



Resource List

for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Adapted for Children

The following resources are recommended as tools to support parish catechetical leaders with starting and maintaining a children's catechumenate program that follows the RCIA framework. These resources offer practical recommendations for accompanying children and families through sacramental preparation and proper discernment for Christian initiation. A brief description of each resource is offered to assist parish leaders in selecting the resources and catechetical materials that are best suited to the needs of their parish community.

Resources for Parish Catechetical Leaders & Administrators

Guide to Adapting the RCIA for Children (Link)

(Liturgy Training Publications)

This resource recognizes and acknowledges that children of varying ages and states of faith formation undergo a variety of paths to Christian initiation. Using the rite itself, this book will help RCIA coordinators, catechetical leaders and catechists prepare children and their families to become disciples and to celebrate the rites of the Church and the sacraments of initiation. You will find: parish-tested models and sample sessions, appendices on how to prepare and lead child catechesis, how to celebrate the liturgical rites, answers to frequently asked questions and a glossary of terms. (English and Spanish)

The Christian Initiation of Children: Hope for the Future

(Available on [Amazon](#), Google Books, etc.)

While this book may seem dated (1991), it *still* gives a solid and practical overview of what the RCIA adapted for children looks like in a parish community. Maureen Kelly and Fr. Robert Duggan take the vision of the RCIA adapted for children and then outline how it can be established in a parish, and how it interacts with the parish's catechetical program and the rest of the parish community. (English only)

A Parent's Guide to the Restored Order (Link)

(Liturgy Training Publications)

This book is recommended for catechetical leaders, initiation ministers and catechists for *explaining the sacraments of initiation to parents*. This book gives a solid overview of the understanding of the sacraments of initiation—baptism, confirmation and the Eucharist—when they are received by children. Much of it can be applied to understanding the RCIA adapted for children and can help parish leaders talk to and explain to parents the reception of the sacraments in the RCIA adapted for children.

It includes concrete ideas for fostering faith within the life of the family, helping to equip parents to nurture their children's spiritual growth and to encourage them to become active participants in the life of the parish community. (English and Spanish)

TeamRCIA (Link)

This website is a good resource in all areas of the RCIA. As such, there are articles, recorded webinars and other resources for adapting the RCIA for children. It is a solid website for catechetical leaders, RCIA leaders and catechists. (English only)

Resources for Parents

Guide to the RCIA for Children: Q&A for Parents (Link)

(Liturgy Training Publications)

This booklet answers the questions that parents and guardians often ask as they help their children embrace the faith of the Catholic Church. It can also assist initiation coordinators, catechetical leaders and catechists to begin a conversation with the parents and guardians as they and their children start on the path outlined in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. (English and Spanish)

Resources for Children's Formation in Catechetical Sessions

Bridges to Faith (Link)

(Loyola Press)

Essentials of the Catholic Faith for children ages 8–11

Centered on the four pillars of the Catechism—the Creed, the sacraments, the moral life and prayer—*Bridges to Faith* gives children a comprehensive introduction to the key teachings of the Catholic faith. *Bridges to Faith* provides directors, catechists and parents with the tools they need to help children know what it means to be Catholic, spark a desire to further investigate their faith and grow in their relationship with God.

(English and bilingual Spanish/English)

Celebrating the Lectionary (Link)

(Liturgy Training Publications)

Lectionary-based sessions for children ages PreK–Junior High

The *Celebrating the Lectionary* series provides short Lectionary-based catechetical sessions (about 10-15 minutes) within the context of a basal catechetical program. When used in faith formation sessions, *Celebrating the Lectionary* keeps young people connected to the flow of the liturgical year and the richness of the Lectionary readings. Reproducible send-home pages are also available online for each Sunday and holy day of obligation that provide prayers, rituals and activities that families can use to live the message of the Lectionary and celebrate the seasons of the liturgical year. (English only)

Gospel Weeklies Faith Formation Program (Link)

(Pflaum)

Teaches the faith through the Liturgical Year for preschool–ninth grade

Each lesson in the *Pflaum Gospel Weeklies Faith Formation Program* flows from the words of Jesus Christ in the Sunday Gospels. Children and youth learn their faith—including formation in doctrine, sacraments, commandments and prayer—within the rhythms and seasons of the liturgical year, encouraging a growing participation in the life of the parish community.

The program consists of 32-weekly Gospel-based lessons and a Catechism handbook, *What the Church Believes and Teaches*. Together, they provide a unique alternative to the traditional textbook, especially for programs in which class time is limited. The weekly lessons inspire participants to seek out ways to practice their faith in their daily lives, and reinforces the need for parents and children/youth to actively participate in the Sunday Mass and the life of the Church. The supplemental journal, **My Path to Easter**, serves as a guide for the formation of the heart, personal reflection and community connection during the initiation process. (English and bilingual Spanish/English)

Journey of Faith for Children (Link)

(Liguori Publications)

Provides a solid catechetical foundation for children and teens

Journey of Faith for Children introduces children to the Catholic faith in a way that is easy for them to understand, using an engaging pastoral approach that speaks to children about faith topics in a way that starts them on a lifelong journey of knowing and loving Jesus.

Lessons based on the four periods of the RCIA include engaging activities to appeal to a variety of learners in a way that's flexible enough to modify to your unique needs.

Inquiry lessons begin with the concept of faith in the Catholic Church and explore many topics that are discussed further throughout the program. *Catechumenate* lessons teach about the traditions of the Catholic faith. Lessons on *Enlightenment* guide children through self-reflection and preparation for the sacraments, and lessons on *Mystagogy* lead children into full participation with their Church and teach them how to become witnesses for Christ. (English and Spanish)

One Faith, One Lord (Link)

(Sadlier)

A study of basic Catholic belief for grades 7–12

One Faith, One Lord has sixteen lessons on the fundamental beliefs and practices of the Catholic faith which include key doctrinal points and teachings from the Catechism of the Catholic Church, along with opportunities to pray, remember, reflect and act. Assessments and additional enrichment lessons focus on vocations, sacraments, the liturgical year, using the Bible and Catholic prayers and practices. (English and bilingual Spanish/English)

Our Catholic Faith (Link)

(Sadlier)

A study of basic Catholic belief for grades 4–6

Our Catholic Faith has fourteen lessons to engage students and help them to foster faith development through knowledge of basic Catholic beliefs and interaction with families and the Church community. *Our Catholic Faith* incorporates teachings from the Catechism of the Catholic Church including the sacraments, the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes, along with stories and activities that reflect students' life experience. Assessments and additional enrichment lessons focus on Scripture, the sacraments, the liturgical year and Catholic prayers and practices. (English and bilingual Spanish/English)

Our Catholic Heritage ([Link](#))

(RCL Benziger)

An easy-to-use initiatory program for ages 9–11 (Level 1) and ages 11–14 (Level 2)

Our Catholic Heritage serves as an entry-level text for children being initiated into the life of the Church. It uses the RCIA model prescribed by the bishops to evangelize and catechize new learners. This program offers a full initiatory catechesis, presents the life and teaching of Jesus, lays a foundation for a lived faith, introduces the Rites of Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist and Reconciliation and presents Catholic prayers and practices. (English and bilingual Spanish/English)

Young Apprentices ([Link](#))

(RCL Benziger)

A year-round RCIA process for children and youth

Young Apprentices is a unique online resource for those who facilitate the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) with children and youth. *Young Apprentices* is based on the Church's time-honored model of apprenticeship. It provides RCIA teams and participants with sound liturgical, scriptural and doctrinal resources to use throughout the RCIA process with children and youth.

Materials for *Young Apprentices* are uploaded quarterly, and include resources for the Sundays of fall Ordinary Time through the Easter Season of the three-year lectionary cycle, offering flexibility to accommodate RCIA processes of any start date and duration. (English only)