

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults



RCIA is the acronym for Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults in the Catholic Church. It is a process one enters into for conversion of faith and/or completion of the sacraments of initiation. This includes Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. Those who have been baptized in another faith tradition which is recognized as a valid baptism by the Roman Catholic Church do not need to be baptized again. Since we believe in one baptism for the forgiveness of sins, we ask only that the person make a Profession of Faith, which states that they believe and hold true the tenets of the Catholic Faith. Those who have not been baptized are brought into the Church at the Easter Vigil Mass [the night before Easter Sunday]. Confirmation and Eucharist may be celebrated for those who have been baptized at the time our bishop approves a date. Baptized Catholics who have not been prepared for reception of Confirmation and Eucharist may also attend the RCIA process. Catholics who have not been confirmed have other options depending upon their previous preparation.

Our particular process does allow people at different levels of faith and Christian initiation to participate. In the strictest sense, the RCIA was designed for those not baptized and those seeking conversion from one faith tradition to that of the Catholic faith.

Requirements for those seeking full initiation and/or full communion with the Church are as follows.

- ✠ Enroll in the process
- ✠ Attend Mass and sessions on a consistent basis
- ✠ If not baptized, provide birth certificate
- ✠ If baptized provide baptismal certificate
- ✠ If married, provide marriage certificate♦
- ✠ Godparent/sponsor of the Catholic Faith is required♣

♦ If you or your spouse are presently married and have had previous marriages, annulments of the former marriages must be obtained prior to seeking initiation into the Catholic Church. This is required for Catholics and non Catholics as well. Please do not hesitate in obtaining more information regarding this matter.
You may call our Pastor, Fr. Bob for more details.

♣ A godparent or sponsor is a person of faith, baptized, confirmed and a practicing Catholic, sixteen years of age or older, in right relationship with the Church. Spouses and parents are excluded due to the already intimate relationship established

RCIA Sessions are held from September through May on Wednesday evenings