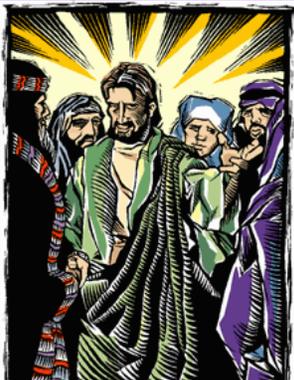


## Welcome to our Faith community!

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the entry point for many into our faith community and harkens back the very beginning of the Church. In the first several centuries A.D., new believers entered into a type of apprenticeship for the length of at least a year. It is our goal, that much like those early apprentices, the RCIA process will cause us to grow as a community and be transformed by the person of Jesus Christ.



## Comments from past years

"I didn't think I could ever be Catholic, but in the first three sessions, I learned many of the things I was taught as a child were incorrect." Tammy Beswick May 2000

"My wife has always been Catholic and I greatly admired the way her parents lived their faith. The RCIA process was great, I could not have asked for more!" Ken Whitney May 2000

"Yes, I will help next year, this is a phenomenal program." Joni Bennett (Sponsor) April 2002

"In-depth, organized, accommodating and an incredible faith enriching experience." Sue Lonnee (Sponsor) April 2002



# St. Patrick's

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*A Journey in Faith...*

*St. Patrick's  
Catholic Church  
Invites you to:  
"The Rite of  
Christian Initiation  
of Adults"*



*Discover the heights  
and depths of God's  
love and the treasures  
of our Catholic faith.*

## Why RCIA?

There are many reasons that people enter the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. It makes no difference whether you have been raised in another denomination, have no church affiliation and experience or that you simply strayed from the faith for the last 20 years and would like to come back to complete the Sacraments of Initiation. Whatever the case, you are welcome here and quite frankly, we praise God for your presence! As we build community through our RCIA sessions, it becomes clear that we all have had our times of doubts, fear and frustration. Many have even lived reckless lives apart from God's plan, but certainly not apart from his mercy. The Rite of Christian Initiation is a time to come together and examine our lives in light of the Gospel and embrace a fuller discipleship of the Lord Jesus Christ! You are among friends and fellow sinners. St. Pat's is your temporary home, until the day when we all join together in our eternal home and worship the Lord face to face. Welcome!



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

## Phases of The RCIA

Phase One: Inquiry: What is the Catholic faith all about and am I called to embrace it? Inquiry sessions are year-round and culminate in September. We welcome your call and look forward to meeting you.

Phase Two: Catechumenate: Studying and living the Catholic faith. (Oct.-March)

Phase Three: Period of Enlightenment: An in-depth time of conversion and preparation. (Lent, the six weeks prior to Easter)

Phase Four: Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, and/or Confirmation and Eucharist are celebrated at the Easter Vigil.

Phase Five: Mystagogy: The ongoing living out of our Catholic faith through parish involvement.



## Is it the right time for you?

Obviously, only you can answer this question, but let me get my two cents in. When is there ever time to add another commitment or meeting to our incredibly busy lives? Here's a short story to illustrate my point. My wife and I were talking about things that needed

to be done around the house and with the kids in the coming week. We certainly had a full plate. There would be very little time for any surprises and the days would be long. We decided that we better enjoy the remainder of this day, before the busy-ness took over. We took the kids for a walk on the pier and ended up by the fish cleaning station. Big mistake! These King Salmon were huge, 25 lb plus! I got the fever. The whole way home I tried to figure out how I could get out with my buddy fishing. My wife knew what was going on in my little mind and made the following observation, "it's amazing how one cooler full of fish can erase all other priorities in your life." She said it half joking, of course. Bottom line... we all make time for what is most important to us! We choose our priorities.



Step out in faith and do everything you can to make time for God to work in your life. The only regret you will have is that you didn't do it earlier!

Psalm 90:12 "Teach us to number our days aright that we might gain wisdom."

Inquiry takes place year-round and weekly sessions are held September through Easter. Call Jeff Andrini for further information at 842-8230.