

RCIA

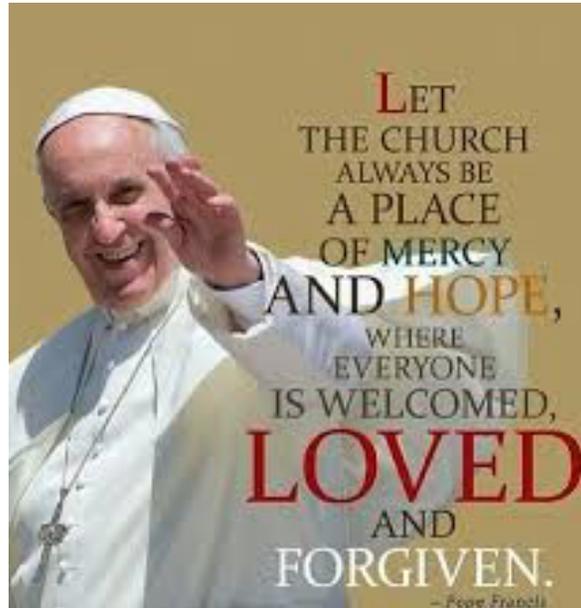
A JOURNEY IN FAITH

The Rite of Christian Initiation

Who is the RCIA for?

- Those who have not received the sacrament of Baptism.
- Those who have been baptized in another religion, and are considering becoming Catholic and receiving their First Communion and Confirmation.
- Those who are Catholic and have been baptized, but have not received any instruction in preparing for First Communion and Confirmation and wish to do so.

For more information about RCIA classes or to register, contact the Director of Adult Faith Formation, Melissa Novak at 708-326-9313 or via email at mnovak@stmarymokena.org



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Becoming Catholic



"The purpose of your time here on earth is not primarily about acquiring possessions, attaining status, or achieving success."

Come discover a personal relationship with God and the treasures of the Catholic faith.

You are welcome here!

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (or RCIA) is a process of growth and discernment regarding the Catholic Church and a person's free choice to become a member.

Throughout this process, candidates engage in the study of Catholic teaching, prayer, discussion, and discernment. At the conclusion of this instruction and based on one's preparedness, the candidate is ready to join the church.

Through the reception of the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist), participants become full members of the Catholic faith.



The RCIA Process at St. Mary's covers the basic teachings of the Catholic faith, and is geared towards people of all levels of study and education. Formal sessions begin in September. Prior to formal group classes, inquirers are encouraged to contact the Director, Melissa Novak.

Topics explored include:

- God the Father, Son & Holy Spirit
- Prayer
- The Saints and Mary
- Understanding the Mass
- Holy Scripture
- The Sacraments
- Sin & Forgiveness
- Living a Holy Life
- Advent & Lent
- Theology of the Body
- Catholic Social Teaching

Questions and Answers

Q: Can anyone join the RCIA process?

A: Yes, any adult, 18 years and older can join. Parents of children and teens in high school who need to make sacraments should contact the RCIA Director to make arrangements.

Q: What is the cost for RCIA?

A: A commitment of time.

Q: When do RCIA classes take place?

A: Thursday evenings beginning in September through April.

Q: Will I need a sponsor or godparent?

A: Yes, a sponsor is required. St. Mary Parish can provide a sponsor if needed. Sponsors should participate in the study and discussion sessions with the candidate. He or she must be a practicing Catholic in good standing and must already be confirmed.