

RCIA – Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

If you are an Adult who has not been baptised, but are thinking about becoming a Catholic the first step is to contact us. We are delighted to assist & welcome new people into the church.

RCIA?

RCIA is a process of Christian formation offered to those who seek to become members of the Catholic Church.

- *Unbaptised?* The unbaptised who are suitably prepared are joyfully received into the Catholic Church by the reception of Three Sacraments, Baptism, Eucharist & Confirmation.
- *The Baptised?* The baptised who are suitably prepared are welcomed into full communion with the Catholic Church by the reception of the sacraments of Eucharist & Confirmation.

A person may only be baptised once. To appreciate this, you might consider the effects of Baptism. When you are baptised you become an adopted child of God, a new creature, and were given a share in God's nature. You become a member of Christ. This great gift is permanent and cannot be repeated, therefore baptism cannot be repeated.

What is involved?

There are several stages and ritual steps leading to the reception of the Sacraments.

- First Stage: The Pre-Catechumenate
- Second Stage: The Catechumenate
- Third Stage: The Period of Purification & Enlightenment
- Fourth Stage: Period of Mystagogy

Becoming a Catholic is a big step, it is a life changing experience, and one that shouldn't be entered into lightly, nor should anyone feel pushed or coerced into becoming a Catholic, because their partner is Catholic, because in-laws expect it, or because it is easier to enrol children into a Catholic School. There is no doubt you are welcome, but this needs to be something that you believe God is calling you to, and should also be something your desire for yourself as well. The process seems long and perhaps even complicated, but it is really a great joy. It will undoubtedly be a special time in your spiritual life.

Call the Parish Office on 95812061, and they will be happy to direct you to the right person who can answer your questions.

