoral Implementation.*

Thomas H. Morris. (Paulist Press; \$14.95). Revised and updated, 1997. The most up-to-date resource available that offers general guidelines and practical directions on implementing all facets of the initiation process. Morris treat: sponsors, hospitality, time line, discernment, adaptations for children and candidates as well as all aspects of the periods of the RCIA.

***The Catechumenate Answer Book. ML answers the 101 Most-Asked Questions.***

Paul Turner. (Resource Publications; \$21.95) Offers to initiation ministers a unique blend of pastoral wisdom and solid academic understanding, packaged in concise question and answer format. Phone 1-408-286-8505.

***The Hallelujah Highway***

Paul Turner. (Liturgical Training Publications; \$19) A history of how the church has initiated adults and children over the centuries, related through the stories of people and documents that played significant roles in developing the rites and recording its development from the earliest days of the church to the present.

***Saying Amen: A Mystagogy of the Sacraments.***

Kathleen Hughes, RSCJ. (Liturgy Training Publications, \$17). The author teaches us how to reflect on the experience of sacramental celebrations (the mystagogical method of understanding sacraments). An excellent book for all catechumenate ministers.

***NEW! Welcoming the New Catholic*** (3<sup>rd</sup> edition)

Ron Lewinski (Liturgy Training Publications \$10.00) A basic and thorough introduction to the Catholic church's way of inviting people into conversion and welcoming them into membership in the Catholic communion. A resource for new and experienced team members, pastors and parish staffs.

***La iniciación cristiana. Un recurso básico.***

Miguel Arias, et al. (Liturgy Training Publications \$7.00) Este libro se ha diseñado para responder a las preguntas más básicas acerca de la iniciación cristiana en el contexto de la vida parroquial.

***El Catecumenado. La Reforma del Vaticano II***

AndréLaurentin, Michel Dujarier (Grafite Ediciones S.L. \$35)

En este libro, los autores plantean cómo evangelizar a la Iglesia a través del kerygma y muestran el camino a seguir en el catecumenado por medio de la catequesis.

**THE RITES:**

***Celebrating the Rites of Adult Initiation. Pastoral Reflections.***

ed. Victoria Tufano. (Liturgy Training Publications; \$7.95). These essays look at scrutinies, rite of acceptance, presentations and other rites during initiation.

***NEW! Celebrating Initiation. A Guide for Priests***

Paul Turner (World Library Publications; \$24.95) An excellent, concise review of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, commenting throughout with suggestions for priests.

***Preparing the Rites of Initiation.***

Bill Corcoran (Liturgical Press; \$3.95) This short book will help those who prepare parish liturgy to understand the vital relationship of the rites to the life of their communities, and how to help their communities celebrate them well.

**THE PROCESS:**

***A Harvest for God. Christian Initiation in the Rural and Small-town Parish***

Michael Clay (Liturgy Training Publications. \$18) Clay offers practical step-by-step insights into implementing the RCIA faithful to the rite and respectful of rural culture. Includes a reflection on small-town culture and society.

***The Catechumenate and the Law. A Pastoral and Canonical Commentary for the Church in the US.***

John M. Huels (Liturgy Training Publications, \$16.95). Drawing on the various sources of canon law related to Christian initiation, this book treats select canonical issues and pastoral questions that have canonical implications, such as: the rights and obligations of catechumens and candidates, doubts about the validity of baptism or confirmation, the initiation of younger children at celebrations of adult initiation, delay of confirmation; marriage cases, etc.

***Come and See. A Lectionary-based Christian Initiation Resource Using Catholic Updates – 4<sup>th</sup> edition.***

Compiled and Introduced by Karen Albertus. (St. Anthony Messenger Press, Leader edition, \$24.95, Participant edition, \$19.95) Outlines a comprehensive initiation process built on Scriptures, catechetical sessions, discipleship and seasonal celebrations.

***Discerning Disciples. Listening for God's Voice in Christian Initiation (2<sup>nd</sup> edition)***

Donna Stefan, S.C. (Liturgy Training Publications \$14.95) An excellent resource to help understand discernment during the whole process of initiation. It describes the decision-making process, and serves to improve listening skills and helps them ask the right questions at the right time.

***Foundations in Faith. A Complete Resource Library for RCIA.***

Maureen Kelly, managing editor (Resources for Christian Living, 1-800-822-6701; prices vary). This series provides catechist manuals and participant books for each of the various stages of the initiation process, with detailed sessions for dismissal and extended catechesis. Included with the series are handbooks for inquirers, sponsors, catechists, coordinators and priests.

***One At The Table. The Reception of Baptized Christians.***

Ron Oakham, with Kathy Browne, Rita Ferrone, Mark Searle and Joseph Favazza. (Liturgy Training Publications \$17) This book speaks to the expanding vision of initiation, offering historical, theological and pastoral reflections on this issue. Part II treats Pastoral Implementation, addressing formation of non-Catholics, both uncatechized and catechized Christians, as they prepare for Full Communion.

***Real Stories of Christian Initiation***

David Yamane and Sarah MacMillen with Kelly Culver (Liturgical Press. \$13.95) Based on data from participant observation and interviews, the authors tell "real stories" of the initiation process in five U.S. parishes. They offer a detailed analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the RCIA process in each of the parishes. From these stories collectively they draw lessons *for* the RCIA as well as lessons *from* the RCIA for the church as a whole.

***Readers Journal for the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults***

USCCB Publication (\$9.95) The reflections in the journal support and further expand on the topics in each chapter of the USCCA, helping the reader deepen their encounter with the living Christ. Use the journal with catechumens as part of their preparation for the Easter sacraments.

***United States Catholic Catechism for Adults***

USCCB Publication (\$24.95) Each chapter in the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults includes stories, doctrine, reflections, quotations, discussion questions, and prayers to lead the reader to a deepening faith

***NEW! When Other Christians Become Catholic***

Paul Turner (Liturgical Press, \$23.95) Turner seeks to clarify and confirm the status of baptized persons who enter into full communion of the Catholic Church. In addition, he discusses discerning readiness, ritual issues and the situation in the United States. Available from Amazon.com

***Year-round Catechumenate.***

Mary Birmingham (Liturgy Training Publications; \$15.95)

A year-round Catechumenate may sound overwhelming and unimaginable, but the author shows that it is not only possible, but it is also the best stewardship of the gifts and talents of initiation ministers. This book will help you imagine, envision, understand and implement a year-round Catechumenate in your parish.

**SCRIPTURE:**

***Breaking Open the Word of God. Resources for Using the Lectionary for Catechesis in the RCIA (Cycle A,B,C)***

ed. Karen Hinman Powell and Joseph P. Sinwell (Paulist, \$14.95). This provides copious information for the catechist, and outlines for Sunday sessions of Breaking Open the Word. There are three volumes, one for each cycle.

***Footprints on the Mountain. Preaching and Teaching the Sunday Readings.***

Roland J. Faley (Paulist Press, paperback \$44.95; on CD-\$39.95) A thematic commentary on all 3 readings and the psalms for every Sunday in the Lectionary, with a brief spiritual reflection pointing out the implications for Christian life. The author provides a short list of topics related to each week's readings, which should be a great help to the catechumenal catechist.

***Lights, Camera ... Faith! A Movie Lover's Guide to Scripture.***

Malone and Pacatte. (Pauline Books and Media; \$29.95) This book provides a thought-provoking passage into the world of the Gospels through popular film. By exploring movies in the light of the Sunday Scriptures, the authors create a dialogue between Scripture and film. Available for all 3 Lectionary Cycles.

## THE TEAM:

### **NEW! Guide for Sponsors. 4<sup>th</sup> edition.**

Ron Lewinski (Liturgy Training Publications. \$6) A practical and spiritually enriching formational resource for sponsors. This revised 4<sup>th</sup> edition give particular emphasis to the differences that exist between sponsoring a candidate versus sponsoring a catechumen. Also available in Spanish: *Manual Para Padrinos y Madrinas de Catecúmenos*

### **When You Are an RCIA Sponsor.**

Rita Burns Senseman (St. Anthony Messenger Press B4492; \$3.95 each; 50-99 copies: \$3.36 each; 100 or more: \$2..96). Explains the RCIA process, with suggestions for being a companion and witness on the RCIA journey.

### **Enter the Rose. Retreats for Unfolding the Mysteries of Faith with Catechumens, Candidates and All Believers.**

Miriam Malone, SNJM (World Library Publications, revised edition, \$49.95) This resource provides all ministers of initiation with the tools needed to facilitate a variety of reflection and retreat experiences for RCIA. All are rooted in the gospel and the liturgical life of the Church. An audio CD that contains formational and inspirational support materials, and a CD-ROM containing reproducible journals for the retreats are included.

### **RCIA Spirituality. Formation for the Catechumenate Team**

Barbara Hixon (Resource Publications. \$23.95) The catechumenal process is not something you do to someone else, it is something that happens to you, the team member, as much as to the catechumen. Hixon takes you deep into the spirituality of the Christian initiation process and shows you how each step can change your life. Gail Gensler's questions make this book a useful group formation tool for the catechumenate team.

## FORUM ESSAYS:

The purpose of this series is to provide a forum for exploring issues emerging from the implementation of the order of Christian initiation and the renewal of reconciliation in the Roman Catholic Church (LTP; prices vary: \$6 - \$12 each).

**On the Rite of Election,** Rita Ferrone

**Eucharist as Sacrament of Initiation,** Nathan Mitchell

**The Role of the Assembly in Christian Initiation,** Catherine Vincie

**Preaching the Rites of Initiation,** Jan Michael Joncas

**Liturgical Spirituality and the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults,** Shawn Madigan, CSJ

**Images of Baptism.** Maxwell E. Johnson

**The Reception of Baptized Christians: A History and Evaluation.** Dale J. Sieverding

## FOR TEAMS WORKING WITH THE RCIA ADAPTED FOR CHILDREN:

### **A Child Shall Lead Them. A Guide to Celebrating the Word with Children.**

Gerard Pottebaum, Sr. Paule Freeburg, D.C., Joyce Kelleher. (Treehaus Communications, Inc. \$14.95; 2 or more \$9.95 each ) Describes the Celebration of the Word with Children, discussing ministers of the Word, how children relate to God and pray, nurturing responses, ways to evaluate and refine these celebrations.

### **Children's Catechumenate: Christian Initiation of Children**

Long and Filippi (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Religion Publishers) this series provides catechetical and scriptural formation for various levels for the initiation of children.

### **Children and Christian Initiation: A Practical Guide**

Kathy Coffey (Living the Good News, Inc. Denver CO 1-800-824-1813; \$14.95; Handbooks, \$4.95; Journals \$5.95.) Full of useful ideas, and based on the RCIA, this book distills the best of age-appropriate ways to implement the process with children, including: ideas for preparation before the rites and reflection after the rites; activities that help children link scripture with their daily experience; suggestions for involving parents, sponsors and peer companions. It also explores the symbols and ritual gestures that help children become people of prayer.

### **Guided Meditations for Child Catechumens**

Sydney Ann Merritt (Resource Publications. \$24.95) These guided meditations can help children make sense of the rites of Christian initiation — and connect their personal experiences to the Jesus story. There is a guided meditation script that you can use “as is” or adapt, discussion questions and suggestions for music that will enhance the children’s experience.

### ***Christian Initiation of Older Children***

Sandra Figgess, R.S.C.J. (Liturgical Press. \$7.95) Prepares non-baptized children of catechetical age, with the help of a parent, to become full members of the Church. It explores the meaning of baptism in the context of salvation history, explains the symbols and the ritual of baptism as described in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and, finally, it looks at the Eucharist as the sacrament which nourishes the new life received in baptism.

### ***Lectionary Based Catechesis for Children. A Catechist's Guide.***

Sylvia DeVillers (Paulist Press, 1994, \$10.95) A explanation of lectionary-based catechesis, its development through the ages together with a methodology for today's catechists. Provides sample lesson-plans.

### ***Readings in the Christian Initiation of Children***

Victoria Tufano, ed. (Liturgy Training Publications; \$9.95) A compilation of many of the important articles on the initiation of children. It looks at the reform of children's initiation, working with the rite and pastoral issues.

### ***To Walk With a Child. Homiletics for Children. A Guide.(with CD)***

Gerard A. Pottebaum (Treehaus Publications, Inc., CD with book \$24.95) Explores how to engage children in homilies, whether in intergenerational assemblies, or liturgies expressly for children. Rooted in an understanding of the spiritual life of children, this presents principles and practices of homiletics for children

### ***When Your Child Becomes A Catholic***

Rita Burns Senseman (St. Anthony Messenger Press \$2.95) Explains Catholic teaching about Baptism and the other sacraments of initiation and the process of becoming Catholic. She describes the roles and responsibilities of parish sponsors and sponsoring families—the people who will be paired with your child and you on this faith journey. She also suggests activities for parent and child to get started on the road to Baptism.

## **FOR TEENS**

### ***SPIRIT, A Lectionary-Based Program for Teens.***

Joan L. Mitchell, CSJ (Good Ground Press) A religion program suitable for use with the process of Christian Initiation adapted for teens. 28 four-page issues, one for each Sunday, October through April, bringing teens into dialog with Jesus in the Sunday gospel, and with people's needs in our world. Price varies with number ordered. 1-800-232-5533.

## **LEAFLETS**

### ***Exploring the Sunday Readings.***

(23rd Publications, subscription prices: single: \$14.95; 2-10: \$12.95 each; 11-20, \$10.95). A monthly four-page leaflet that provides a reflection on each of the Sunday readings, including questions for personal reflection and an "Action Response." This is also published in Spanish: *Parameditar las Lecturas Dominicales*.

### ***NEW! How Do I Become Catholic? Also available in Spanish.***

Ronald Lewinski (Liturgy Training Publications. \$9.95 for pack of 25, discounted for larger orders) Baptized Christians considering full reception into the Catholic Church have specific questions regarding full communion with the Church. Pastorally sensitive to the journey of faith already begun by the baptized, this leaflet directs inquirers to helpful sources for further information.

### ***NEW! What are the Sacraments of Initiation? Also available in Spanish***

Ronald Lewinski (Liturgy Training Publications. \$9.95 for pack of 25, discounted for larger orders). A brief review of the three sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.

### ***NEW! What Does It Mean to Be An RCIA Sponsor? Also available in Spanish.***

Ronald Lewinski (Liturgy Training Publications. \$9.95 for pack of 25, discounted for larger orders) The role of RCIA Sponsor is a specific role of companionship and mentorship not meant to be confused with the role of catechist. A resource to use in recruiting sponsors.

### ***NEW! What Is the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults? Also available in Spanish.***

Ronald Lewinski (Liturgy Training Publications. \$9.95 for pack of 25, discounted for larger orders) Initiation into the Christian Community involves a process of evangelization, community involvement, catechesis, and formation for mission that culminates in the celebration of the sacraments. This pamphlet briefly explains the general process through which catechumens travel

### ***Living the Good News. Catholic Lectionary-based Materials.***

(Living the Good News, 600 Grant Street, Suite 400, Denver CO 80203; prices vary. 1-800-824-1813.) Provides lectionary-based materials for parishes, families and schools. Each age-group has its own materials: pre-K through adult, which come with extensive preparation resources for the catechist.

### ***Sunday By Sunday.***

(Sunday By Sunday, St. Paul MN; subscription prices vary: single: \$34.00; 2-9, \$24.50, discounts continue for larger orders) The Sunday scriptures are presented in a prayer setting, with a meditation and questions for personal reflection on the gospel and first reading.

## **PERIODICALS and NEWSLETTERS**

### ***Catechumenate: A Journal of Christian Initiation.***

ed. Mary Fox (Liturgy Training Publications, \$20 yearly, groups rates available. 1-800-933-1800.) *The* national periodical, focusing on Christian initiation, this bi-monthly provides articles by a variety of authors; scholars in the areas of liturgy and catechesis, RCIA coordinators, pastors, pastoral liturgists and catechists.

### ***Forum Newsletter.***

A publication of the *North American Forum on the Catechumenate*, an international network of pastoral ministers, liturgists, catechists and theologians united to share the vision of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. Go to [www.naforum.org](http://www.naforum.org) Membership is free. Call the Forum at (202) 884-9758.



## **Websites and Phone Numbers for Books and other Information**

**Diocese of Rockville Centre:** [www.drvc.org](http://www.drvc.org)

**Office of Worship:** [www.drvc.org/worship.html](http://www.drvc.org/worship.html) 516-678-5800, x231  
e-mail: [worship@drvc.org](mailto:worship@drvc.org)

**Commentary on the Sunday Scriptures:** [www.word-sunday.com](http://www.word-sunday.com)

**Committee on Divine Worship** (Washington, D.C.) [www.usccb.org/liturgy](http://www.usccb.org/liturgy)

**Franciscan Communications:** [www.americancatholic.org](http://www.americancatholic.org) 1-800-488-0488

**Our Sunday Visitor, Curriculum Division, (formerly Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Religion Publishers:**  
[grand@osv.com](mailto:grand@osv.com) 1-631-665-0058; toll free: 877-731-5003

**Liturgy Training Publications:** [www.ltp.org](http://www.ltp.org) 1-800-933-1800

**Liturgical Press:** [www.litpress.org](http://www.litpress.org) 1-800-858-5450

**Living the Good News:** [www.livingthegoodnews.com](http://www.livingthegoodnews.com) 1-800-824-1813  
for Children and Christian Initiation, click on Non-Curriculum Products, then Christian Initiation

**North American Forum on the Catechumenate:** [www.naforum.org](http://www.naforum.org) 1-202-529-9493

**Pauline Books and Media:** [www.pauline.org](http://www.pauline.org) 1-800-836-9723

**Paulist Press:** [www.paulistpress.com](http://www.paulistpress.com) 1-800-218-1903

**Resource Publications:** [www.rpinet.com](http://www.rpinet.com); 1-888-273-7782 (toll-free)

**Resources for Christian Living (RCL):** <http://rclbooksandmore.stores.yahoo.net/founinfait.html>  
*local representative:* John Raber 516-255-1827

**St. Anthony Messenger Press** (Catholic Updates) [www.americancatholic.org](http://www.americancatholic.org) 1-800-488-0488  
Click on “Catholic Update”

**Treehaus Communications:** [www.treehaus1.com](http://www.treehaus1.com) 1-800-638-4287

**Sunday by Sunday and Spirit!:** [www.goodgroundpress.com](http://www.goodgroundpress.com) 1-800-232-5533

**World Library Publications:** <http://www.wlp.jspaluch.com> 1-800-566-6150

**23<sup>rd</sup> Publications:** [www.twentythirdpublications.com](http://www.twentythirdpublications.com) 1-800-321-0411

**The Vatican:** [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va)