

RCIC/RCIT



What is RCIC/RCIT?

Similar to RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults), **RCIC and RCIT** (Rite of Christian Initiation for Children and Rite of Christian Initiation for Teens) is a program for **children between the ages of 7 and 17 who have not been baptized**. These programs are open to both parishioners and non-parishioners who are in need of preparation for the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation). Their journey of faith culminates in the beautiful Easter Vigil Mass, when they become members of the Catholic Christian Community. Whether your family is just entering the church, is returning after time away, have decided as a family to delay the children's sacramental preparation, or any other circumstance, all are welcome.

Through RCIC/RCIT, children are enabled to enter into a relationship with the living God. The goal of this program is to provide a means of conversion consistent with the child's age and understanding. Like RCIA, we strive to instruct the child in his/her faith as a Catholic Christian. The RCIC/RCIT teams include not only the catechists, but most importantly the parents. The true success of the program depends on the parents. The parent must insure the child attends all the classes, attends Mass, learns their prayers and experiences a Catholic environment at home.

When do classes meet and what is covered?

Classes meet on Tuesdays from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. We will focus on the sacraments, faith, community, service, prayer, and basic beliefs and practices during class meetings. In addition to attending these classes, the children and their families will be required to attend Sunday morning 8:30 Mass in English, or the 1:00p.m. mass in Spanish. Classes are available for children and adults in Spanish, as well as English.

When will children receive the sacraments?

All students who are ready will receive the sacraments at the Easter Vigil – the Saturday night before Easter. The children will receive the sacrament of Baptism, the sacrament of Communion and, when applicable, the sacrament of Confirmation.

How do I enroll my child?

Parents may register their children by filling out the RCIC/RCIT registration form available at the church. A copy of the child's Birth Certificate must be included with the registration form.

What is required of a child in RCIC/RCIT?

Regular attendance at mass and Tuesday classes, as well as active participation in class discussions and activities. There will also be some activities, such as community service, that will need to be completed outside of class. All children will need a sponsor who is an active member in the Catholic Church who will be able to be present at the Easter Vigil and possibly attend some of the classes with your child. The sponsor should be fully initiated (received Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist), and in a sacramental marriage if married. If the family is unable to find a sponsor for the child, we will help find a good match in the parish.

What is required of parents with a child in RCIC/RCIT?

Parents are expected to attend RCIA classes while their child is in RCIC/RCIT class from 7:00-8:00p.m. The Catholic Church teaches that parents are the primary educators of their children. Participation in the RCIA program fosters a deeper participation of parents in the formation of their children.

Can more than one child from the same family be enrolled in RCIC/RCIT?

Yes! In many cases when a family is joining the church together, there is more than one child involved!! It is highly encouraged to enroll all children at the same time.