

What does the RCIA journey involve?

There are five steps on the RCIA Journey. Each one concludes with a community ceremony (Rite) which acts as a starting point to the next stage. At each Rite the candidates affirm their intention to proceed to the next stage while the community commits to supporting them on their journey.

1. Enquiry

- Candidates make initial enquiries about the Catholic faith in the company of like-minded people
- **Community Ceremony:** *Rite of Acceptance*

2. Catechumenate: Formation in Christian Life

- A period of learning the teaching of Jesus through the Gospel and reflecting on how Catholics bear witness to their faith
- **Community Ceremony:** *Rite of Election*

3. Preparation for Easter (Period of Purification and Enlightenment)

- This period coincides with Lent. It's a period of more intense preparation and prayer which culminates with the Sacraments of Initiation at Easter (Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Communion)
- **Community Ceremony:** *Sacraments of Initiation*

4. Mystagogy: Deepening of Faith

- Having received the Sacraments at the Easter Vigil, the new Catholics reflect on the experience and the direction of their lives.
- **Community Ceremony:** *Missioning Ceremony*

5. Lifelong Formation

- How to witness as a Catholic Christian

The journey doesn't end here. Being a Christian is a lifelong, transformative journey of faith!

THE RCIA JOURNEY:
FIVE PHASES WITH FOUR KEY MOMENTS OF CELEBRATION

