

OCIA Resources

From the Association for Catechumenal Ministry (<https://acmocia.org/>):

1. The **Leader's Manual** is designed to provide a comprehensive aide for OCIA leaders in the work of implementing the full liturgical, catechetical, and pastoral aspects of the OCIA process. This book contains instructions for the OCIA director and team on how to facilitate an evangelizing 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. \$64.95.
2. The **Catechist's Manual** is designed to be a practical help to the catechist by offering a structured way of preparing for and presenting the catechetical portion of an OCIA session. Together with the companion *Participant's Book*, this manual should enable catechists to prepare thoroughly for each teaching and to present the faith both systematically and organically. This book contains 60 doctrinal lesson plans, with full Scripture and *Catechism* references. For each of the lesson plans, the manual also contains at least five suggested hymns, a Liturgy of the Word, suggested discussion questions, definitions of key terms, and suggested prayers. \$54.95.
3. The **Participant's Book** comes as a USB drive and contains materials for OCIA 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 OCIA leader can 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 are designed to be used when, as, and if needed. The most unique aspect of this book is that it is endlessly copyable and printable from the USB drive, making it not only one of the most content-rich and beautiful collections of handouts for adult formation, but also the most affordable. \$69.95.
4. The **OCIA Godparent and Sponsor Handbook** 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 OCIA 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. \$10.95.
5. Over the last several years, ACM has been asked by many dioceses, parishes, and individuals to develop **Spanish-language resources** to complement its growing number of publications in the English language. ACM makes these materials available only through its online store as downloadable and then printable as PDFs. \$30.00.

From the Diocese of La Crosse:

The Diocese of La Crosse offers the **OCIA Catechist Manual** to all involved in the process of the adult catechumenate. Based on the ACM model of the Catechumenate—which emphasizes the pastoral, liturgical, and catechetical aspects—the manual offers 41 teachings for a nine-month formation process, beginning with the pre-catechumenate through the period of mystagogy following Easter. Each of the 41 lessons contains three parts: tools for *Catechist Preparation*, the teachings for the *Catechetical Session*, and a *Participant Handout*. Based on the holy Scriptures and the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, each lesson begins with prayer (hymn and Scripture readings), is followed by an explanation of the topic at hand, asks pertinent questions about how the teaching relates to the Christian life, and concludes with prayer. These sessions are not meant to be a lecture-style, classroom teaching. Rather, they allow for a process of conversion that invites questions from the participants, and provides questions for small group discussion in order to answer the participants' particular questions. \$10.00 (*flashdrive only; no hard copy*)