

Dear RCIA for CHILDREN Inquirer:

On behalf of the staff and community of St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, we extend to you our warmest welcome on this new direction in your journey of faith. Please review the information in this letter and the RCIA adapted for Children welcome packet which are intended as guides as you begin this journey.

The **Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) adapted for CHILDREN** is the Church's ritual process for calling CHILDREN over the age of 7 to a conversion of mind and heart and preparing them for a full and active life in the Church as disciples of Jesus. During this process, inquirers study the basic teachings of the Catholic Church, and participate in liturgical rites that both mark the progress of their journey and form them more deeply by God's grace. The culmination of the RCIA adapted for CHILDREN journey is the celebration of the sacraments of **Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist** at the Easter Vigil for those seeking Baptism and on Divine Mercy Sunday for those already baptized.

As you hear the mystery of Christ proclaimed, our prayer is for you to consciously and freely seek the living God and enter the way of faith and conversion as the Holy Spirit opens your heart and gives you strength for the journey.
God bless!

Documents Needed:

You will need to bring in these documents to the parent meeting.

1. A copy of child's Birth Certificate
2. Baptismal Certificates (if your child was already baptized)
3. Sponsor Form (God Parent Form)
4. Saint Name

What do we do in RCIA for Children?

- Students start meeting in mid-September on Sundays after the 9:00 Mass for academic classes to help prepare for these Sacraments.
- Then, later in September we will also begin meeting on Sunday for the 9:00 a.m. Mass and leave after the homily to "Break Open the Word" of God to help understand the passages of Scripture which the Church has chosen for that day. We speak of "Breaking Open the Word" as "BOW" for short.
- The catechumens will receive their sacraments at the Easter Vigil service. The candidates will receive their sacraments on Divine Mercy Sunday.

Contact Us:

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