

RCIA Program

In September 2018 my husband and I started our Faith Journey through the St. Anthony's and St. Mary's RCIA Program. Jeffrey and I have been married for 15 years. Our parents baptized both of us as Catholics, however, we did not finish our sacraments as children. It was very important for us to upbringing our children to the Catholic faith. We will be honest, as a family we used to attend mass once a month. Our children have been through St. Anthony's CCD classes, they both received their Eucharist, and my son recently completed his Confirmation. The main reason we decided to take a step into the RCIA program it was because every time we attended mass I could not go up to receive communion since I never finished my sacraments as a child. It was at every mass when both my children always asked "How come you never go up with us to receive communion?" I felt I was not setting a good example. Jeffrey attended Catholic school as a child but he never completed his Confirmation Sacrament.

We finally decided to complete our sacraments to show our children that completing our Sacraments was important to us too. However, we didn't anticipate we were in for a Great Program! Jeffrey and I attended every Sunday to St. Mary's where we met the RCIA Group and other candidates who were also going through the same process as us. After the homily of every mass we were dismissed to go on and talk with the whole group. We learned so much about our faith. Jeffrey and I were amazed as to how much we didn't know about our Catholic Faith. We came home every Sunday and show off to our kids what we have learned in our religious class and put it into practice. The team members are full of life and faith experiences. We all shared the reasons why were there and slowly we became acquaintances by learning about our Catholic Faith. Team Members and Candidates worked together every Sunday learning new things about the importance of Faith.

On Easter Vigil 2019, Jeffrey and I received the sacrament of Confirmation and First Eucharist. It was a beautiful night full of firsts. For the first time I was able to receive communion, it was our first Easter Vigil and our Sponsors were there to guide us every step of the way. The St. Anthony community together with our children, family members, and friends were part of this special accomplishment for the both of us. Our Sponsors were part of the RCIA Team Members. They invested their time and experiences with us throughout the months we were together in RCIA. We were honored to have them being part of this special night.

Since starting this beautiful journey we are proud to say that our family now attends mass every Sunday. RCIA played a big role in this by teaching us the importance of Loving, Praying, and Always giving Thanks to God. We became stronger as a couple because we learned the importance to have Faith in our lives and as a Family we are now Blessed with our new “Beginning” on our Catholic Faith.