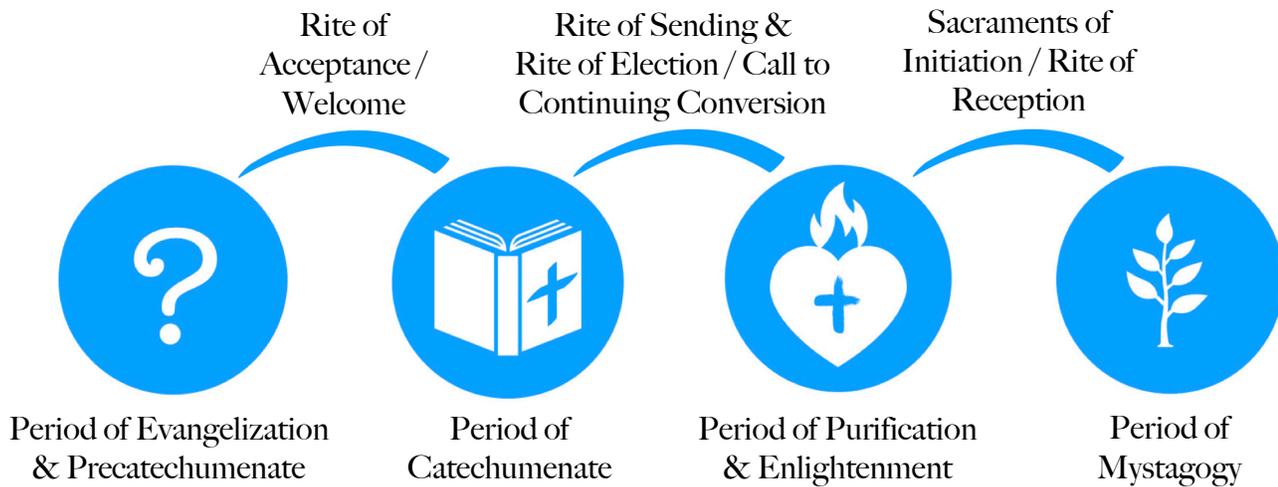


## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.): Overview, Topics & Resources\*



The process of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.) is meant to be a time of “comprehensive and systematic formation in the faith...putting people not only in touch, but also in communion and intimacy, with Jesus Christ (GDC\*\* 67 & 80).” It is intended to be a time of informing the mind while forming the soul in the Catholic Christian way of life; steeped in the Word of God, Liturgy, community, and teachings of the Catholic Church.

To accomplish this goal, parishes are required to use a Diocesan approved text, such as Symbolon (Formed.org), Journey of Faith (Liguori Publications), the Catechism of Catholic Church, the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults (USCCB). At minimum, the following topics, roughly in this order, need to be covered during the RCIA process. In the case of well catechized, baptized Christians of other traditions, adaptations can be made on a case-by-case basis with guidance from your parish priest.

- Faith & Our Desire for God
- Story of Salvation (Kerygma\*\*\*)
- Divine Revelation
- Sacred Scripture
- God the Father
- Jesus Christ
- The Holy Spirit
- Prayer
- One, Holy, Catholic, & Apostolic Church
- Communion of Saints
- Mary: Mother of Christ, Mother of the Church
- The Last Things (Heaven, Hell & Purgatory)
- Sacrament of Baptism
- Sacrament of Confirmation
- Sacrament of Eucharist & The Mass
- Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation
- Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick
- Sacrament of Holy Orders
- Sacrament of Matrimony
- Dignity of the Human Person
- Morality, The Beatitudes & The Ten Commandments
- Social Teachings of the Church
- The Our Father (Before the Presentation of the Lord’s Prayer)
- The Creed (Before the Presentation of the Creed)

\*For a detailed description of the Periods and Rites of the RCIA, as well as a sample schedule, please see the Diocesan document: “RCIA Schedule Example” at [dioceseofbaker.org/rite-of-christian-initiation-of-adults-rcia](http://dioceseofbaker.org/rite-of-christian-initiation-of-adults-rcia)

\*\*GDC: *General Directory of Catechesis*, Published by the Congregation for the Clergy (1997).

\*\*\*For a handout/lesson plan for the Kerygma go to [dioceseofbaker.org/rite-of-christian-initiation-of-adults-rcia](http://dioceseofbaker.org/rite-of-christian-initiation-of-adults-rcia)