



Jesus tells us, “For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” [Matthew 18:20]

Background Info:

There are four periods that belong to this process:

- Precatechumenate—Inquiry and pondering
- Catechumenate—scripture, faith sharing, catechesis
- Purification/Enlightenment—intense spiritual preparation
- Mystagogia—celebration of the sacraments/Easter season

Stage One: Precatechumenate - A Time of Inquiry & Growth

The journey toward becoming Catholic begins in a stage called Inquiry—a time for asking questions, exploring faith, and reflecting on how God has been present in your life. During this phase, those known as precathecumenates (that’s you!) are invited to “come and see,” without pressure or commitment.

Your daily experiences of prayer and reflection are an important part of this process. You attend an OCIA Info Meeting, where you can learn more about the path to full initiation in the Catholic Church, ask questions, and discern where God may be calling you.

Informational meetings to start this inquiry & growth will be on:

- Sunday, October 25th from 11:30 am – 12:15 pm
- Monday, November 9th from 6:00 pm – 6:45 pm

Those interested need to attend at least one of the above sessions. In addition, there will a one-on-one session with Tanya Gross, Director of Formation Ministries.

Stage Two: Catechumenate - A Time of Catechesis and Faith sharing

At this stage, precathecumenates become either Catechumens (non-baptized) or Candidates (baptized) and are formally welcomed into the parish with the Rite of Acceptance, which affords the community the opportunity to come to know, recognize and pray for and with you. From the duration of this stage, the group gathers weekly to reflect on

the Scriptures, explore how God is working in their lives, and discuss key topics about the Catholic Faith.

OCIA Reflection Gatherings

All sessions will be held after 10:30 am Mass on Sunday but specific time will be dependent upon if we have a mix of catechumens and candidates or just candidates.

January 10th – Introductions and Mystery

January 17th – God

January 24th – Jesus

January 31st – Holy Spirit

February 7th – Mary and the Communion of Saints

February 14th – The Gospels

February 21st – The Church and Prayer

February 28th – Sacraments of Initiation

March 7th – Sacraments of Healing

March 14th – Sacraments of Vocation

Stage Three: Purification/Enlightenment - The Time of Enlightenment & Purification

This period begins a short but intense time of spiritual preparation. The group (along with the entire parish community) examine how they are living their lives for Christ. This stage ends with the reception of the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday.

OCIA Lenten Reflection Gatherings

March 20, 2027 (Retreat) – 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

March 25, 2027 (Holy Thursday) 7:00 pm

March 26, 2027 (Good Friday) 7:00 pm

March 27, 2027 (Easter Vigil Rehearsal) 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

March 27, 2027 (Easter Vigil) 7:00 pm

Stage Four: Mystagogia - Processing the Experience

This stage is called the Mystagogia. At this session the group gathers to reflect on the sacramental experience and explore what it will be like to “live the mystery.”

OCIA Final Reflection Gathering

April 4, 2027 – 11:30 am – 1:00 pm (after 10:30 am Mass)