

Welcome to the OCIA

“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”

(Mt 28:19–20)

USCCB

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults is a process not just instruction.

OCIA is open to all persons, regardless of religious background or philosophical persuasion, who genuinely seek, by God's grace, to live their lives in the distinctive Catholic Christian faith.

OCIA was established for the universal Church, for individuals who wish to become Catholic and receive the sacraments of initiation – Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist.

The OCIA process follows the ancient practice of the Church and was restored by the Second Vatican [Council](#) as the normal way adults prepare for baptism.

Jesus Says, “Come!”

Jesus wants us to make the choice freely and with all the information we need to make a decision.

Take your time – it’s your journey.

The primary goal is to better know God, understand God’s will and to seek the living God.

Declaration of Faith (handout)

- Why Should I attend Mass and Participate in Parish Events?
 - The Church celebrates the Mass because Jesus invites us to “do this in memory of me” (Luke 22:19). God wants us to experience his love as part of a community. Faith is both private and public
 - “It is the Church that believes first, and so bears, nourishes, and sustains my faith... Salvation comes from God alone; but because we receive the life of faith through the Church... she is our mother, she is also our teacher in the faith.” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 168, 169*)

- There are Four Periods of the OCIA
 - Inquiry
 - Catechumenate
 - Purification and Enlightenment
 - Mystagogy
- Review Calendar
- Sponsor Certificate
- Saint Name

- How Should I Attend Sessions?
 - Be prepared: read the Journey of Faith handouts before session.
 - Come to sessions with questions or comments.
 - Be on time.
 - Let us know if you will not be at a session