

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)
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For those celebrating Baptism, Confirmation, Communion (i.e. FULL INITIATION) or for those already baptized in another Christian Denomination who wish to celebrate FULL COMMUNION through a Profession of Faith (i.e. Confirmation and First Communion), the RCIA Process is the preferred way of preparation to celebrate SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

The RCIA follows the Liturgical Year of the Church with certain important Rites and Rituals celebrated during Advent, Lent, and Easter Seasons. Regular meetings are also held throughout the year. These are typically on Sundays after the 10 AM Mass.

Those entering this process are expected to have an understanding of the Liturgical Year as a whole and their readiness to proceed is determined through this series of preparations and rituals in addition to the group meetings on Sundays.

The process takes as long as it takes. It is usually no less than one Liturgical Year and it is best if a person experiences at least one Easter Vigil celebration prior to celebrating the Sacraments of Initiation.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR the RCIA 2016-17 Group

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| <p>2016- ADVENT 1st Sunday, November 27 2nd Sunday, December 4 3rd Sunday, December 11 4th Sunday, December 28</p> | <p>2016 ASH WEDNESDAY (Lent Begins) Wednesday, March 1st Wednesday Evening Masses during Lent (in Chapel) Sunday, March 5 1st Sunday of Lent Sunday, March 19 3rd Sunday of Lent Sunday, March 26 4th Sunday of Lent Sunday, April 2 5th Sunday of Lent HOLY WEEK <i>(NOTE: You must be present for these dates in order to celebrate and receive Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Communion)</i> Sunday, April 9 (Palm Sunday of the Lord’s Passion) Wednesday, April 12 (Mass in Chapel, RCIA Walk-Through) Thursday, April 13 (Holy Thursday) Friday, April 14 25 (Good Friday) Saturday, April 15 (Easter Vigil/Holy Saturday) Sunday, April 216 (Easter Sunday)</p> |
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ADULT CONFIRMATION

(at the St. Thomas More Cathedral in Arlington)

For Catholics who are beyond RE Program years (i.e. older than High School age), the diocese celebrates Confirmation once a year during the weekend of Pentecost.

Depending on background and depth of faith, Candidates for Adult Confirmation may complete their preparations through an at-home study program, or may participate in group meetings, or both.

The basic requirements for celebration are completion of a study guide, submission of a recently dated, fully annotated baptismal certificate, and completion of a diocesan form for one of the celebration dates. A suitable Confirmation/Saint Name and selection of an appropriate Confirmation Sponsor is also required.

CELEBRATION DATES FOR 2017

Saturday, June 3 @ 7:30 PM (Pentecost Vigil)

Or

Sunday, June 4 @ 2:30 PM (Pentecost Sunday)