



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Who May Participate?

Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish welcomes anyone, baptized or not, who wishes to join our faith community and the greater Catholic Church.

### What are the Requirements?

- Participation in the life of the community (including attendance at Sunday Mass)
- One interview with Fr. Lappe before the Rite of Election.
- Have the support of a sponsor.

### What happens at meetings?

- Prayer for God's love and guidance.
- Relaxed learning environment with opportunities to discuss your questions and concerns, one-on-one if desired.

### Who are the Sponsors?

In the process of RCIA each candidate must choose a sponsor. A sponsor is someone who accompanies them along in their journey of faith. The sponsor represents the Catholic community and is willing to be a friend, a witness and a guide.

### What does a Sponsor do?

- Participates in gatherings, asks questions and encourages discussion.
- Listens and answers questions.
- Prays with candidates and shares faith experiences.
- Shares Catholic customs

## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

### An Introduction

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, or Catechumenate, is a process whereby adults and families are welcomed and received into the Roman Catholic Church. The entire community participates in one way or another in this four-stage process. It is a way of learning about the various aspects of Church life: liturgy, belief, morality, prayer, and outreach, all in the context of developing an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ. The Catechumenate culminates with the celebration of the Easter Vigil when the catechumens are fully initiated to the faith and receive the sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and the Holy Eucharist.

*If you have any questions, or are interested in participating, please call Deacon Bill Hamlin at 479-3777*



OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA PARISH  
(360) 479-3777 | [www.starofthesea.net](http://www.starofthesea.net)



*For those wishing to join the Catholic Church*

**Thursdays from 6:30-8:30pm  
Cameraman Hall**



## THE PROCESS

Throughout the periods of formation, the community prays in a special way for those who wish to be initiated into the Catholic Church. **Candidates** (those who've been baptized) & **Catechumens** (those who have not been baptized) gather on Thursday evenings for prayer and to discuss various aspects of the Faith.

Candidates & Catechumens also participate in the following **rites** as they progress through the RCIA process: *The Rite of Acceptance and Welcoming, The Rite of Sending, The Rite of Election, and the Rite of Initiation.*

Mass **dismissals** begin in November & are weekly. Candidates & Catechumens are brought forth after the homily during Mass, are prayed for, and then leave together to explore the Word of God more fully.

During Lent, a **retreat** is given as an opportunity for spiritual preparation for the Easter Vigil. Those who have been baptized have their first reconciliation at this time.

**The Easter Vigil** is the pinnacle of the entire process of conversion. During the Vigil, The Rite of Christian Initiation takes place; adults and children are baptized, receive their First Holy Communion and are Confirmed.

Following the Vigil is a period of time called **Mystagogy**, which is the final period of the Christian Initiation formation process. It is a time which challenges the newly baptized to live the paschal mystery of Christ, and to broaden and understand what it means to live their Catholic faith.

## RCIA CLASS SCHEDULE

6:30-8:30pm in Camerman Hall

<b>Sept. 13</b>	Welcome & Overview	<b>Oct. 25</b>	The Bible
<b>Sept. 20</b>	God & Trinity; Creation & Fall	<b>Nov. 1</b>	<b>All Saints Day-Holy Day of Obligation</b>
<b>Sept. 27</b>	Church Tour	<b>Nov. 8</b>	Jesus-Part One
<b>Oct. 4</b>	Prayer	<b>Nov. 15</b>	Jesus-Part Two
<b>Oct. 11</b>	Catholic Customs and Tradition	<b>Nov. 22</b>	<b>No Class – Happy Thanksgiving!</b>
<b>Oct. 18</b>	Revelation and Tradition	<b>Nov. 25</b>	<i>Rite of Acceptance 8:00AM Mass (Dismissals Begin)</i>

### II. CATECHUMENATE

<b>Nov. 29</b>	Peter and the Church	<b>Jan. 24</b>	Vatican II & the Catechism
<b>Dec. 6</b>	Sin & Justification & Grace	<b>Jan. 31</b>	Catholic Social Justice
<b>Dec. 13</b>	The Holy Spirit & Church History	<b>Feb. 7</b>	Last Things
<b>Dec. 20</b>	<b>No Class</b>	<b>Feb. 14</b>	Conscience/ Ten Commandments/ Natural Law
<b>Dec. 27</b>	<b>No Class</b>	<b>Feb. 21</b>	Eucharist
<b>Jan. 3</b>	Baptism and Confirmation	<b>Feb. 28</b>	The Holy Mass
<b>Jan. 10</b>	The Holy Spirit & Evangelization	<b>Mar. 3</b>	<b>Rite of Sending 8AM Mass</b>
<b>Jan. 17</b>	Blessed Virgin Mary		

### III. PURIFICATION & ENLIGHTENMENT

<b>Mar. 6</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	<b>Apr. 7</b>	<i>Third Scrutiny 8AM Mass</i>
<b>Mar. 7</b>	Holy Orders & Sacrament of Penance	<b>Apr. 11</b>	The Triduum
<b>Mar. 9</b>	<b>Rite of Election 11AM Mass</b>	<b>Apr. 13</b>	<b>RCIA Retreat</b>
<b>Mar. 14</b>	Marriage	<b>Apr. 14</b>	<b>Passion (Palm) Sunday</b>
<b>Mar. 21</b>	Anointing of the Sick & Human Suffering	<b>Apr. 16</b>	<b>Easter Vigil Practice</b>
<b>Mar. 24</b>	<i>First Scrutiny 8AM Mass</i>	<b>Apr. 18</b>	<b>Holy Thursday</b>
<b>Mar. 28</b>	What is Truth? Conscience?	<b>Apr. 20</b>	<b>Easter Vigil 8:30PM</b>
<b>Mar. 31</b>	<i>Second Scrutiny 8AM Mass</i>	<b>Apr. 25</b>	<b>No Class</b>
<b>Apr. 4</b>	Being an Active Parish Member		

### IV. MYSTAGOGY

<b>May 2</b>	Vigil Reflection & Potluck – 6PM Camerman Hall		
<b>May 9</b>	Life Issues	<b>May 16</b>	Crusades, Inquisition, and Galileo