



## What Is RCIA?

The rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) for adults is a process for an individual's conversion to the Catholic faith. The journey to Catholicism is a collaborative one, involving the candidates and the RCIA team. The team of Catholic parishioners provides guidance and support to the candidates throughout their journey.

The process begins in September and concludes with candidates receiving the required sacraments (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist) during the Easter Triduum at Holy Saturday Mass. Many significant milestones are reached along the way.

## How to Characterize RCIA?

**RCIA is DESIRE** --- a search for a fuller, meaningful, and enriching faith experience, individually and as part of a parish faith community

**RCIA is DISCUSSION** --- a strong interaction between candidates and team to discuss all aspects of the Catholic faith. Considerable attention is given to scripture, tradition, prayer, and the Sacraments. The candidates are encouraged to share their stories of what motivated them and led them to Catholicism.

**RCIA is DISCERNMENT and DECISION** --- a realization -- aided by learning, prayer, and reflection -- that the candidate is ready to embrace the Catholic faith and commit to completing the journey to Easter. The decision may come early or later in the RCIA process. Each candidate may take a different path to arrive at the decision.

**RCIA is DISCOVERY** --- receiving the Sacraments and being fully welcomed into the parish faith community begins a life-long discovery of the full dimension of your Catholic faith. You are ready to explore the many ways you can express your faith through prayer and involvement in parish ministry. With over 80 active ministries within the St. Greg's parish, the opportunities abound.



"The cross is the badge that shows who we are: our speaking, thinking, looking, working is under the sign of the cross, that is under the sign of the love of Jesus to the end.

The children are marked on the forehead.

Adult catechumens are also marked on the senses, with these words:

**"Receive the sign of the cross on your ears to hear the voice of the Lord"; "On the eyes to see the splendor of the face of God"; "On the mouth, to answer the word of God"; "On the chest, because Christ dwells through faith in your hearts"; "On the shoulders, to support the gentle yoke of Christ"**

*(Rite of the Christian initiation of adults, No. 85). Christians become the extent to which the cross is imprinted in us as an "Easter" mark (cf. Rev 14: 1, 22: 4), making visible, even outwardly, the Christian way of facing life."*

Pope Francis

## To Parishioners:

We invite you to share with us the work of evangelization. If someone you know from your daily life might be interested in exploring our faith, please invite them to join us at our RCIA sessions.

There are also adults in our parish that are baptized as a Christian but have not received Eucharist or Confirmation. RCIA prepares candidates to receive these Sacraments at the Easter Vigil.

## To Those Wishing to Explore the Catholic Faith:

RCIA Meetings are held September through May, Wednesdays at 7 PM at St. Gregory Parish. Each weekly session is 90 minutes in duration; this is a perfect opportunity for those exploring our faith to bring questions. Candidates will find our team members warm and welcoming. Team participates with candidates to review and explore the faith, and “walks” with the candidates on their closer journey to God.

Please pass this information to someone who may be interested in inquiring about the Catholic Faith. Walk-ins are welcome!

The St. Gregory the Great RCIA Team

## Contact Us

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# PROGRAM 2020-2021

## Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

