# Are you, or is someone you know, curious about becoming Catholic?

Maybe you were baptized in another Christian community but find yourself curious about Catholic practices. Perhaps you've been attending Mass with your spouse but you want to know what Catholics actually believe. Or maybe this is your first encounter with the love of Jesus Christ.

Wherever you are in your faith journey, we are here to accompany you as you explore the Catholic faith!



The **Becoming Catholic** process (formerly called RCIA) is a chance to consider your own faith journey in light of the community and resources of the Catholic Church. Led by our priests and energetic volunteer team, weekly group meetings explore Catholic teachings, rituals, morality, and prayer in a welcoming, supportive atmosphere.

Prayerful and practical formation for lifelong discipleship

## For more information, contact:

Ashley Logsdon

Director of Adult Faith Formation

574-272-8462, ext. 122 or
alogsdon@stpius.net

#### or visit:

StPius.net/BecomingCatholic



# Becoming Catholic



at Saint Pius X
Catholic Church

# Who is Becoming Catholic for?

We welcome seekers from all ages and walks of life on a journey toward intimacy with Jesus Christ through the Catholic Church:

- Catechumens are unbaptized persons exploring Catholicism for the first time
- Candidates for full communion have been baptized in another Christian tradition but are seeking to live their faith in the Catholic Church

The rite of Christian initiation presented here is designed for adults who, after hearing the mystery of Christ proclaimed, consciously and freely seek the living God and enter the way of faith and conversion as the Holy Spirit opens their hearts. (RCIA no. 1)

#### Q: Do I need to know a lot about Catholicism?

A: No! This is an opportunity to learn in a judgment-free environment surrounded by other seekers and supported by our very friendly volunteers. We love questions, especially the hard ones.

#### Q: What if I'm not sure I want to become Catholic?

A: That's ok! In fact, it's normal. This is an chance to *explore*. At any time, you can decide whether to continue formation or discern that this is not the right time or path for you.



# **How it Works**

The **Becoming Catholic** process entails four stages of exploration, study, preparation, and deepening of faith. Read on to learn about each stage of the journey!

#### 1. Precatechumenate

This is a time for inquiry and evangelization: seekers are introduced to the Gospel ("good news") of Jesus Christ and express their interest in the Catholic faith. Saint Pius welcomes and invites inquirers at any time, but our group sessions begin in August each year.

#### 2. Catechumenate

Typically beginning in late October, this phase focuses on formation in Christian discipleship. Catechumens and candidates learn about Church teachings, develop habits of prayer, and form relationships within the parish community.

Each seeker is matched with a **sponsor**, a mentor and friend for the faith journey.

## 3. Purification and Enlightenment

During the season of Lent, catechumens and candidates focus on interior reflection, repentance, and preparation to receive the Sacraments of Initiation at Easter.

### 4. Mystagogy

Our brand-new Catholics reflect upon the sacraments they have received, deepen their experience of Christian conversion, and enter more fully into the life of the parish community.



# The next step

Interested in learning more? Please contact Ashley Logsdon, our Director of Adult Faith Formation, at any time with questions or to register. We can also provide more information about the formation process for teenagers or children seeking to become Catholic. We would love to accompany you and your family on your journey of faith! StPius.net/BecomingCatholic