Outline of Parish Training Workshops

Created by The Toronto Group of the Catechumenate Network

Prior Reading Assignment:

The Catechumenate: Forming the Body of Christ in the 21st Century
(An Associated Parishes for Liturgy and Mission booklet)
Order from info@associatedparishes.org
or check at *www.catechumenate.org* under Resources — History and
Theology.

Time Frame:

Workshop sessions would be scheduled to support the parish's own
developing catechumenal ministry; whenever possible, synchronization with
the corresponding season of the church year would be a factor in timing as
well.

Note:

<u>Underlined type (or blue) denotes elements of a role-play process.</u>

Italic type (or green) denotes elements of the real-life training process.

Bold type italic (or brown) denotes a liturgical celebration;
<u>bold face underlined (or purple) denotes a role-play celebration.</u>

UPPER-CASE (or ORANGE) DENOTES A PRESENTATION ON THE THEORY OF
CATECHUMENAL PROCESS.

Session 1 (Introductory — For a Number of Parishes)

Welcome, personal introductions, coffee
Introducing the participating parishes; questions
'CATECHUMENAL PROCESS'
Description of the process: using catechumenal process to implement catechumenal
       process
Parish caucuses

Session 2

Welcome, coffee
<u>Role Play: a church member talks to an inquirer</u>
Reaction to role play
*Small group task: share perceptions of how each has come to this moment in the
       journey of faith*
Welcoming an Inquirer to the Catechumenate
*'Sponsor-Candidate' task: What do you really hope for newcomers to your church?
       What prevents new people from coming to your church? What might it be that
       newcomers really need or desire?*
Welcoming Inquirers to the Catechumenal Ministry
Reflection on the rites and on the 'sponsor-candidate' work
THE MINISTRY OF CONNECTING AND WELCOMING ('EVANGELIZATION')
Parish strategy planning

Session 3

Welcome, coffee
<u>Role Play: a sponsor talks with a catechumen about the experience</u>
Reaction to role play
Small group task: reflection on the Sunday readings
Calling Catechumens to Baptism
*'Sponsor-Candidate' task: What might an 'apprenticeship' in the Way of Jesus entail?
       What might be the role of the community in this?*
Calling Trainees to the Catechumenal Ministry
Reflections on the rites and on the 'sponsor-candidate' work
THE MINISTRY OF FORMATION AND CALLING ('CATECHUMENATE')
Parish strategy planning

Session 4

Welcome, coffee

Role Play: a sponsor talks with a candidate for baptism about the experience

Reaction to role play

Small group task: reflection on one of the three great Lenten Gospels

Holy Baptism

'Sponsor-Candidate' task: What does it mean to be converted to the Way of Jesus?
How can such conversion become the agenda of the community?
How can the community support candidates through such conversion?

Reaffirmation of Baptism

Reflections on the rites and on the 'sponsor-candidate' work

THE MINISTRY OF CONVERSION THERAPY ('CANDIDACY')

Parish strategy planning

Session 5

Welcome, coffee

Role Play: a sponsor talks with a newly-baptized members about the experience

Reaction to role play

Small group task: reflection on the experience of sacrament

'Sponsor-Candidate' task: How do Christians grow in their calling to be the sign and sacrament of Christ in the world?

Holy Eucharist

THE MINISTRY OF INTEGRATION ('MYSTAGOGY')

Parish strategy planning

Questions for Participating Parishes at the Introductory Session

What are your reasons for exploring this Consultation on the Catechumenate?

What are your goals?

What did you learn from the booklet, *The Catechumenate: Forming the Body of Christ*?

What concerns do you have about using such a mentoring approach?

Tell us about the most recent Baptism you celebrated.

How many people were baptized in your parish over the past year? Adults? Youth? Children?

What difference do you think Baptism has made in the lives of these people

How do members of the congregation feel about celebrations of Baptism? About the candidates and their families?

How are candidates being prepared for Baptism?

Why do you think people ask for Baptism?