

Periods of OCIA

Mystagogy

**Celebration of the
Sacraments of
Initiation**

MYSTAGOGY

After receiving the Sacraments, newly initiated Catholics continue their journey. They are now called "Neophytes". They are reborn. As with anyone who is young, they need loving support and guidance. This period provides that support.

Purification & Enlightenment

**Rite of
Election**

PURIFICATION & ENLIGHTENMENT

After discernment and prayer, the catechumens are "elected" by the bishop for initiation. Usually occurring during the first week of Lent, the "Catechumens" become the "Elect". This period is marked by intense spiritual preparation leading up to the Sacraments of Initiation.

Catechumenate

CATECHUMENATE

During this period, the participants are called to a deeper relationship with the Lord in prayer, are surrounded by the loving support of the community, and hear the Truth. It is a time of learning and conversion.

I want to
be Catholic!

Evangelization

**Rite for Entrance
into the
Catechumenate**

EVANGELIZATION

This initial stage focuses on inquiry and evangelization, allowing inquirers to explore their own faith and hear the gospel message before entering into a formal and public relationship with the Catholic Church.