

# Our plan for today

- Why is mystagogical catechesis important?
- What is mystagogical catechesis?
- How do we teach like a mystagogue?
- What difference will it make?



# Our plan for today

- Why?
- What?
- How to?
- What difference?



# Our plan for today

- Why?

Name some  
disappointments in the  
way catechesis  
happens





- Why did that piece intrigue you?
- How did you grow in your understanding of it?
- What did you learn about yourself?
- What did you learn about art?



# Mystagogy

- Scripturally based
- Takes place within a liturgical setting
- Addressed exclusively to the Christian community
- Has as its goal the formation *of* Christians rather than providing religious information *to* Christians.

*Ambrose of Milan's Method of Mystagogical Preaching,*  
Craig Alan Satterlee, Liturgical Press, 2002





## Memories

- First time I dived into a pool
- First time I skied
- Grade school classmate who drowned

## Daily life

- Recreation
- Washing
- Showering
- Drinking
- Cooking
- Cooling our cars

## Nature

- Rainbows
- Thunderstorm
- Pacific Ocean
- Snow peaks
- Drought

## scripture

- Creation story
- Great flood
- Crossing Red Sea
- Jesus' baptism
- Woman at the well
- Water flowing from Jesus' side

## Teaching

- Baptism in living water
- Full immersion baptism
- Blessing of the font at Easter Vigil
- Baptized into Christ's death
- Washes away sin

## Art / drama

- Moby Dick
- "The River" (Flannery O'Connor)
- Monet's Water Lilies
- Titanic
- Wade in the Water

## Catholic practice

- Blessing ourselves
- Taking holy water home
- Blessing cars
- House blessings



## Event

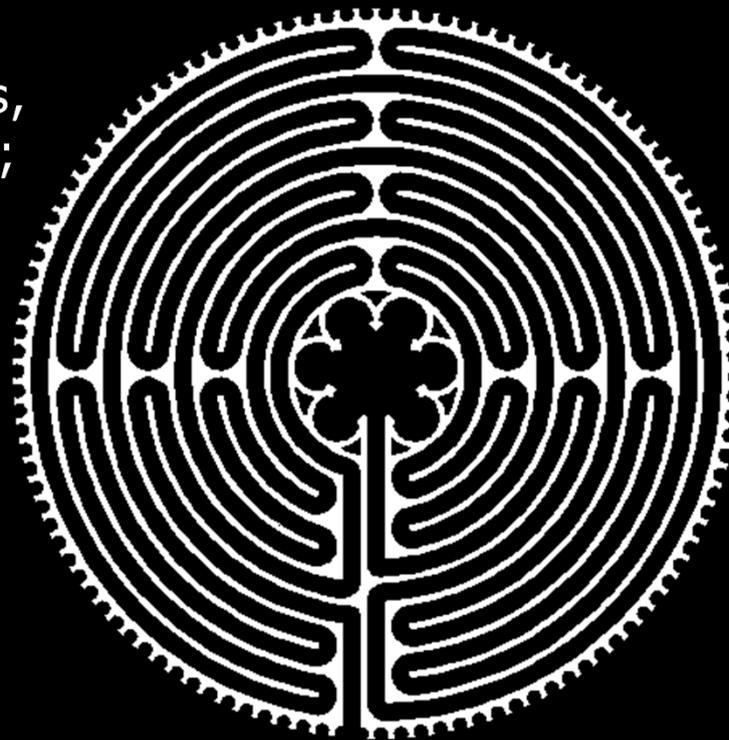
(an encounter with God)

### Conversion

(how it challenges, confronts, affirms; why it matters; How am I more in love with Christ now)

### Connection

(to my life, to my situation and relationships, to the world)



### Recollection

(of the event's symbols, actions, texts; taking time to remember)

### Reflection

(sharing what was most memorable, engaging, or discomfoting)

## Catechesis

(what Scripture and Tradition teach us; what we can learn from the symbol, action, text)

# Event-based Catechesis



“...the liturgy is the summit toward which the activity of the Church is directed...”



“...at the same time it is the font from which all her power flows.”  
CSL, 10

- What have I learned?
- Why is it important to my ministry?
- What if my parish did catechesis like this all the time?



- Five visible signs

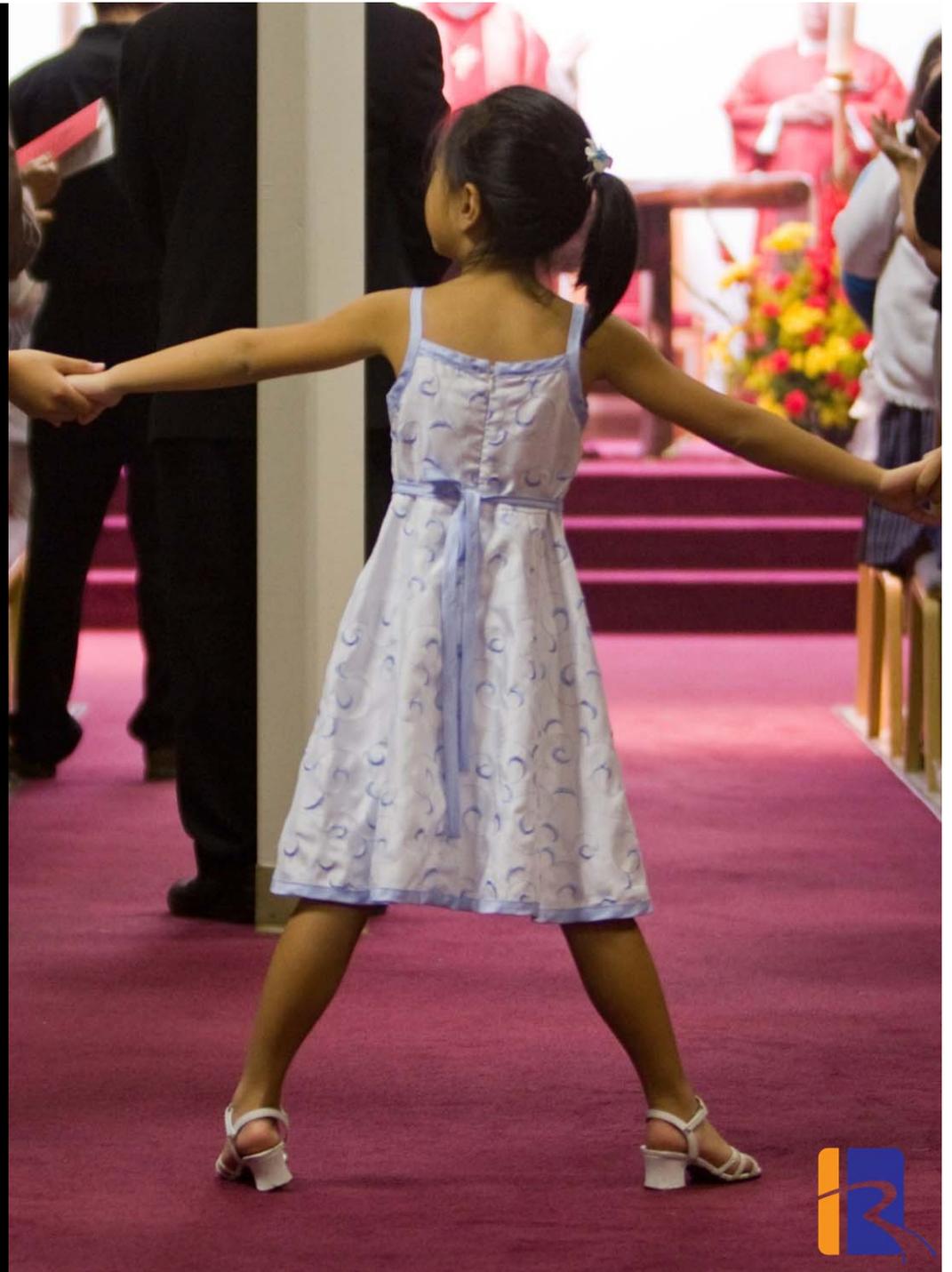
1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



# Next action: Create a SMART goal

**S**

**Specific:** Who, what, where, when, why?

**M**

**Measurable:** How will I know when I have achieved it?

**A**

**Attainable:** How can the goal be accomplished?

**R**

**Relevant:** Is it worthwhile? Will it make a difference? Does it meet needs?

**T**

**Timed:** what is the schedule for marking my progress?

