



Catholic Diocese
of Cleveland

Resources for OCIA Adapted for Children

The OCIA adapted for children is as much about exploring the faith as it is teaching the faith. Curriculum is part of the preparation process, but prayer, conversation, and reflection on the level of your catechumenates are also very important. OCIA is a Journey rather than a class. The children should be given ample opportunity to come to know Jesus and our faith – head, heart, and hands.



Program Resources for OCIA Adapted for Children

- [Young Apprentices](#) – Published by RCL Benziger – Online subscription with reproducible materials. Includes Catholic doctrine and lectionary reading reflections for dismissal.
- [Friends on the Way](#) – Published by Team RCIA – Downloadable resource that includes a dismissal and a catechetical session based on the weekly readings.
- [Journey of Faith](#) – Published by Liguori (Newly Revised) – Focus on Catholic doctrine but no connection to the weekly reading. Published in English and Spanish and available for multiple age levels including teens.
- [Children of the Light](#)– Published by World Library Publications- Manual includes 25 sessions. Each session includes faith sharing, church doctrine, and scripture. Participant materials can be printed from the included CD.
- [Catechumenate Sessions for Children and Families: Children of the Light](#) by Blessie La Scola
- [Precatechumenate Sessions for Children and Families: Children of the Light](#) by Blessie La Scola

Materials That Focus on Core Church Teachings

- [Our Catholic Heritage](#)– Published by RCL Benziger- Level I for elementary aged children and Level II for middle school youth.
- [One Faith, One Lord](#)– Published by Sadlier – Sixteen lessons for middle school/high school youth. Published in English and bilingual Spanish/English.
- Our Catholic Faith- Published by Sadlier – Fourteen lessons for middle school youth. Published in English and bilingual Spanish/English.
- [Bridges to Faith](#)– Published by Loyola Press- Designed for children 8-11. Published in English and bilingual Spanish/English.
- [Our Catholic Identity](#)– Published by RCL- Workbooks for grades 1-8. Published in English and bilingual Spanish/English.
- [Our Catholic Faith](#) — Published by Sadlier for ages 10-14. Published in English and bilingual Spanish/English.

Catechetical Methodology and Ideas for OCIA Adapted for Children

- [The Catechist's Toolbox 2.0](#) by Joe Paprocki – Published by Loyola Press.
- [Effective Lesson and Activity Ideas for Catechists](#) by Janet Schaeffler, OP – Published by Twenty-Third Publications.
- [Little Hands, Big Hearts: A Guide to Service Opportunities for Young Children](#) by Janet Schaeffler, OP – Published by Twenty-Third Publications.

Other Helpful Materials

- Guide to the OCIA for Children Parent Q&A: <https://ltp.org/products/details/EQCICR/guide-to-the-ocia-for-children>
- Guide to Adapting the OCIA for Children: <https://ltp.org/products/details/EACICR/guide-to-adapting-the-ocia-for-children>
- Bishop's Committee on Divine Worship, USCCB. International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. *The Order of Baptism of Children*, 2020, (bi-lingual English-Spanish edition strongly recommended)

Helpful Websites

<https://www.catholic.com/about>
(online searchable Catholic Q&A)

<https://bustedhalo.com/>
(video Q&A series, short, amusing)

<https://www.elementsofthecatholicmass.com/episodes>
(video series on the Mass, short, accessible, good info)

FORMED also has great resources. One in particular about Mass is
<https://watch.formed.org/a-scriptural-walk-through-the-mass-by-dr-edward-sri>

Team Initiation has some good free resources
<https://teaminitiation.com/>

Curated Resources for the Sacraments by Strong Catholic Families
<https://www.catholicfamilyfaith.org/sacraments-of-initiation.html>