

The Rites of the OCIA

The "rites" within the OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) process, which is essentially the modern term for RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults), include: the Rite of Acceptance, the Rite of Election, and the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist), Key points about these rites:

- **Rite of Acceptance:**

This is the initial step where individuals formally enter the catechumenate (period of study and formation) by being welcomed into the Christian community as "catechumens" or candidates.

- **Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion:**

Occurs during Lent, marking the candidate's definitive choice to receive the sacraments of initiation at the Easter Vigil. All the parishes of the Diocese bring their catechumen and candidates to a ceremony led by Cardinal McElroy.

Preceded by the Rite of Sending at the parish

Scrutinies on some Sundays during Lent

- **Sacraments of Initiation:**

These are the core sacraments received at the Easter Vigil: Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist, which fully initiate a person into the Catholic Church.

