



For Whom is the RCIA Intended?

1. **Unbaptized Adults**

- The RCIA is primarily intended for unbaptized adults it is also adapted for:

2. **Baptized but Uncatechized Adults Seeking Reception into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church**

- Adults baptized in other Christian communities who wish to become Catholic

3. **Uncatechized Catholic Adults Seeking Confirmation and Eucharist**

- Baptized Catholics who, for whatever reason, never received Confirmation and Eucharist and now wish to complete their Christian initiation.

4. **Persons Initiated in an Orthodox Church Seeking Admission to the Catholic Church** (Greek Orthodox, Russian Orthodox, Armenian Orthodox, Antiochian Orthodox, etc.)

- Orthodox Christians are fully initiated at baptism, and according to RCIA 474, only require a Profession of Faith. Nevertheless, the Office of the Chancellor (210-734-2620 ext. 1307) is to be contacted to see if is appropriate for the individual to become a member of the Eastern Catholic Rite church closest in nature to their baptismal Orthodox Rite.

5. **Children or Youth of Catechetical Age Seeking Baptism or Full Communion with the Catholic Church**

- Children of catechetical age (approximately 7 – 8 yrs. old) are to be initiated according to RCIA 252 – 330; RCIA Adapted for Children Who have Reached Catechetical Age.

Catholics who have received Baptism and Eucharist but not Confirmation are not candidates for the RCIA. They participate in a separate Adult Confirmation preparation process.

Fully initiated Catholics returning to Church or seeking additional formation are not candidates for the RCIA. The experience of returning Catholics can diffuse the focus and disrupt the dynamic of initial faith and exploration of Catholic life, teaching, and worship designed for those first joining the Church. Returning Catholics deserve their own separate process of healing, reconciliation, catechesis, and reintegration into Catholic life. For these persons, ministry leading them to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Eucharist can be done at any time, whenever the individual is ready. This should be done instead of having returning Catholics participate in the RCIA process.