

# RCIA

## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

### Stage 1: Just Looking

In the **inquiry** stage, you're just finding out about Jesus, Christianity, and the Catholic Church. Your main task here is to explore and develop your faith enough so you can make an informed *initial* decision about entering the Catholic Church.

### Stage 2: Learning about the Faith

In the catechumenate, your faith has begun to develop. Now you need to learn and grow more. You focus on **catechesis** in this stage: learning about the faith, how to live as a Christian, and developing your interior life.

### Stage 3: Getting ready for Rebirth

This period of **purification and enlightenment** is the final stage before receiving the Easter sacraments of initiation. This stage of intense **reflection** calls you to deeper **conversion** in preparation for your renewal at Easter.

### Stage 4: Reflecting on the Mysteries

This stage of **mystagogy** is for continued reflection on the sacraments.

(Taken from [BeginningCatholic.com](http://BeginningCatholic.com))

## THE HISTORY OF THE RCIA

Since the days of the Apostles, becoming a Christian has been accomplished by a journey and initiation in several stages. This journey contains certain essential elements:

- 1 Proclamation of the Word
- 2 Acceptance of the Gospel
- 3 Profession of Faith
- 4 Sacrament of Baptism itself
- 5 Outpouring of the Holy Spirit
- 6 Admission to Eucharistic Communion.

This initiation has varied through the centuries according to circumstances. In the first centuries of the Church, Christian initiation saw considerable development. The entire RCIA process covered a long period of time. It included a series of "rites," these being liturgical landmarks along the path of preparing those who were never baptized and who wished to become Catholics. The process was completed when the Sacraments of Christian initiation were celebrated. The Second Vatican Council's involvement consisted of restoring within the Latin Church the "catechumenate for adults."

## THE RCIA OF TODAY

Today in all of the Rites the Christian Initiation of Adults begins with their entry into the RCIA process and reaches its completion in a single celebration of the three Sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist.

## THE THREEFOLD PURPOSE OF THE RCIA

Through the RCIA, the Catholic Church extends an invitation to: those who are not associated with a community of faith and who wish to become Catholics; those who want to convert to Catholicism from another faith; (for them, the RCIA is the process through which they will become full-fledged Catholics) and those who want to learn more about the Catholic faith. These individuals may be involved in interfaith marriages or simply are actively involved in any Church and they want to learn more about the Catholic faith in the spirit of faith and unity. The RCIA fills all these needs of those who are searching and inquiring about the Catholic faith.

(Taken from the Catechism of the Church)

*The Church of  
Christ the King*

# Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

2018-2019

## MISSION STATEMENT

We are a grateful and welcoming  
Catholic family of faith,  
nourished by the Word and Eucharist,  
called to serve as  
disciples of Christ, the King.

*Journey through*  
**RCIA**  
THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

## SCHEDULE OF SESSIONS

### Sept. 11 INQUIRY SESSION

Sept. 25 Session 1 Divine Revelation

Oct. 2 Session 2 Trinity

Oct. 9 Session 3 The Person of Jesus

Oct. 16 Session 4 Holy Spirit/Grace

Oct. 23 Session 5 Church/Hierarchy

Oct. 30 Session 6 Communion of Saints

Nov. 6 Session 7 The Last Things

Nov. 13 Session 8 Forms of Prayer

Nov. 20 Session 9 Sacraments part 1

Nov. 27 Session 10 Sacraments part 2

Dec. 4 Session 11 Catholic Social Teaching

Dec. 11 Session 12 Mary / Advent

Dec. 18 Session 13 Stewardship

Jan. 8 Session 14 Sacred Scripture

Jan. 15 Session 15 Liturgy of the Word

Jan. 22 Session 16 Liturgy of the Eucharist

Jan. 29 Session 17 Paschal Mystery/Salvation

Feb. 5 Session 18 Morality I

Feb. 12 Session 19 Morality II

Feb. 19 Session 20 Beatitudes/Works of Mercy

Feb. 26 Session 21 Creed

Mar. 19 Session 22 The Virtuous Life

Mar. 26 Session 23 The Lord's Prayer

Apr. 2 Session 24 Holy Week

Apr. 9 Session 25 Q and A

Each Catechumen and Candidate will be interviewed individually to assist in discerning readiness to join the process and to prepare for the reception of the Sacraments.

Classes will be held in the Library of the Parish Life Center. Regular attendance is expected for the process of RCIA. In the event of a necessary absence, arrangements can be made to make up the material.

For more information  
Contact Sister Mary Joseph  
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## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

**March 9, 2019:** Diocesan RCIA  
Retreat, 10:00 – 2:30 at  
St. Paul Inside the Walls, Madison

**March 10, 2019:** Rite of Election,  
Cathedral in Paterson, 4:00

## SACRED TRIDUUM:

April 18: Holy Thursday  
7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

April 19: Good Friday  
3:00pm Passion Service

April 20: Easter Vigil  
8:00pm