

RCIA

The **R**ite of **C**hristian **I**nitiation of **A**dults (RCIA) is the liturgical and formational process of Christian initiation. The Rite of Christian Initiation was revised and restored in 1972 in accordance with the mandate of the Second Vatican Council and by decree of Pope Paul VI. National statutes for the catechumenate were approved in the United States by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops in 1986. And, finally, the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults was mandated for use in the United States beginning on 9/1/88.

The reinstatement of the RCIA restored a vision of the Christian community embraced by the early church, the vision of a people with conversion as its primary focus, the faith community as its context, and discipleship as its goal. The initiation of adults is a gradual process that takes place within the community of the faithful and is highlighted by a series of Rites, which are celebrated within the Mass, our greatest communal event.

Adults of any faith who are interested in learning more about the Catholic Church are invited to join the RCIA process. Catholics who are willing to share their faith by sponsoring an adult seeking to join the Catholic Church, as well as those Catholics who would like to learn more about their faith are encouraged to attend. The RCIA process begins the Wednesday after Labor Day and culminates on the second Wednesday after Easter. Sessions are held every Wednesday from 7:00 – 9:00 PM in the Parish Activity Center. RCIA participants attend the 11:00 AM Mass and are sent forth to reflect more deeply upon the word of God which was shared at the Mass. The RCIA process is a true spiritual blessing for all who become involved!

CONTACT OUR DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, THEREASA CRABB AT EXTENSION 227 OR DRE@SAINTMICHAELSC.NET FOR MORE INFORMATION

