

Period of Inquiry/Evangelization: This is a time, of no fixed duration or structure, for inquiry and introduction to Gospel values, an opportunity for the beginnings of Faith. ***St. Catherine's offers a year-long inquiry process so that interested parties may inquire at any time throughout the year.***

The Period of Catechumenate: Following the Rite of Acceptance and Welcoming the “*Catechumen*” instruction deepens individual conversion and provides for more in-depth focus on the doctrines of the Catholic faith.

The Period of Purification and Enlightenment: The Rite of Election marks a period of more intense spiritual preparation intended to purify the mind and heart of the “*Elect*” and to deepen their knowledge of and relationship to Christ. Typically, this period coincides with Lent, but as the OCIA process is year-round, this can happen whenever a catechumen is ready.

The Sacraments of Initiation: The “*Elect*” are fully initiated into the Church through the reception of the sacraments of Baptism, First Eucharist, and Confirmation, traditionally celebrated at the Easter Vigil liturgy.

The Period of Mystagogy: After the completion of their Christian initiation the “*Neophyte*” (new Catholic) enters a period of deepening of their understanding of their new faith. Their focus during this six-week period is development of their personal spiritual life and introduction into full involvement in the Mission of the Church through ministries and outreach