

# RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults



St Gabriel Church

## Basic Information and Schedule

The RCIA is a process of discovery, prayer, investigation and initiation into the Catholic Faith. It is geared primarily towards those adults who wish to receive one or all of the three sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. But it is also open to those wishing to learn more about their faith who have already received these sacraments. The process begins in the fall, involves three distinct steps which culminate in a Rite or liturgy, and culminates in the Easter Vigil Mass where the sacraments are received and the person becomes a full member of the body of Christ, the Church. After an initial time of inquiry participants can become *catechumens*, a word that denotes more than just students learning information, but also includes a deepening relationship with Christ, growth in prayer, and a relationship with the community of the Church. The entire process culminates at the Easter Vigil mass, where the sacraments are received. It is a spiritual and intellectual journey, accompanied by members of the Church.

**Who:** any adult (post-high school)

**When:** this year we will be meeting on Monday evenings. We provided child care in the past, and hope to do so in the future when the Covid situation calms down. (see schedule below)

**Where:** we will be meeting on the Church campus in the ministry building on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor.

**What is a typical meeting like?** Sessions include prayer, a teaching, fellowship, discussion, and Q and A.

**What else is included?** Sessions have weekly readings on topics, since the hour and fifteen minutes will only allow us to touch on the basics. Sponsors from the community will accompany each candidate as they go through the process. We will encourage a deepening prayer life and involvement in the sacramental life of the Church, such as weekly Mass participation. We are going to try to tape each presentation for those who might not be able to make a particular evening due to normal life circumstances (sickness, babysitter issues, etc..) while weekly attendance is strongly encouraged. While in Covid mode we will use social distancing and masks.

**How to get involved:** To participate please contact David Glasow, the Director of Evangelization at St. Gabriel Church [david@stgabrielchurch.org](mailto:david@stgabrielchurch.org).

## RCIA Schedule 2020-2021

Date	Day	Topic/Event
September 28	Monday	Inquiry Session: Introduction and Information
<b>First period: Pre-Catechuminate/ Period of Inquiry</b>		
October 5	Mon	Normal Sessions begin
12	Mon	
19	Mon	
26	Mon	
November 2	Mon	
9	Mon	
16	Mon	
30	/	<i>OFF Thanksgiving Weekend</i>
December 6	Sun	Rite of Welcoming/Rite of Acceptance 11 AM Mass
<b>Second Period: Catechuminate</b>		
7	Mon	
14	Mon	
21	Mon	
28	/	<i>OFF Christmas</i>
January 4	/	<i>OFF New Year</i>
11	Mon	
18	/	<i>OFF MLK Holiday</i>
25	Mon	
February 1	Mon	
?	?	TBA <i>Rite of Election</i> and Enrollment of Names: happens some time in Early Feb (6 <sup>th</sup> , 20 <sup>th</sup> , 27 <sup>th</sup> )- usually done 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent Feb 21
<b>Third Period: Purification and Enlightenment</b>		
8	Mon	
14	Sun	Rite of Sending at Mass on Sunday- just before Lent Begins
15	/	<i>OFF Presidents Day</i>
22	Mon	
March 1	Mon	
8	Mon	
15	Mon	
22	Mon	
27	Mon	Holy Week begins
April 3	Sat	Easter Vigil Mass
<b>Neophyte Year</b>		
12	Mon	Post-Catechuminate sharing
19	Mon	Post-Catechuminate teaching and discussion