



## **Becoming Catholic** **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults ~ RCIA**

### **Are You, or someone you know, Called to become Catholic?**

There are many reasons why people choose to become Catholic as adults. Perhaps you are married to someone who is Catholic; and you're ready to further explore the Faith? Maybe you have friends or relatives who were married in the Catholic Church, or you attended a Catholic wedding or funeral, and have been moved by the experience – and would like to learn more? Or, perhaps you know – or admire someone who is Catholic, and you'd like to find out more about the Teachings of the Catholic Church.

### **How Do I Learn if the Catholic Church is *Right for Me*?**

Assuming you are curious about the Catholic Faith, and would like to learn more, we have a special process designed to help you do just that: It's called RCIA; which stands for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

Joining the RCIA program at a parish does not commit you to becoming a Catholic. It engages you in a process of exploration and education; providing information, and answering your questions, in order for you to learn about the Catholic Church – and to make an informed decision. Should you decide to become a Catholic, you may do so upon completion of the RCIA process.

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## **How do I know if the RCIA Process is For Me?**

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, RCIA, is designed to be applicable/adaptable to three groups of people:

*Those who have never been baptized;*

*Those who were baptized in another Christian tradition (Lutheran, Baptist, Methodist, Episcopalian, etc.), and who now want to enter into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church;*

*Those who were baptized in the Catholic Church, but never received any religious education, nor the other initial Sacraments of Penance, First Communion, and Confirmation.*

*If you have already received all of the initial Sacraments except for Confirmation, you should call Michael Lee in the Faith Formation Office, 920.437.0651, and ask about an adult Confirmation class.*

## **How Long does the RCIA process take to Complete?**

The length of time to complete RCIA depends on a few factors. If you have not been baptized, nor have received any religious education, the process will likely take one year or slightly less. If you are already baptized, and have had some religious education, it may be a shorter process.

## **How do I get Started?**

The best thing to do, is to call our Faith Formation Coordinator, Michael Lee, at 920.437.0651 to set up an appointment, so that we can assess your Faith Formation needs, and design a program schedule that will work best for you. You may also call our parish office at 920.435.7548.