

WALK WITH SOMEONE ON THEIR JOURNEY TO BECOME CATHOLIC

WHAT IS OCIA?

The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) is the path by which people 18+ years are formally brought into the church. This may include their Baptism, Confirmation, and First Eucharist.

WHAT IS AN OCIA SPONSOR?

- A sponsor is a living example of what it means to be an ordinary Catholic.
- A sponsor supports the candidate through prayer and the gift of her or his presence, consistently and intentionally.
- A sponsor is a witness of the candidate's spiritual journey into the Catholic Church, through the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA).
- A sponsor helps the candidate discover the Church as a living, practical, day-to-day reality.

WHAT IS THE COMMITMENT?

- Connect with your candidate regularly (every 3-5 weeks), preferably in person (over coffee, for lunch, attend weekend Mass with them, etc.)
- Pray for your candidate regularly
- Check in with the OCIA director at regularly scheduled times and as needed
- Attend Masses when a particular Rite is being celebrated
- Attend Sunday morning catechetical sessions with your candidate whenever possible
- Intentionally invite your candidate to participate in parish life at St. Thomas More
- Remain a spiritual partner of the candidate (even) after she / he has been officially received into the Catholic Church

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS TO BE A SPONSOR?

- You have received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.
- You are a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church who regularly attends Mass.
- You are willing to listen carefully, answer questions or concerns, and when you don't have an answer, seek one to share with your candidate.

WE NEED OCIA SPONSORS!

Simply put, to be a sponsor is to walk with someone on their faith journey to conversion. Serving in this spiritual capacity may be as meaningful an experience for you as it is for the person you're sponsoring! It is work as simple as this that helps lead others to Christ and his Church. Thank you for your prayerful consideration!

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT TINA HOWELL AT
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