

THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION - AN INVITATION TO ALL

As you know by now, after all the bulletin articles, the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) begins this Wednesday. A couple of months ago, a very involved parishioner asked me if anyone could come to the sessions and that got me thinking. We've always said that the sessions are open to any parishioner who might want to take advantage of these nights as a way of updating their knowledge of the faith. But we (I) had never provided a list of the topics to give people a chance to pick and choose the ones they might want to attend, rather than having to make a commitment to the entire program. So here are the topics for the month of October, all at 7:00p.m. Wednesdays in the Burke Center:

- October 10: *Introduction to the RCIA* – This night provides an overview of the program as well as a look at the history of Initiation in the Church from the earliest years of Christianity
- October 17: *Liturgy* – Tonight we look at the meaning of that word as well as the origins and meaning of the prayer we call the Mass, or the Eucharistic Liturgy
- October 24: *Living our Faith: Lay Ministry* – What does it mean to truly live a life of faith from Sunday to Sunday? Why is it so important for Catholics to become invested and involved in parish life and how can they do that?

Because the last Wednesday of October is the Vigil of All Saints, the RCIA participants are invited to attend the 7:00p.m. mass that evening; the regular sessions will resume on November 7, and I'll list those topics here toward the end of the month.

One other reason for current parishioners to take part in some – or even many – of these sessions is to be a support to the participants who are making this journey toward the Easter Sacraments. You can provide them with an early connection to parish life which will make their entry into the Church or their completion of the Sacraments of Initiation all the more meaningful and fruitful. So feel free to come – no RSVP needed – on any Wednesday night from now through April 10.

Fr. Bob