Mystagogy: Mystagogy comes from the Greek word meaning, "to lead through the mysteries."

The Catechism describes mystagogy as a "liturgical catechesis (ergo oral instruction) that aims to initiate people into the mystery of Christ".

Mystagogy leads us <u>from</u> the <u>external</u> signs and rituals of the liturgy <u>to</u> the <u>inner</u>, spiritual meaning of the divine life they signify. Mystagogy helps us unpack and explore the spiritual treasures contained in the sacraments by continuously reflecting on their meaning and significance in our personal lives of faith.

- M1: Conversion is a lifelong process.

  God's Grace and our perseverance are needed for spiritual growth
  Having doubts and questions are normal parts of the faith growth.
- M2: The lay (nonordained) faithful are essential in the life of the church The laity help serve the kingdom of God. Laypeople live out their call to holiness in the world of family, work, and community.
- M3: Gifts of the Holy Spirit are manifested in the lives of the faithful. All spiritual gifts are to be used in loving service.

  We each must discern, develop, and share our spiritual gifts.
- M4: Discernment is a decision-making process in which we seek God's will. We must all practice discernment as part of our growth in the faith journey.
- M5: All Christians are called to holiness.
  Growth in holiness is a lifelong pursuit.
  We can overcome obstacles to holiness with the Holy Spirit's help.
- M6: God's ways are manifested in the lives of those who practice the virtues.

  There are both human virtues and theological virtues.

  The greatest of the virtues is love (charity) which orders all the other virtues.
- M7: The family is the 'domestic church'.

  Parents are their children's first and most important teaches of the faith.

  Families can grow in faith through family rituals and traditions.
- M8: A relationship with Jesus is fundamental to Conversion. We are called to share the good news. The church prepares us for the mission of evangelization.