

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) Overview



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Acknowledgements

In the creation of this PowerPoint presentation I have borrowed from the following excellent website: <http://www.stmarydekab.org/rcia/index.html>. This is the website for St Mary Parish, DeKalb, Illinois.

*Many of the graphics come from Thomas Scharbach beautiful website:
http://members.aol.com/tombecket/ts_graph.htm*

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This presentation is based upon the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) together with additional rites approved for use in the diocese of the United States of America (USA).

The numbers shown in the presentation relate to the relevant sections of the USA RCIA document.

*Chris Sloan
February 2007*

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The First Period: The Period of Evangelisation and Precatechumenate [36 - 40]

Also known as the **Period of Inquiry**, it is a time for:

- Asking questions about the Catholic faith
- Building community within the group
- Developing a trusting atmosphere

More importantly, it is a time for:

- Examining God's presence in our lives, past and present
- Learning about prayer
- Fostering conversion
- Developing or improving our relationship with God
- Getting to know his Church

At this stage baptised and unbaptised alike are known as Inquirers.



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The First Period: **The Period of Evangelisation and Precatechumenate, cont...**

At this point the group will discuss topics such as:

- A Tour Around the Church
- Catholic Practices and Rituals
- Catholics and the Mass
- Catholics and Mary
- Catholics and the Pope
- Catholics and Prayer
- Catholics and Confession / Reconciliation
- An Introduction to the Bible



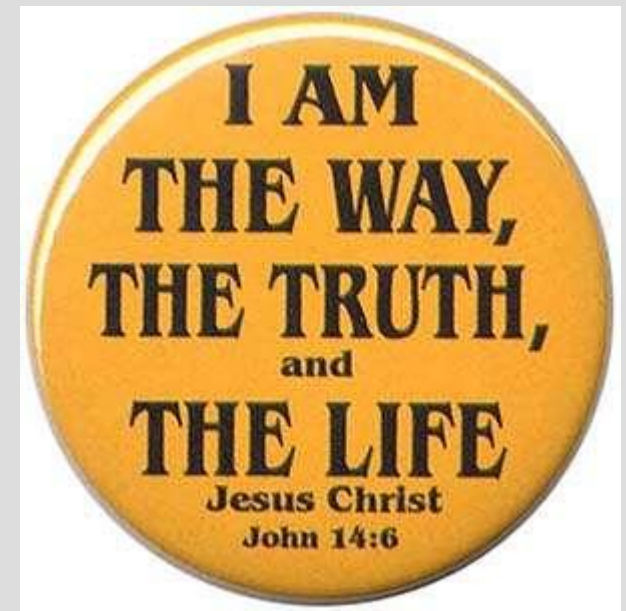
For those who are unbaptised, this period concludes with the rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens. For those who are baptised it concludes with the Rite of Welcoming the Candidates.

If there are both unbaptised and baptised Inquirers in a Parish there is a combined rite entitled: Celebration of the Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens and the Rite of Welcoming Baptised but Previously Uncatechized Adults Who are Preparing for Confirmation and/or Eucharist or Reception into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church.

Period Summary

The First Period: The Period of Evangelisation and Precatechumenate

<u>Periods and Steps</u>	1st Period = Period of Evangelisation and Precatechumenate (also known as the Period of Inquiry)
<u>Titles Used</u>	Inquirers
<u>General Theme</u>	Getting to Know Each Other
<u>Keyword /s</u>	Consultation
<u>Leading Party</u>	Inquirer
<u>Length of Time / Dates</u>	Not fixed – according to the needs and wishes of the Inquirer
<u>Aim</u>	Establish trust between Inquirers, Pastors, and Catechists
<u>Content</u>	Exploration of the Inquirers background and needs. Introduction to the values of the Gospel
<u>Rites</u>	Prayers suited to the Inquirers



An aerial, grayscale photograph of a city, likely Rome, showing a large stadium in the foreground. The stadium has a prominent circular structure and a large, ornate facade. The surrounding city is densely packed with buildings and streets.

The Roman Catholic

RCIA Resource Site:

<http://www.catechumen.org.uk>

email: catholic@catechumen.org.uk