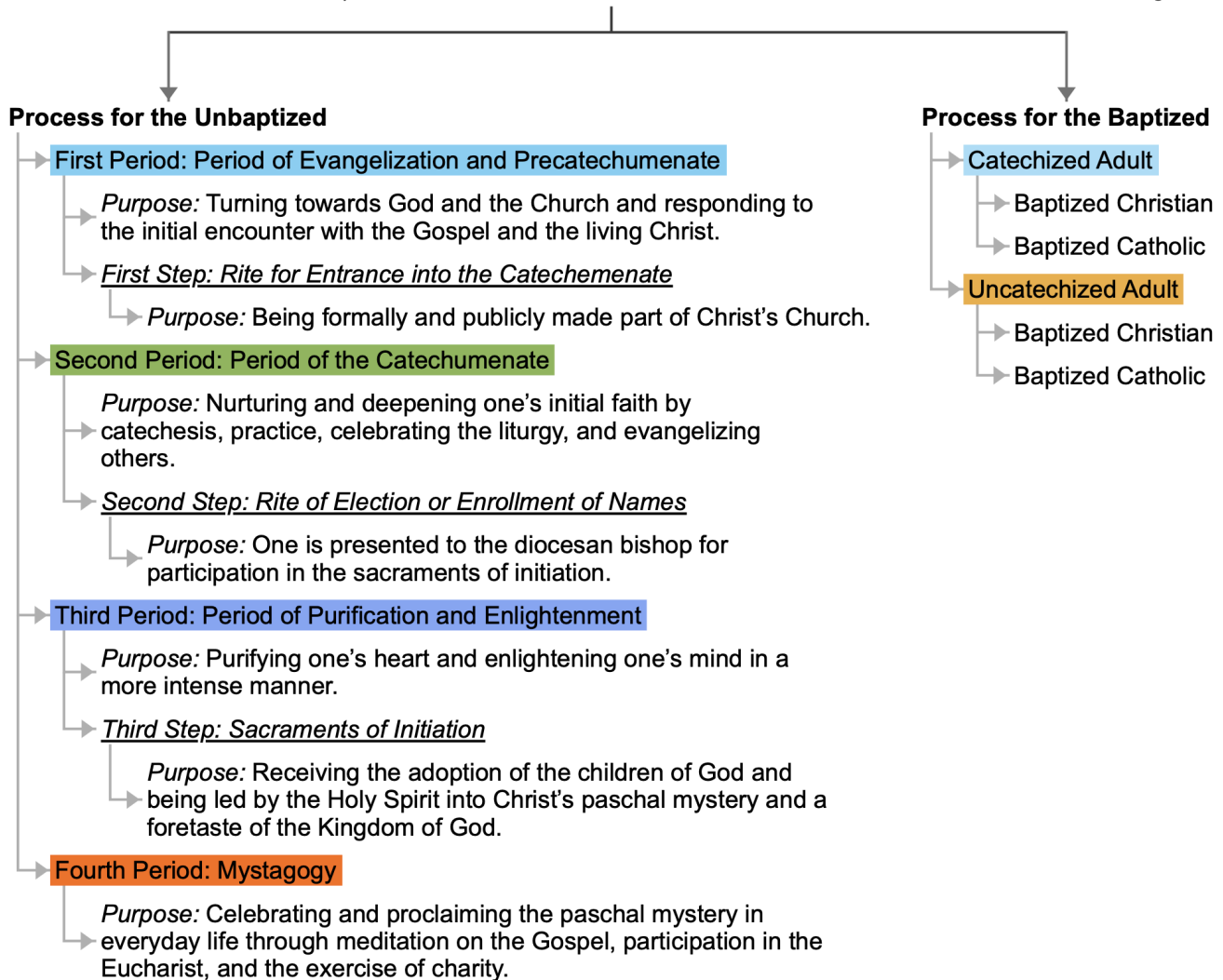


The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

“The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults ... is designed for adults who, upon hearing the proclamation of the mystery of Christ as the Holy Spirit opens their hearts, consciously and freely seek the living God and undertake the journey of faith and conversion” (OCIA, 1). The initiation of Christians is their first sacramental participation in the Death and Resurrection of Christ.

The OCIA is a pastoral plan and ritual process through which the Catholic Church welcomes, forms, and prepares adults and children of catechetical age who are to receive the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist) and become full members of the Roman Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil.



Register Here



OCIA Homepage





Frequently Asked Questions

<p>Who are the candidates for OCIA?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Adults who have never been baptized in any Christian tradition. * Baptized adults in another Christian tradition who desire to be Catholic. * Baptized Catholics who desire to receive First Communion and/or Confirmation. 	<p>What kind of commitment is expected?</p> <p>We kindly ask that you sincerely and diligently commit the deepening your personal faith journey by actively participating in the OCIA process. Your participation in Sunday liturgies is also expected. We will respect your decision if you decide to discontinue the process at any time.</p>
<p>What are some aspects of the process?</p> <p>Becoming a Catholic follows a process of journeying through different periods of formation. We will devote our time integrating prayer, study, worship, social, and service.</p>	<p>What happens at our OCIA gatherings?</p> <p>Each OCIA session is an interactive experience where we begin with fellowship, followed by a lesson with small group discussion.</p>
<p>What else will be expected of me?</p> <p>Bring an open heart and mind and embrace the lifelong process of transformation.</p>	<p>Is there a fee for enrolling in the OCIA program?</p> <p>There is no fee for enrolling in the OCIA program.</p>
<p>How long is the OCIA process?</p> <p>Official sessions are from September through April, meeting bi-weekly from 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM. However, formation in Christian discipleship is a lifelong call to personally and intimately embody the paschal mystery of Jesus Christ in everyday life.</p>	<p>What if I was validly baptized in another church in the Christian tradition (e.g., Methodist, Lutheran, Baptist, or Discipleship of Christ)?</p> <p>We honor your baptism and you will NOT be baptized again.</p>
<p>Who is a sponsor?</p> <p>A faithful Catholic (a man or woman) who accompanies you and introduces you to other members of the community and its various ministries and activities. His or her role continues until the Rite of Election, when godparents begin to accompany you to the sacraments you will receive at the Easter Vigil.</p> <p>The sponsor attends bi-weekly classes and Sunday Mass with you.</p>	<p>Do I need a sponsor?</p> <p>Yes. Please let us know if you already have someone in mind to be your sponsor. Note that a sponsor <i>cannot be one's parent or spouse, fiancé, boyfriend, or girlfriend. Inform the OCIA team if you need a sponsor.</i></p> <p>Can my sponsor serve as godparent?</p> <p>Yes.</p> <p>How many sponsors can I have?</p> <p>Although the OCIA does not indicate whether you can have more than one sponsor, we recommend at most two sponsors.</p>
<p>Who is a godparent?</p> <p>A faithful, fully initiated Catholic who will accompany you at the Rite of Election and to help you how to live a Gospel-centered life. He or she must be at least 16 years old. Approved by a priest, a godparent can be a friend and/or family member.</p>	<p>Do I need a godparent?</p> <p>Yes.</p> <p>How many godparents can I have?</p> <p>At most two. If there is one godparent, it may be either a man or a woman. If there are two godparents, per <i>Code of Canon Law (c. 873)</i>, one must be a male and the other a</p>

