

RCIA PROCESS - St. Thomas More –2017-2018

INQUIRY PHASE

7 Sep – 30 Nov

Purpose:

- gain initial conversion & grasp of Christian message
- answer questions about Christianity & Scripture
- gain trust; share stories & experiences of faith
- decide if God is calling you to this way of life

Name: “INQUIRERS”

RITE OF WELCOME

Advent Sun 3 Dec
10 am St T.M.

- Note 1: “Inquiry” is indefinite...only proceed to Rite of Welcome when ready
- Inquirers who wish to proceed, publicly express their desire to follow the way of Jesus
- The Church accepts their intention & welcomes them into the household of the Church
- names entered into the “Register of the Catechumens”

CATECHUMENATE PHASE

7 Dec – 14 Feb

Purpose:

- deepen faith & conversion within Catholic community
- deepen understanding & experience of 7 Sacraments
- deepen understanding of Catholic Church & its organization, morality & history

Name: “CATECHUMENS” (if unbaptized); “CANDIDATES” (if baptized)

RITE OF SENDING

Sat 17 Feb
5 pm St T.M.

RITE OF ELECTION

Sat 17 Feb
7:30 pm Basilica

- The Parish celebrates this transition by sending Catechumens & Candidates with a blessing
- The Bishop formally acknowledges the readiness of the catechumens & candidates & calls them to the sacraments of initiation
- catechumens & candidates respond by expressing their desire for sacraments
- names entered in the “Book of the Elect”

ENLIGHTENMENT (LENT) PHASE

LENT: 17 Feb– 31 Mar

Purpose:

- final preparation, conversion & scrutiny of lives in light of the gospel
- prayer, fasting, making use of the Lectionary readings
- celebrate presentation of the Creed & Lord’s Prayer
- Candidates celebrate Sacrament of Reconciliation (those already baptized)

Name: “The ELECT” (if unbaptized); “CANDIDATES” (if baptized)

RITE OF FULL INITIATION

Holy Sat
31 Mar
8:30 pm St T.M.
VIGIL

THIS is when
one becomes
CATHOLIC!

First Easter Mass

- The Elect become full members of Body of Christ through celebration of the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation & Eucharist
- names entered in the “Baptismal Book”

Contact:

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MYSTAGOGIA PHASE

“entering more deeply into the mystery”
50 day season of EASTER 5 Apr – 20 May

Purpose:

- grow in Faith & ponder experience & meaning of sacraments
- participate in the Eucharistic life & ministry

Name: “NEOPHYTES” (*new sprouts*)

PENTECOST SENDING FORTH

Sun 20 May
10am St T.M.