INTERESTED IN THE CATHOLIC FAITH
A PAGE FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH AND FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC

What is RCIA?
RCIA is what the Catholic Church calls the process for those who are entering the Catholic Church. The initials stand for Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. Every parish does some form of RCIA, though they may not call it RCIA as most people desiring to learn more about the Church does not understand the initials.

The Church has placed guidelines for the process that those who are entering the Church. These guidelines assist with the education of those entering, but primarily focus on journey milestones and the liturgical (the prayer experiences of the Church) aspects of the process.

Is RCIA for me?
RCIA can be for the following:
Non-Baptized – those who have never been baptized “in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit” (see Mt 28:19). The RCIA process is specifically designed for those who have never been baptized.

Baptized Christians – those who have been baptized in a Christian denomination other than the 23 Catholic Rite Churches in line with the Pope. There are adaptations of RCIA for those who are going to be received into full communion. The baptisms of Christian denominations that baptize “in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit” are recognized by the Catholic Church as valid baptisms, and you will not be re-baptized.

Baptized Catholics- If you are baptized Catholic but have not received all the initiation sacraments, RCIA was not designed for you, however parishes might invite you to aspects of the process based on your situation.

I SAW THE HOLY CITY, THE NEW JERUSALEM, COMING DOWN OUT OF HEAVEN FROM GOD, PREPARED AS A BRIDE BEAUTIFULLY DRESSED FOR HER HUSBAND. -REV 21:2

CONTACTS AND DATES AROUND THE DIOCESE
Kalamazoo County
 Allegan County
 Berrien County
 St. Joseph County
 Van Buren County
 Branch County
 Calhoun County
 Barry County
 Cass County

DIOCESAN CONTACT: JAMIN HEROLD
JHEROLD@DIOCESEOFKALAMAZOO.ORG

Websites with good information:
http://www.catholicanswers.com
http://www.catholicscomehome.org/
God created the World out of Love!
God has chosen each of us by name and loves us all.
In God’s love we were created with freedom of will. We could choose to love or reject God.
Humanity used its freedom to reject God, we instead chose ourselves over God.
Death entered into the world with sin.
God continued to reach out and love humanity.
We continued to reject and turn away from the love of God.
A sacrifice of pure obedience was needed to overcome the death that entered through disobedience.
God sent, Jesus (His son the second part of the Trinity) to sacrifice for all humanity.
Even if you or I were the only person on earth Jesus would have come to save us.
Jesus died on the Cross, in reparation for our sin, and rose from the dead, defeating death for each one of us.
We are called by God to respond to relationship with Jesus.
Jesus established a Church to be His bride, and for the Holy Spirit (the third person of the Trinity) to dwell and for grace (God’s life) to be given to all humanity.
We respond to God’s love through prayer, worship, obedience to the will of God, support of the Church, and the gift of our very life.

I WILL ASK THE FATHER, AND HE WILL GIVE YOU ANOTHER HELPER, THAT HE MAY BE WITH YOU FOREVER. JN 14:16

“We sinned for no reason but an incomprehensible lack of love, and He saved us for no reason but an incomprehensible excess of love.” — Peter Kreft
The saints are those who have gone before us in faith. Anyone who is in Heaven is a saint; however, there are a certain number of saints that have been officially canonized (recognized in an official manner) as Saints. There is a process the Church goes through to determine that the person in question is in Heaven. The Church never says someone is in hell for sure, but does declare certain people in Heaven for sure.

These saints pray for us in Heaven, and are signs of hope for us. Their lives can be examples for us in this world, to encourage us and help us know how to live. Their prayers are encouraging to us and work with the sacrifice of Christ to benefit those of us here on earth.

When we worship, the saints (canonized or not) are together with us. We do not give worship to the saints; instead we join with them in the Adoration and Worship of God.

COMMUNION OF THE SAINTS

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PRAY, LOVE, FORGIVE

“When the Lamb broke the fifth seal, I saw underneath the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God, and because of the testimony which they had maintained.” – Rev 6:9
Take the next step!

**Contact a Parish near you to find out about the RCIA or Adult Faith Formation opportunities.**


**Visit:**

[www.dioceseofkalamazoo.org/faith](http://www.dioceseofkalamazoo.org/faith)

To find Diocesan opportunities for faith growth.

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“There are not one hundred people in the United States who hate the Catholic Church, but there are millions who hate what they wrongly perceive the Catholic Church to be.” – Fulton Sheen