

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*

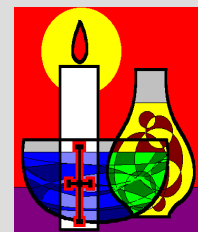
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This presentation is based upon the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) together with additional rites approved for use in the diocese of the United States of America (USA).

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 Third Step: The Celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation {The Elect} [206 – 217] and

The Rite of Reception of Baptized Christians into the full Communion of the Catholic Church {The Candidates} [473 – 486]

On the night of the Easter Vigil – the night we celebrate new life through death – the celebration of three sacraments takes place - the sacraments of **Baptism, Eucharist (Holy Communion), and Confirmation**. The Elect celebrate all of these via the **Rite of Initiation** while the Candidates (having already been Baptised) celebrate the **Eucharist and Confirmation** via the **Rite of Reception of Baptized Christians into the full Communion of the Catholic Church**.

In ceremonies that can be traced back to the year 200 A.D., the whole parish community renews its own baptismal commitment as it welcomes new members into its midst. It is the culmination to the journey of conversion, but certainly not the end of that journey.

The Elect are now called Neophytes, and are considered to be full members of the Catholic Church. Our new members of the Church community now move onto the **Period of Mystagoga**.

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The Third Step: The Celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation [206 – 217]

The outline of this rite is as follows [218 – 243]:

Service of Light

Liturgy of the Word

Celebration of Baptism:

- Presentation of the Candidates
- Invitation to Prayer
- Litany of the Saints
- Prayer of the Water
- Profession of Faith
- ✦ Renunciation of Sin
- ✦ Profession of Faith
- Baptism
- Explanatory Rites
- ✦ [Anointing after Baptism]
- ✦ [Clothing with a Baptismal Garment]
- ✦ Presentation of a Lighted Candle

Celebration of Confirmation:

- Invitation
- Laying on of Hands
- Anointing with Chrism

Renewal of Baptismal Promises (at the Easter Vigil):

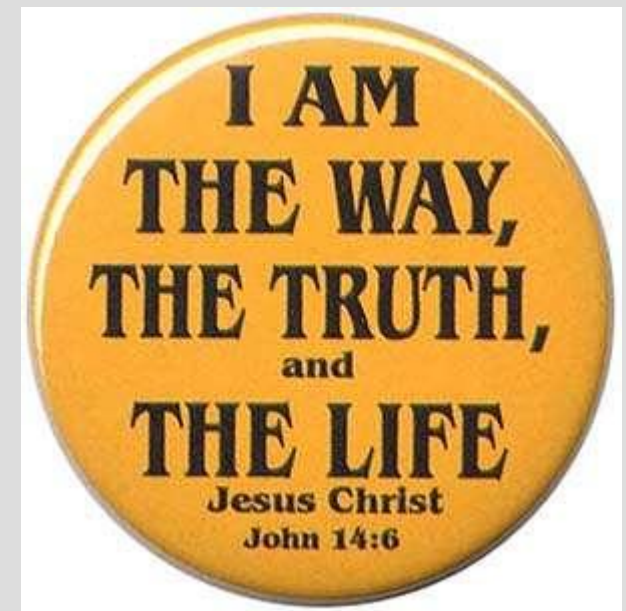
- Invitation
- Renewal of Baptismal Promises
- ✦ Renunciation of Sin
- ✦ Profession of Faith
- Sprinkling with Baptismal Water

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Step Summary

The Third Step: Celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation

<u>Periods and Steps</u>	3rd Step = Celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation [for non-baptised]
<u>Titles Used</u>	The Elect
<u>General Theme</u>	New Life
<u>Keyword /s</u>	Initiation
<u>Leading Party</u>	The Elect / Presbyter / Parish
<u>Length of Time / Dates</u>	Usually celebrated at the Easter Vigil
<u>Aim</u>	The Elect are formally initiated into the Church through Baptism
<u>Content</u>	A formal liturgical rite, which is often celebrated at the local Church during the Easter Vigil; the Elect receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and the Holy Eucharist.
<u>Rites</u>	Celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation



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The Third Step (a):

The Rite of Reception of Baptized Christians into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church (*within Holy Mass*) [487 – 486]

The outline of this rite is as follows [487 – 498]:

Liturgy of the Word

- Readings
- Homily

Liturgy of the Eucharist

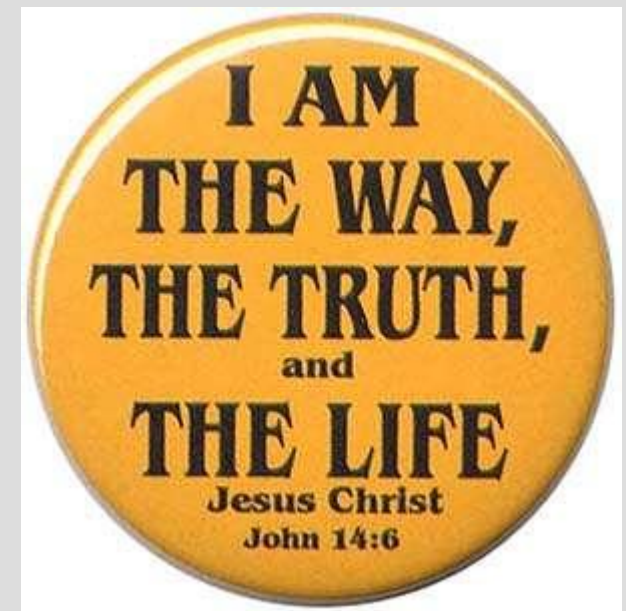
Celebration of Reception

- Invitation
- Profession of Faith
- Act of Reception
- [Confirmation]
- Laying on of Hands
- Anointing with Chrism
- Celebrant's Sign of Welcome
- General Intercessions
- Sign of Peace

Step Summary

<u>Periods and Steps</u>	3rd Step (a) = Rite of Reception into full communion of the Catholic Church [for those already baptised]
<u>Titles Used</u>	Candidates
<u>General Theme</u>	The Journey Continues
<u>Keyword /s</u>	Full communion
<u>Leading Party</u>	The Candidate / Presbyter / Parish
<u>Length of Time / Dates</u>	Usually celebrated at the Easter Vigil
<u>Aim</u>	The Candidates are received into full Communion with the Church
<u>Content</u>	A formal liturgical rite, which is often celebrated at the local Church during the Easter Vigil; the Candidates receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion
<u>Rites</u>	The Rite of Reception of Baptised Christians into the full Communion of the Catholic Church

The Third Step (a): The Reception of Baptized Christians into the full Communion of the Catholic Church



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The Third Step (b):

The (Combined) Celebration at the Easter Vigil of the Sacraments of Initiation and of the Rite of Reception into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church [562 – 565]

The outline of this rite is as follows [566 - 594]:

Service of Light

Liturgy of the Word

Celebration of Baptism:

- Presentation of the Candidates
- Invitation to Prayer
- Litany of the Saints
- Prayer of the Water
- Profession of Faith
- ✦ Renunciation of Sin
- ✦ Profession of Faith
- Baptism
- Explanatory Rites
- ✦ [Anointing after Baptism]
- ✦ [Clothing with a Baptismal Garment]
- ✦ Presentation of a Lighted Candle

Renewal of Baptismal Promises:

- Invitation
- Renewal of Baptismal Promises
- ✦ Renunciation of Sin
- ✦ Profession of Faith
- Sprinkling with Baptismal Water

Celebration of Reception:

- Invitation
- Profession by the Candidates
- Act of reception

Celebration of Confirmation:

- Invitation
- Laying on of Hands
- Anointing with Chrism

Liturgy of the Eucharist

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