

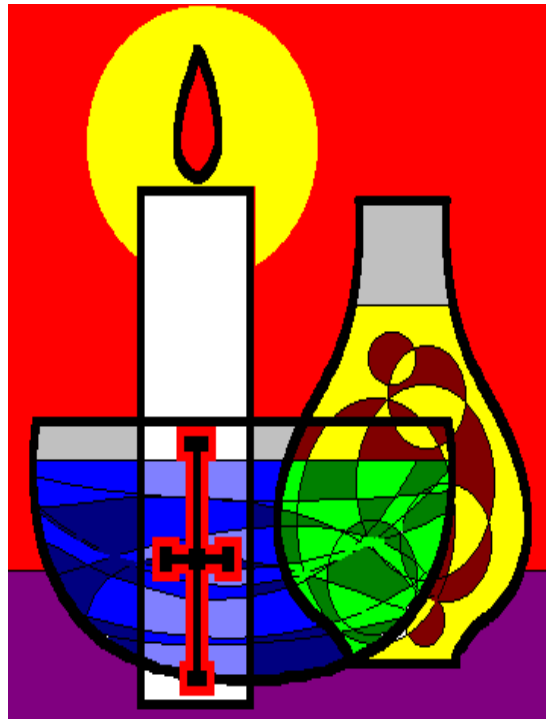
What if I'm not sure if I want to become a Catholic?

That's fine! RCIA begins with a period of Inquiry Sessions. At the end of the Inquiry period, you decide if you are interested in learning more. Even if you decide to continue, there is no final commitment to join the Church until much later in the process.

What is the First Step?

Contact Pat Leach in the Church office, 792-6168 ext 221, Deacon Randy Canale, RCIA Coordinator, 797-2210, or Don & Sue Wanjura, 792-7761

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults



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*Are you interested
in learning about
the Catholic
Church?*

*All are Welcome
at
Christ the King
Cathedral*

*Rite of
Christian
Initiation of
Adults*

806-792-6168
4011 54th Street, 79413

Lubbock, Texas

www.ctkcathedral.org

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults or RCIA is for ...

- Non-Catholics who wish to know more about the Catholic faith.
- Non-baptized who are seeking God in their life.
- Baptized Catholics who desire to complete their Initiation sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation.
- Catholics who want to learn more about their Catholic faith and enrich their spiritual faith journey.

The Faith Journey

Every year adults are welcomed into the Catholic Community through RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults). It is a process in which conversion of the heart brings you to Jesus Christ who is our Lord and Savior.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and find life burdensome, and I will refresh you. Take my yoke upon your shoulders and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart. Your souls

will find rest, for my yoke is easy and my burden light." *Matthew 11:28-30.*

How Does One Become a Catholic?

Most members of the Roman Catholic Church are baptized as infants. They grow up in Catholic homes, receive formal education and gradually come to share in the full sacramental life of the church. Others – those who were previously baptized in other Christian traditions – become Catholics after making a solemn profession of faith, receiving communion and sharing Eucharist with the Catholic community.

And still others – those who were not previously baptized – become Catholic Christians through a process call Christian Initiation (or catechumenate), which includes the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.

The Catholic Church warmly welcomes new members and tries to provide an appropriate spiritual formation according to each person's need. Through the catechumenate, the church encourages an ongoing conversion to Jesus Christ and the reign of God he proclaimed. The catechumenate provides a structure for the proclamation of the Gospel, teachings of the Church, public and private prayer, spiritual direction, the observance of the feasts, fasts, Sundays and seasons of the church calendar, direct contact with members of the parish community and participation in the work of the church for justice and

peace. The church wants to share its life with new members and offer them support and encouragement.

How Does Christian Initiation Take Place?

Each parish is responsible for the formation of prospective members. This information is guided by the needs of those who seek membership, the resources in the local community and the norms of the Catholic Church. All parishes of a diocese are united through the ministry of the bishop, who as chief pastor, is responsible for the Initiation of new Catholic Christians.

How Long Does It Take?

Christian Initiation is not a program. It is the church's way of ministering sensitively to those who seek membership. For that reason, some people will need more time than others to prepare for the lifetime commitment that comes with membership in the Catholic Church.