

Two Bulletin Inserts: Addressing those interested in getting to know Jesus and His Church

1. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the ritual process for calling adults to a conversion of mind and heart which prepares them for a full and active life in the Catholic Church as disciples of Jesus. Parishioners serve as discussion leaders, catechists, and sponsors.

RCIA is a gradual process that takes place within the community of the faithful, and the length of time varies according to each catechumenate or candidate's need, experience, readiness, and commitment. This process is also adapted for children who have not been baptized and for baptized children who have not been prepared for the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. For more information, please call _____.

2. If you (or someone you know) would like to hear more about Jesus, and you are willing to place your trust in God, we invite you to join us at an Inquiry Session. Inquiry Sessions DO NOT assume a commitment to join the Catholic Faith Family. Those who have not been baptized into any faith denomination, those who have been baptized into a non-Catholic faith denomination, or those who are baptized Catholics contemplating also receiving the sacraments of Eucharist or Confirmation, are invited. Inquiry Sessions are designed for those who wish to inquire, explore, and search for ways to grow in their relationship with God.

Inquirers are invited to attend Inquiry sessions until they make a decision to join the Catholic Faith Family. When they make this decision to become a fully initiated member of the Catholic Faith, they are then invited to enter the process called the Rite of Initiation of Adults (RCIA). This process will lead to their reception of the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism (for those who have not been baptized), Confirmation, and Eucharist.

How long does the RCIA process take?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is not a program; it is the Church's way of ministering sensitively to those who seek membership. For this reason, some people will need more time than others as they prepare for the lifetime commitment that comes with membership in the Catholic Church. The usual length of preparation time is 1-2 years. However, this time commitment may be shorter for those who have already been baptized and are seeking full communion in the Catholic Church (receiving the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist).

What is the first step?

If you are seriously contemplating becoming a Roman Catholic, or you would simply like to have additional information, please contact your local parish.