

Period of the Catechumenate

Part II

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Session #5

Catechesis in the Period of the Catechumenate

The focus on conversion and the centrality of the kerygma continues through the Catechumenate Period of the RCIA. As such, this “evangelizing” catechesis would be oriented toward deepening initial conversion fostered in the Pre-Catechumenate.

An evangelizing catechesis:

- ▶ Relates Catholic teaching to the Gospel message
- ▶ Makes faith real through the witness and example of devout, practicing Catholics
- ▶ Fosters a relationship with Christ and our need for his salvation

An RCIA Catechetical Methodology: The Ecclesial Method

- 1. Preparation**
- 2. Proclamation**
- 3. Explanation**
- 4. Application**
- 5. Celebration**

Catechetical Session on the Blessed Virgin Mary

► Preparation

Pray Hail Mary together and have sacred space ready with a beautiful statue or icon of Mary

► Proclamation

God chose a daughter of Israel to fulfill the promise of a Savior and accomplish the Incarnation. Mary became the mother of God and by Christ's gift to us, she is also our spiritual mother.

Catechetical Session on the Blessed Virgin Mary

► Explanation

Mary is invited to participate in God's plan (Lk 1:26-38; CCC 721-726), was conceived without original sin (Immaculate Conception) and is the Mother of God (Gn 3:15; Lk 1:43; CCC 963-972). At the Cross - Jesus gave his mother to the safekeeping of John and so is also our spiritual Mother and Mother of the Church. (Jn 19:26-27; Rev 12:17; CCC 2673-2679)

► Application - Suggested Questions for Discussion

- Why did Mary's "yes" take so much faith?
- What does the indispensable role of Mary in God's plan of salvation say about women?
- In getting to know Mary as a spiritual Mother, in what way might you ask that she intercede for you?

► Celebration

Pray the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary, or the Angelus, or the Hail Holy Queen, or close with one of the Minor Rites.

Group Processing Questions

1. What is the purpose of having a celebration of the Word of God?
2. Why are Minor Rites included in the Catechumenate Period?
3. What is the criteria for a Godparent/Sponsor and why is the Church so particular about it?