

# Young Apprentices

A RESOURCE FOR THE RCIA

## MYSTAGOGY: BAPTISM

Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday) • Year B • April 7, 2024

**Risen Lord,  
like Thomas, I sometimes have doubts  
and need to see things for myself.**

**Like Thomas,  
sometimes I find it hard to believe  
that you are real,  
guiding me, caring for me,  
and speaking to me  
your words of peace.**

**Increase my faith.  
Help me to see and to believe.  
Amen.**



### Sunday Word

**Acts 4:32-35**

**Psalms 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24**

**1 John 5:1-6**

**John 20:19-31**

The above readings are available at  
[usccb.org/bible/readings](http://usccb.org/bible/readings).

### To Help You Remember



1. Water is necessary for all living things. It is also a very powerful force.
2. Water is the most important symbol of Baptism.
3. In Baptism we die to our old selves in order to rise anew with Christ, who is the Living Water.
4. The baptismal font and bowls of holy water in the church are there to remind us that we have been baptized, marked and claimed by Christ.

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Most Reverend Joseph R. Binzer, Auxiliary Bishop, Vicar General • Archdiocese of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio • January 30, 2015.

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## With My Family



### Deepen

Long before the celebration of the Easter Vigil, you began to meet Jesus in his Word and in his people, the parish community. With them you heard the message of Salvation and learned what it means to be a person of faith.

Together you heard God's Word. You reflected on it. You thought about how to live it in daily life—at school, at home, and in your neighborhood. All along the way, others helped you hear the Word, think about its meaning, and put it into practice in your life. *Share with your family those who have helped you on your journey of faith thus far. If you have not already done so, think of ways to thank them in the days and weeks to come.*

### Meditate

In today's Gospel story, Thomas is absent when the Risen Lord appears to the others. Part of the reason Thomas does not believe what the others are telling him is that he was not there with the others when the Risen Lord appeared to them. He did not see the Risen Lord for himself.

Thomas eventually believes, and when he does so, he is surrounded by other believers, the other disciples. In the same way, other believers often give us the strength and courage we need in order to believe. Their prayers, support, help, and encouragement help us to know and to see God present in our lives.

*As a family, think about those who could use your prayers, your support, your help, and your encouragement. Decide together one or two things you will do to help that person or those persons in the coming week.*

### Share

You arrived at the baptismal waters on Easter Vigil because many others helped you get to the baptismal font by their prayers, presence, and encouragement. Recall your celebration of Baptism. Share with your family what you remember about

- Who was there with you at the font
- What happened
- How you felt
- Your favorite memory and why

Then invite your whole family to share what they were thinking and feeling, and their memories of the celebration, too.

### Do

Beyond your family, whom can you share your story of faith with, the story of the Easter Vigil celebration, and your memories of Baptism, Confirmation, and First Eucharist? Who are the people in your own life who might be ready to hear the saving message of Jesus and what you have learned, know, and believe about him?

Pray for God's help to share the Good News of Salvation with others.

### Pray

Continue praying as a family the prayer on the front of this page. Keep this prayer for times when you need more faith, times when you—like Thomas—are tempted to give in to doubt.