

# RCIA PROCESS - St. Thomas More –2019-2020

## INQUIRY PHASE

12 Sep – 1 Dec

### Purpose:

- gain initial conversion & grasp of Christian message
- answer questions about Christianity & Scripture
- gain trust; share stories & experiences of faith
- decide if God is calling you to this way of life

Name: “INQUIRERS”

## RITE OF WELCOME

Advent Sun 1 Dec  
10 am STM

- Note 1: “Inquiry” is indefinite...only proceed to Rite of Welcome when ready
- Inquirers who wish to proceed, publicly express their desire to follow the way of Jesus
- The Church accepts their intention & welcomes them into the household of the Church
- names entered into the “Register of the Catechumens”

## CATECHUMENATE PHASE

5 Dec – 25 Feb

### Purpose:

- deepen faith & conversion within Catholic community
- deepen understanding & experience of 7 Sacraments
- deepen understanding of Catholic Church & its organization, morality & history

Name: “CATECHUMENS” (if unbaptized); “CANDIDATES” (if baptized)

## RITE OF SENDING

Sat 29 Feb  
5 pm St T.M.

## RITE OF ELECTION

Sat 29 Feb  
7:30 pm Basilica

- The Parish celebrates this transition by sending Catechumens & Candidates with a blessing
- The Bishop formally acknowledges the readiness of the catechumens & candidates & calls them to the sacraments of initiation
- catechumens & candidates respond by expressing their desire for sacraments
- names entered in the “Book of the Elect”

## ENLIGHTENMENT (LENT) PHASE

LENT: 26 Feb - 11 Apr

### Purpose:

- final preparation, conversion & scrutiny of lives in light of the gospel
- prayer, fasting, making use of the Lectionary readings
- celebrate presentation of the Creed & Lord’s Prayer
- Candidates celebrate Sacrament of Reconciliation (those already baptized)

Name: “The ELECT” (if unbaptized); “CANDIDATES” (if baptized)

## RITE OF FULL INITIATION

Holy Sat  
11 Apr  
8:30 pm St T.M.  
VIGIL

THIS is when  
one becomes  
**CATHOLIC!**

- The Elect become full members of Body of Christ through celebration of the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation & Eucharist
- names entered in the “Baptismal Book”

First Easter Mass

### Contact:

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## MYSTAGOGIA PHASE

“entering more deeply into the mystery”  
50 day season of EASTER 12 Apr – 31 May

### Purpose:

- grow in Faith & ponder experience & meaning of sacraments
- participate in the Eucharistic life & ministry

Name: “NEOPHYTES” (*new sprouts*)

## PENTECOST SENDING FORTH

Sun 31 May  
10am St T.M.