

## What is the R.C.I.A.?

RCIA stands for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

It is:

- a process for preparing and welcoming new members into the Catholic Community;
- a conversation about our personal experiences, faith and lives; and
- an exploration of the messages communicated through The Bible and the Catholic traditions.

## It's YOUR journey

We provide a safe space for you to:

- explore your own beliefs using the Gospels as a starting point for conversation;
- ask questions;
- be still and connect; and
- connect with others sharing the journey.

## How does it work?

We meet as a group.

The group is made up of others just like you.

The group is led by active members of our parish community.

The process involves discussion & study and is designed to lead you to an understanding of what it means to welcome the Catholic faith into your life.

## How long will it take?

That will depend on you!

- The gatherings begin on Tuesday 21st August, 2018.
- No sessions take place during school holidays.
- Most enquirers are received into the Church the following Easter, and continue the journey up to the celebration of Pentecost.

There is no obligation for you to continue on to become a Catholic.

If, after consultation with the parish priest and the team, you feel that you are not ready to be received into the Catholic Church, the team will respect your decision. This is your journey of faith! At any time you are free not to continue.



## What are the Sacraments of Initiation?

The RCIA process prepares you to participate in the Sacraments of:

- Baptism;
- Confirmation; and
- First Communion (or Eucharist)

The Catholic Church recognises the Baptism received by Christians from other Christian Churches. In these cases the people wishing to enter the Catholic Church would receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Communion.

## I've heard about Sponsors – who are they?

You are invited to choose a Sponsor, a practising Catholic from the community to walk with you on your faith journey. Your sponsor is there to help you, support you, encourage you and provide a tangible link between yourself and the community.

## Who else is involved?

The entire community is involved in welcoming, being prayer partners and supportive of those who take the journey into our faith community.

## Do you feel disconnected?

Have you outgrown the image of the church you have grown up with?

Were you raised in a religious family and, now that you have kids of your own, are questioning what it's all really about?

Do you want your child to go to a Catholic School but are not really sure what that means, and what you're 'signing up to'?

Do you feel there's something more in life that's bigger than us all and want to explore that without being told 'this is how you have to do it'?

## Are you curious?

We invite you to chat with a member of the RCIA team or contact the parish priest or the team member nominated below.

We are also able to put you in touch with ex-participants so you can get a real feel for their experience.

**Know your privacy will be respected at all times.**

## Where to go from here?

Contact:

Our Priest: Fr. Darien Sticklen.

(03) 5258 1673

or

RCIA Representative: Sandra Gould

on email [sandra@salmandra.com](mailto:sandra@salmandra.com)  
or phone 5256 2978



**Holy Trinity Catholic Parish**  
with churches at

**Holy Trinity**, 34 Stevens Street Queenscliff

**Star of the Sea**, 68 John Dory Drive Ocean Grove

**Holy Family Church**, 101 Hitchcock Ave Barwon Heads

**Parish Office** – 34 Stevens Street, Queenscliff

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