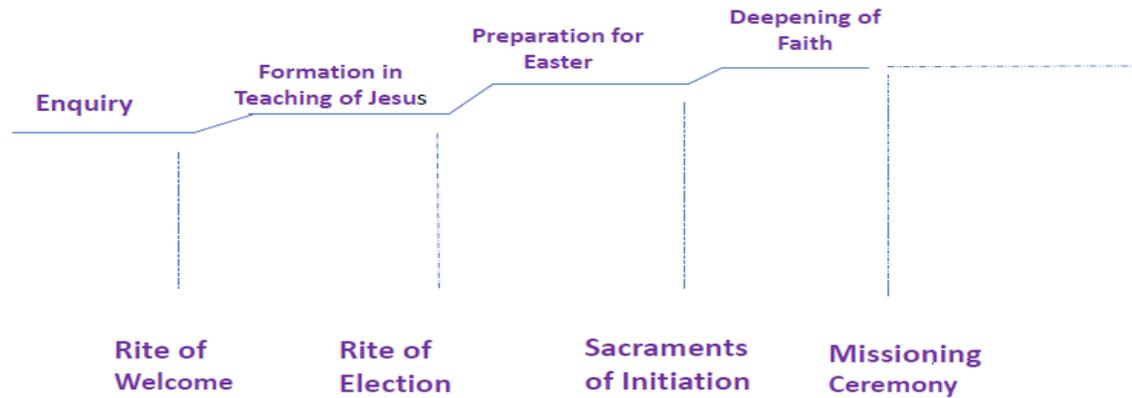


THE JOURNEY



MILESTONES ON THE JOURNEY

There are four stages to the journey. Each one concludes with a community ceremony (RITE) which acts as a starting point for the next stage. At each Rite the candidates affirm their intention to proceed to the next stage while the community commits to supporting them on their journey. The four stages during the process are:

1. Candidates make initial enquires about the Catholic faith.
2. A period of learning the teachings of the Catholic Church and how Catholics live everyday life.
3. A time to prepare for the Sacraments of Initiation and reflect on the Easter message.
4. Having received the Sacraments at the Easter Vigil the new Catholics reflect on the direction of their lives.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED PLEASE CONTACT

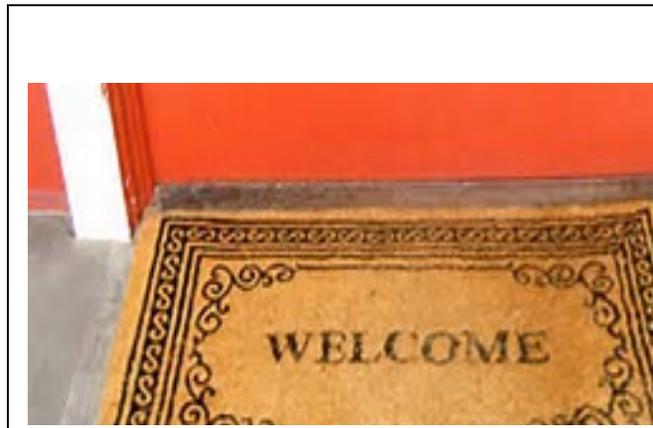
Any of the following:

Father Geoff Aldous: 0427 040 100

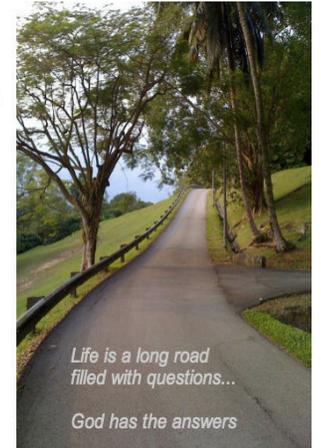
Jo-Anne Hart: 0438 910 484

Renelda Chemaly: 0401 033 626

Sandra Carson: 0470 610 478



RCIA
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
A JOURNEY IN FAITH



Faith

Community

Journey

Welcome

Come and See

What is the

R. C. I. A.?

WHAT IS THE R.C.I.A. ?

It's the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults...a process for preparing and welcoming new members into the Catholic Church.

A COMMUNITY JOURNEY

that leads to a transformation of mind and spirit through sharing prayer and worship with the Church community.

A PERSONAL JOURNEY

which allows enquirers to examine their own relationship with God in an environment of Catholics sharing their own living faith and guided by the Gospel values.

How does it work?

The process of becoming a Catholic Christian is a journey in faith made in the company of other enquirers, catechists, sponsors and priests.

The enquirer journeys through up to four periods of formation involving discussion and sharing of the Gospel stories of Jesus Christ and what it means to be a follower of Jesus.

Enquirers are welcomed and are free to journey for as long as they wish.

HOW DO I START?

Make contact with your local Catholic priest or R.C.I.A. team member. You may also contact either of the phone numbers shown over the page.

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE?

It will depend where you are starting from. In most parish groups people will commence mid-year and journey to the following Easter and conclude at the time of Pentecost.

Your R.C.I.A. team will respect the uniqueness of each person and you will only take each step as you are personally ready for it.

WHAT ARE THE SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

These are the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion received by unbaptised people as they become members of the Catholic Church.

The Catholic Church recognises the Baptism received by Christians from several other Christian churches. In these cases, the people entering the Catholic Church are welcomed into full Communion with the Catholic Church and would receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Communion.

WHO ARE SPONSORS?

They are practicing Catholics who offer special support and encouragement by walking the journey with the enquirer and providing a personal link between the candidate and the Church community.

WHO ARE CATECHISTS?

They are practicing Catholics who take on the responsibility of instructing enquirers in the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church.

HELPERS ON THE WAY

Sponsors, Catechists and other team members work to establish a friendly and sincere atmosphere to help candidates overcome early uncertainties.

The parish priest is available for personal spiritual or pastoral advice if requested.

The whole parish community is encouraged to offer support through prayer and friendly interest.