

Christian Initiation

Convener: Christina Ronzio (ciseminarnaal@gmail.com) is the Director of the National Liturgy Office of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Members in Attendance: Diana Sanchez-Bushong, Dennis Chriszt, Garrick Commeaux, Christina Condyles, Christopher James, Christina Ronzio, Mark Stamm, Paul Turner, Stephen Wilbricht

Visitors: Kelli Joyce, Christopher O'Brien, Lorenzo Penalosa OSB, Michael Wilke

Description of Work: In preparation for the 2024 meeting the members read a number of books and papers proposed at the 2023 meeting by both members and visitors. The various topics led to fruitful discussion and new insights on baptismal practices for both children and adults throughout history and in various Christian denominations, the need for evangelizers to be mystagogues, and the similarities between baptismal ecclesiology and synodality.

Papers and Presentations:

- Dennis Chriszt, CPPS: *Creating an Effective Mystagogy: A Handbook for Catechumenate Leaders*, 2nd ed. (Liturgy Training Publications).
- Mark Stamm and Diana Sanchez-Bushong: "Belong (UMC)" midstream report.
- Paul Turner: *Be Renewed: A Guide to the Sacrament of Reconciliation* (Liturgical Press).
- Christopher O'Brien: "Children and the Eucharist in the Roman Rite: History, Theology and Ritual" (dissertation).
- Stephen Wilbricht: "Synodality, Baptismal Ecclesiology, and Welcoming a Newly Translated *Order of Christian Initiation of Adults*."

Other Work and Plans for the Future: The members of the seminar expressed interest in exploring the possibility of a joint session to discuss *This Assembly of Believers* with the author Bryan Cones. Plans for the next meeting of the seminar include, if available, a consideration of the *Order of Christian Initiation of Adults* (USA edition) as well as papers and presentations by:

- Christina Condyles: "Sacramental Personhood."
- Christopher O'Brien: Update on dissertation, "Children and the Eucharist in the Roman Rite: History, Theology and Ritual."
- Kelli Joyce: "Contemporary Baptism Ritual and Practice (1979–2008)."
- Stephen Wilbricht: "Synodality and Sacraments, Hopefulness and Initiation."