

RCIA COMBINED RITES OF ACCEPTANCE AND WELCOMING

TONIGHT

***Brief overview of what these Rites are.**

***What to expect.**

We are finishing the

INQUIRY STAGE

**You will enter 2nd
Stage of RCIA:**

**CATECHUMENATE
STAGE**

The bridge to the Catechumenate Stage:

Rite of Acceptance and Rite of Welcoming



LITURGICAL RITES

What is a Rite?

*A ceremonial act or procedure prescribed or customary in religious or other solemn use.



LITURGICAL RITES

Why does the Church require that liturgical rites be an essential element of the Rite of Christian Initiation?

The rites are foundational in the formation of participants for in these liturgies they encounter Christ and are transformed by His grace.

TWO RITES . . . NEW TITLES . . .

STATUS

RITE

NEW TITLE

NOT BAPTIZED → RITE OF ACCEPTANCE → CATECHUMEN
(Olivia & Brittany)

BAPTIZED IN → RITE OF WELCOMING → CANDIDATE
OTHER FAITHS (Denise)

Coming Home Catholics are not preparing for sacraments, so they are not a part of the Rites. They receive a blessing from Father after the Rites before dismissal. (Faye, Diane, Louis)

BEFORE THE RITE...

CATECHUMENS AND CANDIDATES

- ✓ Evidence of the initial conversion/intention to change
- ✓ Desire to enter into/grow a relationship with God in Christ
- ✓ Evidence of the stirrings of repentance
- ✓ Call upon God in prayer
- ✓ A sense of Church
- ✓ Experience of the company and spirit of Christians by contact with a priest and members of the Catholic Community.

RITE OF ACCEPTANCE

Catechumens

- **Catechumens assemble publicly for the first time to declare to the Church their intentions to become its members.**
- **In turn the Church accepts.**
- **God showers His grace on the Catechumens**
 - **Rite manifests Catechumens' desires publicly**
 - **Marks their reception and first consecration by the Church.**

RITE OF WELCOMING CANDIDATES

- **Publicly announce their desire to seek full communion with the Catholic Church.**
- **In turn the Church acknowledges.**
- **Candidates are already part of the community because they have been marked by baptism.**
- **Church surrounds them with special care and support as they prepare to be sealed with the gift of the Spirit in confirmation and take their place at the banquet table of Christ's sacrifice.**
- **God showers His grace on the Candidates.**

WALK THROUGH THE RITES

Read John 1:35-42

**CATECHUMENS AND CANDIDATES
WILL BE ASKED BY THE PRIEST...**

Q. WHAT DO YOU SEEK?

Q. WHAT WILL THAT BRING YOU?

***Q. ARE YOU READY TO LIVE THE LIFE AS CHRIST
TEACHES IN THE GOSPELS?***

Take a few moments...

CATECHUMENS' DIALOGUE WITH PRIEST

Q. WHAT DO YOU ASK OF GOD'S CHURCH?

A. FAITH

Q. WHAT DOES FAITH OFFER YOU?

A. ETERNAL LIFE

Q. SINCE YOU ACKNOWLEDGE WITH JOY THAT CHRIST HAS COME, NOW IS THE TIME TO HEAR HIS WORD, SO THAT YOU MAY POSSESS ETERNAL LIFE BY BEGINNING, IN OUR COMPANY, TO KNOW GOD AND TO LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR. ARE YOU READY, WITH THE HELP OF GOD TO LIVE THIS LIFE?

A. I AM

CANDIDATES' DIALOGUE WITH PRIEST

Q. WHAT DO YOU ASK OF GOD'S CHURCH?

A. To be accepted as a candidate for instruction leading to Confirmation and Eucharist.

Q. WHAT DOES THIS PERIOD OF FORMATION OFFER YOU?

A. A fuller sharing in the life of the Church

Q. THOSE OF YOU WHO SEEK TO COMPLETE YOUR CHRISTIAN INITIATION OR BE RECEIVED INTO THE FULL COMMUNION OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, ARE YOU PREPARED TO LISTEN TO THE APOSTLES' INSTRUCTION, GATHER WITH THE CHURCH FOR PRAYER, AND JOIN THE CHURCH IN THE LOVE AND SERVICE OF OTHERS?

A. I Am

For Sponsors and the Assembly

AFFIRMATION BY ALL SPONSORS AND ASSEMBLY

**Q. PRIEST ASKS SPONSORS AND ASSEMBLY IF
THEY ARE READY TO HELP THE CATECHUMENS
AND CANDIDATES FOLLOW CHRIST.**

Response by Sponsors and Assembly: **WE ARE**

SIGNING OF THE SENSES

SIGNING OF FOREHEAD by Fr. LaHood

Catechumens: Sign of your new way of life in Christ

**“Receive the Cross on your forehead
It is Christ himself who now strengthens you
with this sign of his love. Learn to know him
and follow him.”**

Candidates: Sign of your life in Christ.

**“Receive the Cross on your forehead as a
reminder of your baptism into Christ’s saving death
and resurrection.”**

By Sponsors

**“Receive the Sign of the Cross on your EARS,
that you may hear the voice of the Lord.”**



“Receive the Sign of the Cross on your EYES, that you may see the glory of God.”

“Receive the Sign of the Cross on your LIPS, that you may respond to the Word of God.”

“Receive the Sign of the Cross over your HEART, that Christ may dwell there by faith.”

**“Receive the Sign of the Cross on your SHOULDERS,
that you may bear the gentle yoke of Christ.”**

**“Receive the Sign of the Cross on your HANDS,
that Christ may be known in the work which you
do.”**

**“Receive the Sign of the Cross on your FEET,
that you may walk in the way of Christ.”**

PRAYER AFTER SIGNING

Celebrant's Prayer:



*Your servants have received the
sign of the cross;
Make them living proof of its saving
power;
And help them to persevere in the
footsteps of Christ.*

BLESSING BY FR. LAHOOD OF OUR COMING HOME CATHOLICS



Normal Dismissal after Homily

SUMMARY

- **New Titles:** Catechumens and Candidates
- **Catechumens:** publicly declare to the Church their desire to become member of Church
- **Candidates:** publicly declare to the Church their desire to seek full communion with Church
- **Church** embraces you; Graces, Graces, Graces
- **Parts of the Rites:** *(in beginning of Mass)*
 - 1st Part: Questions from priest. What do you seek? Why?
 - 2nd Part: Signing of Senses with the Sign of the Cross
- **Coming Home Catholics:** Blessing from priest.
- Readings, Homily, *Intercessions*, Dismissal

IMPORTANT

- ❑ *Sponsors and Inquirers need to attend practice on Tuesday, November 28 6:30p.m. in the **Church***
- ❑ *Sponsors and Inquirers need to attend Rites on Sunday, Dec 10 at 11:30am Mass. ****Arrive at 11:00a.m.***
- ❑ *Questions/ Concerns – please contact Regina*