



PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Welcome to the RCIA program at the parish of St. Agatha. We pray that your journey towards an encounter with Jesus Christ and the receipt of the Sacraments of Initiation will be joyous and spiritually uplifting.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

Catechumen: Copy of your birth certificate

Candidate: Copy of your baptismal certificate **(issued in the last 6 months)**.

Confirmands: Copy of your baptismal certificate **(issued in the last 6 months)** and copy of your First Eucharist (Communion) certificate.

These documents must be delivered to the RCIA Spiritual Director no later than the second week of December.

ATTENDANCE:

Classes meet every Wednesday (7:30PM – 8:30PM) from September to Holy Week. Participation in the weekly meetings is essential for receiving the sacraments of initiation and **any absences over 5 meetings will result in the postponement of receipt of the sacraments until the following year's program.**

BOOKS NECESSARY FOR THE PROGRAM:

Catholic Bible and Catechism of the Catholic Church.

GODPARENT (SPONSOR):

All Catechumens, Candidates and Confirmands must choose one godparent (sponsor) to accompany them in the process towards receipt of the Sacraments. The requirements for a godparent are found on the Sponsor selection form. **Sponsor selection form must be turned by no later than the second week of December.**

DRESS CODE:

Attendance to classes is in casual attire, but for all the rites Catechumens, Candidates and Confirmands and their godparent must wear proper attire. Men: Dress shirt, tie and dress pants. Women: Dresses cut below the knee. Failure to follow the dress code may result in you having to return home to change. **NOTE:** Do not wear all white clothing. That is reserved for clergy and small children.

IMPEDIMENTS TO RECEIPT OF THE SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

1-If you are a **Catechumen** who has a civil marriage and your spouse is not baptized and is also entering the Catechumenate and either of you has a previous divorce you have an impediment to receiving the Sacraments of Initiation.

2-If you are baptized (**Candidate or Confirmand**) and you been married, divorced and re-married, be this thru civil authorities or another Christian denomination and you do not have an annulment from the Catholic Church for your previous marriage you have an impediment to receiving the Sacraments of Initiation.

3-If you are baptized (**Candidate or Confirmand**) and you have only a civil marriage, meaning you do not have the Sacrament of Matrimony; you have an impediment to receiving the other Sacraments.

All impediments must be resolved before starting the RCIA process. Proof of resolution (annulment certificate #1&2) or (convalidation request date #3) must be presented before acceptance to the Rite of Election.