ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

ST. BONAVENTURE CATHOLIC CHURCH



What is OCIA?

OCIA is a process meant to form adults and children of catechetical age seeking baptism into the fullness of the Catholic Christian life and to become disciples of Jesus, their teacher. This includes an initiation into the mystery of salvation, the practice of faith, hope, and love, and other virtues in a succession of liturgical rites. Persons baptized into another Christian church and now seeking full communion with the Catholic Church are also welcome to participate in the OCIA process of learning about the Catholic faith and being formed in that faith. For a baptized Christian, reception into full communion with the Catholic Church involves reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and then a Profession of Faith followed by the celebration of Confirmation and the Eucharist.

Who is OCIA for?

Adults who have never been baptized and wish to be baptized in the Catholic Church.
Adults who were baptized Catholic but have not received the Sacraments of
First Communion and Confirmation.

Although, if the adults have been baptized Catholic, have received First Holy Communion, but have not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation, they are not candidates for OCIA.

The Periods of OCIA

Inquiry or Precatechumenate—Period of inquiry and evangelization, opportunity for learning and growth in faith. Catechumenate—Period of pastoral formation in the Christian life with thorough and comprehensive catechesis on the truths of the faith and the teachings of the Catholic Church.

Purification and Enlightenment—Period coinciding with the liturgical season of Lent and consists of a more interior reflection to enlighten the hearts and minds of the participants with a deeper knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Mystagogy—Period of post-baptismal catechesis focused on deepening the Christian experience, spiritual growth and further immersion into the Christian community and life of the parish.

2026-2027 Meeting Dates

Our Adult English session for OCIA begins September 13, 2026. We meet most every Sunday, from 9:45am-11:45pm in the Portable Building. Catechists: Jonathan and Linda Gonzales jonlinangels@gmail.com

Sesión en español serán los martes salon # 4 6:30pm – 8:00pm – edificio de formación de la fe.
Instructor en español de OICA: Diaconó Martin Alfaro alfaro_martin@msn.com

New members must complete an entire year before receiving the Sacraments of Initiation.
(beginning in the Fall and ending in the Spring semester)

Anyone is welcome to attend our meetings to learn more about our Catholic faith at any time.

Staff Contact: Christina Reyna Director of Faith Formation

Faith Formation office at 210-922-1882 ext 205 or dffstbon1918@gmail.com.