

SOME RECCOMENDED RESOURCES

Required Text

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, Study Edition (U.S. version).

Required resource for every team. Pay particular attention to the Introduction for each section, and to the National Statutes in the back. Without knowing the framework of the process and the purpose of each stage, we cannot effectively implement the Rite.

Recommended Texts

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults

<http://www.usccbpublishing.org/productdetails.cfm?sku=5-450>

The presence of the Catholic Church in the United States reaches back to the founding days of our country through the leadership of Archbishop John Carroll, the first Catholic bishop in the United States. His story, like other stories at the start of the chapters in the *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults*, gives us a glimpse into the lives of Catholics who lived out their faith throughout our country's history. Each chapter in the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults includes stories, doctrine, reflections, quotations, discussion questions, and prayers to lead the reader to a deepening faith. The *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults* is an excellent resource for preparation of catechumens in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and for ongoing catechesis of adults.

Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church

<http://www.usccbpublishing.org/productdetails.cfm?sku=5-720>

This 200-page volume offers a clear synopsis of the essential contents of the faith as promulgated in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* in 598 questions and answers. Like the 1992 Catechism, the Compendium has a four-part structure and includes a section on common prayers and Catholic doctrinal formulas. Because of the question-and-answer format, catechetical leaders-parents, pastors, teachers, principals, and catechists-have a unique opportunity to dialogue with the faithful and to reinvigorate the Church's ongoing mission of evangelization and catechesis. Individuals can come "to know the unfathomable riches of the salvific mystery of Jesus Christ" by reading, using, and memorizing parts of the *Compendium of the Catechism*. *An essential tool for youth and young adults, the Compendium is the perfect companion to a youth's or young adult's Bible, spiritual reading, or textbook. Catechetical leaders in high schools, colleges, and parishes will appreciate its vitality-as a reference book, discussion starter, or core resource for RCIA programs.*

Foundations in Faith Precatechumenate Manual

<http://www.amazon.com/Foundations-Faith-Precatechumenate-Bob-Duggan/dp/0782907628>

By RCL (Resources for Christian Living). Contains sessions which focus both on evangelization and "a suitable explanation of the gospel" (RCIA 38) in no particular order; facilitator can choose whichever session is appropriate. Includes four themes (Journey, Call, Community and Liberation) and a Church Tour. Masters for reflection handouts are provided in back.

RCIA Overview Chart (LTP)

<http://www.ltp.org/p-440-rcia-overview-chart-2nd-edition.aspx>

This color-coded, foldout overview chart shows the entire Catechumenal process at a glance, highlighting the liturgical, catechetical, and pastoral aspects of each stage for optimal comprehension. It is an easy-to-use reference tool ideal for training RCIA teams. Also available in Spanish! It is especially useful for those who are new to the RCIA process.

RCIA Leader's Manual 2nd Edition (LTP)

<http://www.ltp.org/p-1796-rcia-leaders-manual-2nd-edition.aspx>

This *Leader's Manual* is designed to provide a comprehensive aide for RCIA leaders in the work of implementing the full liturgical, catechetical, and pastoral aspects of the RCIA process. This book contains instructions about: facilitating an evangelizing and welcoming mentality in the parish, how to train all members of a team, how to recruit and train sponsors, how to discern the signs and stages of conversion, handling annulments and issues of baptismal validity, and other important issues. Practical appendices contain useful forms, sample letters, and sample retreat formats, and much more, all of which is *copyable and printable* from an enclosed CD.

Year - Round Catechumenate (LTP)

http://www.amazon.com/Year-Round-Catechumenate-Mary-Birmingham/dp/156854412X/ref=pd_sim_b_1

By Mary Birmingham. How does the vision of Christian initiation outlined in The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults fit into a program modeled after the school year? It doesn't, argues Mary Birmingham. The RCIA describes an initiation process that exists at the heart of the Church's life and on the same schedule as the Church: every day, all year long. While that may sound overwhelming and unimaginable, Birmingham carefully explains how it is not only possible but also the best stewardship of the gifts and talents of initiation ministers. She then walks the reader step by step through the periods and rites of the RCIA, providing helpful insight along the way. Chapters cover topics such as: sacramental catechesis the periods and rites of initiation, the initiating community, mystagogia, doctrine and the catechumenate. With its helpful treatment of the rite as a whole and the community's role within it, *Year-Round Catechumenate* will help pastors, initiation teams, liturgy committees, and other ministers imagine, envision, understand, and implement a year-round catechumenate in the parish. Published by Liturgy Training Publications.

The Way of Faith: A Field Guide to the Rcia Process (Twenty-Third Publications)

http://www.amazon.com/The-Way-Faith-Field-Process/dp/1585957100/ref=pd_sim_b_2

By Nick Wagner. At last! A hands-on, comprehensive, enjoyable, and affordable guide to everything you want or need to know about the catechumenate process. This is exactly what team-trainers have been looking for: a resource packed with advice, tips, techniques, and tools to help them start or sustain the catechumenate in their parishes. It includes advice for every aspect of the rite: starting a team running a catechetical session leading a dismissal session finding sponsors discerning if catechumens are ready making adaptations for your parish heading up the children's RCIA celebrating the rites With this field guide in their hands, parish leaders and teams will have the confidence they need to lead the RCIA, teach others how to help with the process, and transform the hearts of everyone involved. This book offers all the help they need, including rehearsal outlines for the major celebrations, a list of appropriate Sundays for celebrating the Rite of Acceptance, and 100 ideas for involving your most important team member the parish community. This is THE perfect resource for everyone who is responsible for

guiding catechumens and candidates on their conversion journey from the pastor to catechists to sponsors and godparents. It will completely transform the way initiation happens in a parish!

Catholicism DVD Box Set

http://www.amazon.com/Catholicism-DVD-Box-Robert-Barron/dp/B005J6U77Q/ref=pd_sim_b_8

By Fr. Robert Barron. Answering the call for The New Evangelization, this multi-media educational program reveals the truth, beauty and richness of the Faith in an unprecedented way. With creator and host Fr. Robert Barron, participants will learn what Catholics believe and why by exploring the art, architecture, literature, music and all the treasures of the Catholic tradition. CATHOLICISM is filmed on-location and in the streets, illustrating the splendor of the global Church all in original, high-definition cinematography. Comprehensive catechesis appropriate for RCIA and other adult formation programs. Presents strong, ecclesial dimension of the Catholic Faith God's revelation through Jesus Christ and His Church. English/Spanish Audio and English/Spanish Subtitles

Recommended Web-Sites

The Association for Catechumenal Ministry

<http://www.acmrcia.org/>

The Association for Catechumenal Ministry (ACM) seeks to foster the full implementation of the Order of Christian Initiation by providing a communications, resources, and education network for diocesan and parish personnel involved in the work of the catechumenate. The Association's resources and work reflect its focus on the complementarity and indispensability of the various components (liturgical, catechetical, and pastoral) of a comprehensive Christian initiation process. This website includes many helpful articles.

RCIACentral.com

<http://www.rciacentral.com/>

Provides you with an entire catechumenate at your fingertips. It includes online video sessions with handouts for the participants and questions designed to help the participants follow Christ more deeply. Support materials are included for you and your sponsors. The videos are taken from an actual catechumenate, with real-life catechumens and candidates in attendance. You can use the videos for supplementing your process and delivering the content. The curriculum is flexible, so you can use it as you see best for your participants. It allows you to insure a complete and systematic overview of the teachings of the Church, rooted in Scripture, all the while calling participants to respond in holiness.

The North American Forum on the Catechumenate

<http://www.naforum.org/wordpress/>

The North American Forum is an international network of pastoral ministers, liturgists, catechists, and theologians. Since 1981, Forum has united and supported pastoral ministers in the U.S., Canada, and beyond. Dedicated to making a fully implemented *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* (RCIA) a reality for all. Supporting the reconciliation ministries implicit in the Rite (RCIA). Committed to evangelization and conversion through catechesis, liturgy, discipleship, and mission.

Fr. Paul Turner

<http://paulturner.org/index.htm>

Fr. Paul Turner is one of the leading experts on all things RCIA. He is a priest of the diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph. He holds a doctorate in sacred theology from Sant' Anselmo in Rome. His books include *The Catechumenate Answer Book* (Resource Publications, 2000), *Your Child's Baptism* (Liturgy Training Publications, 1999), *The Hallelujah Highway: A History of the Catechumenate* (Liturgy Training Publications, 2000), *When Other Christians Become Catholic* (Liturgical Press, 2007), and *Celebrating Initiation: A Guide For Priests* (World Library Publications, 2008). He writes "Bulletin Inserts" for *Ministry and Liturgy*. His web-site includes dozens of helpful articles.

RCIA Blog

<http://rciablog.com/>

The Blog That's All About R.C.I.A. is a free online resource from the Association for Catechumenal Ministry (ACM), an East Coast-based group of Catholic bishops, priests, and laity seeking to foster the full implementation of the Order of Christian Initiation by providing communications, resources, and an education network for diocesan and parish personnel involved in the work of the catechumenate. Posts on the blog cover topics on liturgical, catechetical, and pastoral aspects of RCIA. The blog also has an Ask a Question feature, a free service where readers can submit RCIA-related questions that will be answered on the blog.

Team RCIA

<http://teamrcia.com/>

TeamRCIA.com is a FREE online resource for Catholic parishes that want to start or sustain the catechumenate in their communities. We provide accessible and relevant resources through articles and conversations initiated by five national leaders in the United States church, who have been serving in RCIA ministry for more than two decades. We invite you to join the conversation by clicking on the comments link on any blog post. We offer a variety of online training for church ministers and volunteers, through webinars, e-mail courses, downloads, and discussion forums, led by experts in the field of parish ministry. We make the best printed resources available to RCIA ministers and pastoral leaders and publish original material that helps ministers serve the mission of the church.

Foundations in Faith (RCL Benzinger)

<http://www.rclweb.com/html/foundations.html>

A complete series of resources for RCIA you have all you need to make your community's experience of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults deeply transformative, not only for the catechumens and candidates, but for all in the community.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

<http://www.rcia.co.nr/>

The purpose of this site is to fill a gap. There is a lot of information about the RCIA on the web. However, there appears to be a shortage of *free* teaching material gathered in one place that is appropriate for each of the periods of the process. This web-site has helpful articles that explain the Periods & Steps involved in the RCIA Process. It is most helpful in providing outlines of the different rites.