



The family of faith at St. John the Baptist invites Catholics  
and non-Catholics to join the RCIA Process.  
*CLASSES START THURSDAY AUGUST 28, 2008!*

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The R.C.I.A. Process at St. John the Baptist

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For those interested in becoming Catholic or Catholics wanting to learn more about the Catholic Church - The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a Journey of Faith. Come join us on this journey.

**Dues and fees:** None

**Participation:** Participation is open to all wanting to learn more about the Catholic faith. Whether you want to become a Catholic or not, come and learn about the Church.

**Volunteers:** If you are interested in being a sponsor or helping with receptions, babysitting or presenting lessons, please call Joey Hebert at the number above.

The entire R.C.I.A. process lasts approximately nine months and continues from August through May of each year.

We will focus on Catholic answers to questions such as:

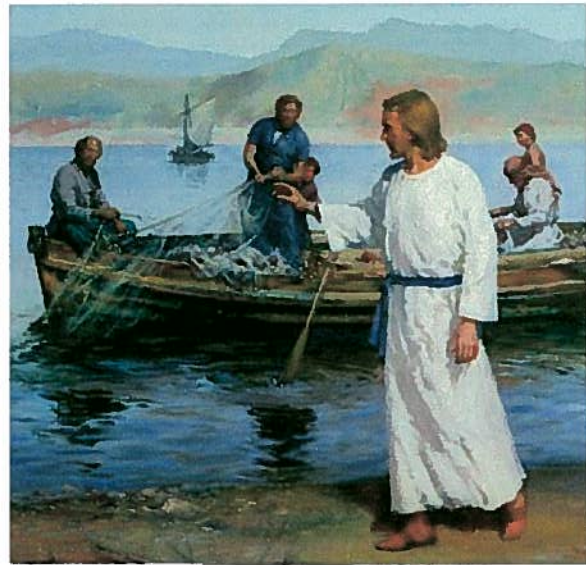
- Why is the Catholic Bible different from the Protestant Bible?
- Is it really the body and blood of Jesus in the Eucharist?

If you have questions, contact the church office or Joey Hebert, Coordinator, at the number listed above. Or go to the following link: [www.catholic.com](http://www.catholic.com)

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**"He called them,  
and immediately  
they left their boat  
and followed Him."**

**(Matthew 4:21 - 22)**



**Come join us...**

**RCIA contains four main stages:**

**1. Period of Inquiry**

We become acquainted with the Roman Catholic Church, we see in our own life how we connect to Church, we examine basic Christian beliefs, and we decide if we want to become Catholic.

**2. Period of Catechumenate**

This is the first stage of commitment that leads to full membership. We discuss Catholic prayer, Reconciliation, Mary and the Saints.

**3. Period of Enlightenment and Purification**

This is the time during Lent when we deepen our spiritual commitment through works of charity, prayer and fasting. We will discuss Confirmation, the Mass, and Baptism. This stage ends with Easter and the Rites of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.

**4. Period of Mystagogy**

This stage lasts from Easter Sunday to Pentacost Sunday (about 50 days) and completes the initiation process. We will discuss social justice, works of mercy and being an active parishioner.

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## **RCIA Key Dates**

Aug. 28, 2008	FIRST MEETING: 7PM - 8PM in Classroom #1. Overview of the course with question and answer session.
Nov. 23, 2008	Rite of Initiation: All day Retreat with Mass.
Feb. 22, 2009	Rite of Election: All day Retreat with ceremony at the Cathedral.
April 11, 2009	Holy Saturday: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.
May 31, 2009	Pentecost Sunday: The end of RCIA season.

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## **Prayer for Evangelization**

Loving God, you called us each by name and gave your only Son to redeem us.  
In your faithfulness, you sent the Holy Spirit to complete the mission of Jesus  
among us.

Open our hearts to Jesus. Give us the courage to speak his name to those who  
are close to us

and the generosity to share His love with those who are far away.

We Pray that every person through out the world be invited to know and love  
Jesus as Savior and Redeemer.

May that love transform every element of our society.

We ask this through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.

Saint Paul the Apostle, pray for us.

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## ***OTHER GOOD LINKS:***

<http://www.americancatholic.org/>

American Catholic web site with excellent Catholic news, information, books, movie reviews and more.

<http://www.nccbuscc.org/>

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops with the latest church teachings and positions. This site includes the Catechism of the Catholic Church in an easy to search format. This is an easy way to read the Catechism with out having to buy a copy. This site also has the Pope's encyclicals and other writings.

<http://www.catholiccommunityradio.com>

Catholic Community Radio is a local radio station delivering Catholic information every day. The web site includes useful information including apologetics and podcasts.

[http://www.deacons.net/Canon\\_Law/ccl.htm](http://www.deacons.net/Canon_Law/ccl.htm)

Code of Canon Law. This book presents the "rules and regulations" of the church. Where the Catechism presents our theology in a practical way, the Code presents our practices. For example, the rules around marriage and rules around receiving Holy Communion are found in the code.

<http://www.askacatholic.com/WhatsNew/myfavorites/TopTenReasonToReturn.cfm>

Ask a Catholic web site is a practical Apologetics web site in an easy to read and personalized format.

<http://www.catholic.com>

Catholic.com is an excellent reference web site with excellent background information about the church.

<http://www.stjcc.net/rcia.htm>

St. James RCIA web site.

<http://www.beginningcatholic.com/>

A good site for beginning Catholics and Catholics with questions. Add to our web site.

<http://www.rciaresources.com/>

Good resource for RCIA presentations.

<http://www.rcia.co.nr/>

RCIA web site prepared by a volunteer that has presentations.

<http://www.rciafallriver.com/>

A good parish RCIA web site.