

Join us!

Have you ever had questions about the Catholic Church?

Do you want to learn why we do things a certain way during Mass?

Have you ever thought about becoming Catholic?

If you answered yes to any of those questions, please join us.

Meetings begin Monday, August 28 and meet every Monday in the Blessed Mother Hall (lower level of the St. Francis Center) from 7:15-9:00 p.m.



Saint Ann

CATHOLIC CHURCH

2900 W. Galbraith Rd.
Cincinnati, OH 45239
www.saintannparish.org
Office: 513-521-8440



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Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (R.C.I.A.)

Process for becoming Catholic



Parish Mission Statement:

*To know, love, and serve the Lord in
this life and to be happy with Him
forever in the next.*

Pastor: Fr. Thomas H. McCarthy
Director of Faith Formation: Mary Clare McLaughlin, 513-521-8440 or mcmclaughlin@saintannparish.org
Sacramental Coordinator: Danielle Hart, 513-521-8440 or dhart@saintannparish.org

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults at St. Ann

What are the steps of RCIA?

Inquiry

An individual comes to some knowledge of Jesus Christ, considers his/her relationship with Christ and is attracted to the Catholic Church. This period is part of an unofficial process in which you maintain a relationship with the church but might not be able to join for various reasons. Inquiry can last weeks or years depending on a person's individual circumstance.

Marriage

A common reason for someone to be unable to enter the Church is because of an invalid marriage. To enter into the Church, all previous marriages by both spouses must be determined Null. An annulment is not a "Catholic divorce," rather it is an investigation to determine if, from the beginning, the marriage was invalid. The Catholic Church holds all marriages to be sacred and permanent; unless the marriage was unlawful (*Matthew 19*). A Declaration of Nullity (annulment) is different than a divorce and takes approximately a year to complete. If you think you may need an annulment speak with Fr. McCarthy as soon as possible to learn more about the process.

Period of the Catechumenate

This can last for as long as several years or for a shorter time. It depends on how the person is growing in faith, what questions they encounter along the way, and how God leads them on this journey. During this time, the Catechumens consider what God is saying to them in the Scriptures, what changes in their life they need to make to respond to God's inspiration, and what Baptism in the Catholic Church means.

The Rite of Acceptance

During this Rite, the inquirer states that he/she wants to be a baptized member of the Catholic Church. The parish assembly affirms this desire and the inquirer becomes a Catechumen.

The Rite of Election

This includes the enrollment of names of all the Catechumens seeking baptism at the coming Easter Vigil. Typically, on the first Sunday of Lent, the Catechumens, their sponsors and families gather at the cathedral church. The Catechumens publicly express their desire for baptism to the diocesan bishop. Their names are recorded in a book and they are called the Elect.



Easter Vigil

Easter Vigil

The morning of the Easter Vigil we will have a practice walk through of the Liturgy at 10:00am in the Church.

The Easter Vigil begins at dusk (usually between 8:30 and 9:00pm). We begin outside around the fire with candles and process in to a dark Church. The Liturgy begins in the dark and as it continues lights are turned on, so that the Church is completely lit up by the time we sing Alleluia.

Catechumens will receive Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during this Easter Liturgy. Catechumens should wear white in order to represent the cleansing of sin through the Sacrament of Baptism.

Mystagogy

Our education in our faith is never completed. We will take several weeks following the Easter Vigil to explore more about the Catholic Faith and learn about parish involvement opportunities for adults.

Attendance Policy

As you are preparing to receive the Sacraments of Initiation into the Catholic Church, the expectation is that you will be diligent throughout this process, in your study of the faith, questioning, and learning. We expect the RCIA Participants to make every effort to be present for each class and meeting in order to get the most out of their time of catechesis and formation. Each meeting covers a new and important aspect of Catholic Church teachings.