

OCIA is Coming Sept. 21, 2025

Q: What is OCIA?

A: OCIA stands for the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (formerly called RCIA). It is the process that adults participate in to become Catholic.

Q: I'm already Catholic; why are you telling me this?

A: Because people joining the Catholic Church are joining a community of believers like YOU! You have a very important role to play in their faith journey! This is why many of our special ceremonies ("Rites") occur during mass, so the community is there to support them!

Q: What are some other things about OCIA I should know?

A: Our initial couple of months is a confidential "Inquiry Phase" where the person can come to classes and learn if Catholicism is for them or not, without having 'pressure' of other people knowing. The people first 'go public' at the Rite for Entrance into the Catechumenate held during Mass in December. It's important we respect that the decision to become Catholic is fully theirs, without any pressure.

A: In some cases, there might be individuals who do not become Catholic at the Easter Vigil. This is not uncommon! The OCIA process is designed to be flexible in length, so when the person is ready and has completed all the necessary steps, he or she can receive the Sacraments. If one of the people you have prayed for has not yet joined the church, please KEEP PRAYING for them! When the time is right (in God's Time) the day will come, God willing! As with all things in life, we have to trust in the Lord's plan and timing.

Q: What can I do to help?

A: A LOT!! -Continue being the welcoming community that you are! -Invite searchers to check out the OCIA! Come with them to the first session or two so they do not have to go it alone. -Invite someone who is searching to attend Mass with you. -Pray for those discerning! -Consider being a sponsor or godparent to someone who might not have anyone to do so for them.

Q: Who should I contact if I have more questions or want to get involved?

St. Isidore Church – Roger & Shirley Hughes, OCIA Directors
ocia@stisidorechurch.org or call Parish office at 517-651-6722

Holy Family Church – Richard & Carol Theile, OCIA Directors
Richard – 517-599-6113 or Carol – 989-395-0283
Or call Parish office at 989-834-5855