



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

What is the RCIA?

- RCIA stands for the **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**.
- It is the process that people participate in to become Catholic.
- It is also for people who are thinking about becoming Catholic, or aren't sure about becoming Catholic but want to learn more about it.

Who would be in these classes?

- People who have never been baptized.
- People who have been baptized in another Christian Faith.
- People who were baptized Catholic but did not complete their Sacraments of Initiation (Confirmation, Eucharist).
- And...sometimes for people who have been inactive in their Catholic faith for a long period of time and want to get reconnected. (These folks are welcomed as visitors—like 'auditing' a class!)
- Other folks involved are...
 - Team members who teach about the faith and provide a smile and support!
 - Godparents & sponsors (which are Catholics who act as mentors to you along the way).
- The whole Catholic Community is also 'present' (offer prayers and try to be good examples to support you on your journey).

What is the time commitment?

- Sessions will be on Sunday mornings from 9am until 10:45 beginning September 19th. Eventually we will begin attending Mass together as part of our class, so plan on 1 hour additional once that begins.
- You will be provided a full schedule when classes begin (it is also on our website), but one thing we learned from COVID is flexibility, and sometimes 'plan B' has to happen when 'plan A' is not able. You will be kept informed of any adjustments to the schedule! Remember, that no matter what, this is about the *journey*; focus on the *journey* more than on the calendar for changes/adjustments we might have to face!

Why in the world does it take 8/+ months!?!?!?

- This is a journey of faith that not only involves learning material in your head, but most importantly absorbing it into your whole self (head and heart). It takes time to develop and grow on this journey. Deciding to become Catholic is a major life choice and not something to be rushed.
- There are typically a few steps along the way... (see "RCIA: Typical Steps")

What else?

- There is no cost to take this class. Just committing the time is 'cost' enough! 😊
- Along the way, you will be asked to find a sponsor (or godparent in the case of those preparing for baptism). This would be an actively practicing Catholic over the age of 18 who has received his/her confirmation in the Catholic Church. If you cannot find one, we can provide one for you.
- Note: signing up to start RCIA classes does NOT mean you *have* to become Catholic! This is your journey and your decision—we're just here to help. 😊