

# R.C.I.A.

- Fill out RCIA Sign-In Information Sheet
- Introductions
  - Name, Where you live, present Religion, Marital Status, Job, Children
- History of the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church
- Explanation of Structure of Class
  - Instruction on Topic (about 1 hour); Music (start / end of 10 minute break)
  - Further Instruction and/or Questions / Answers; Occasional Group Prayer
- Are there any questions (that any of you have)?
  - There is no such thing as a dumb question. If you have a question, there is probably at least one other person who has the same question. One of you has to be courageous enough to ask the question so that you and others find out the answer.
- Common Questions
  - The Pope, The Bible, The Eucharist, Confession, Purgatory, Mary, The Saints

- **Catechisms:** a popular manual of Instruction in the Christian Doctrine.
  - Catechetical Instructions for Baptism
    - Ambrose (337 – 397)
    - Augustine (354 – 430)
    - Cyril of Alexandria (378 – 444)
    - St. Gregory of Nyssa (335 – 394)
  - Council of Trent or Roman Catechism (1566 – issued after Protestant Reformation)
  - Catechisms in various Countries
    - Penny Catechism (Great Britain – 19<sup>th</sup> Century)
    - Baltimore Catechism (USA – 19<sup>th</sup> Century)
  - Catechism of the Catholic Church (result of a proposal at a 1985 Synod of Bishops)
    - 1992 = French; 1994 = English (brown); 1997 = 2<sup>nd</sup> Typical Edition (green)

## • Bibles

- New American Bible (NAB; NABRE) *[translation used at Mass]*
- Jerusalem Bible
- Revised Standard Bible (RSV-CE ... Catholic Edition)
- Ignatius Press Bible (RSV-CE ... Catholic Edition)
- Navarre Bible
- Great Adventure Catholic Bible (RSV-CE Ascension Press - Jeff Cavins)

**R.C.I.A.** = **R**ite (ritual) of **C**hristian **I**nitiation of **A**dults

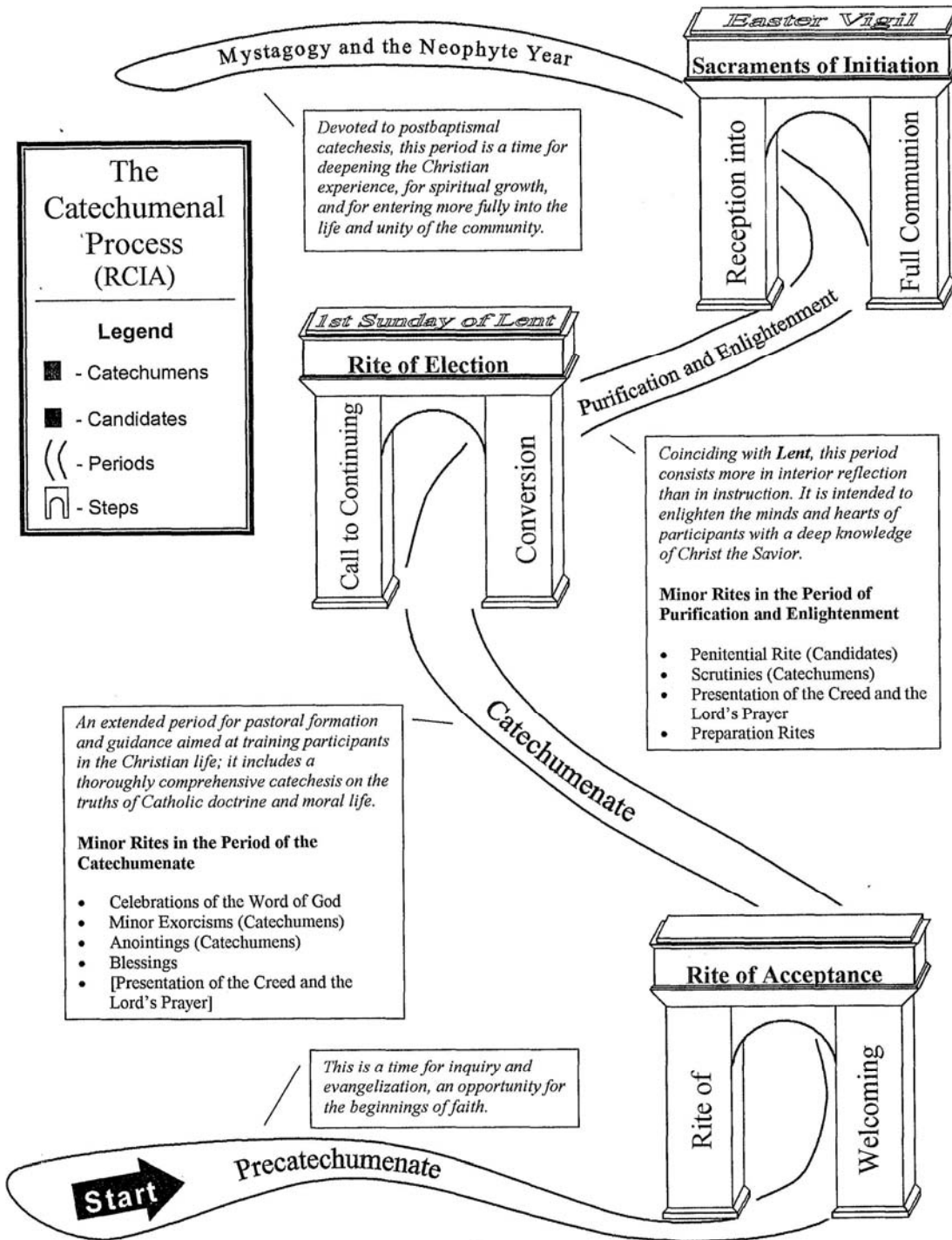
• **Catechumen**

one who is not Baptized who is studying the Faith (*studying the Catechism*)

• **Candidate**

one who is already Baptized (in one of the Christian Churches), and seeking Full Communion with the Catholic Church

*The Second Vatican Council (1962-1965) prescribed a revision of the rite of Baptism of Adults and decreed that the Catechumenate for Adults, divided into several steps, should be restored.*



*An extended period for pastoral formation and guidance aimed at training participants in the Christian life; it includes a thoroughly comprehensive catechesis on the truths of Catholic doctrine and moral life.*

**Minor Rites in the Period of the Catechumenate**

- Celebrations of the Word of God
- Minor Exorcisms (Catechumens)
- Anointings (Catechumens)
- Blessings
- [Presentation of the Creed and the Lord's Prayer]

*This is a time for inquiry and evangelization, an opportunity for the beginnings of faith.*

Catechumenate

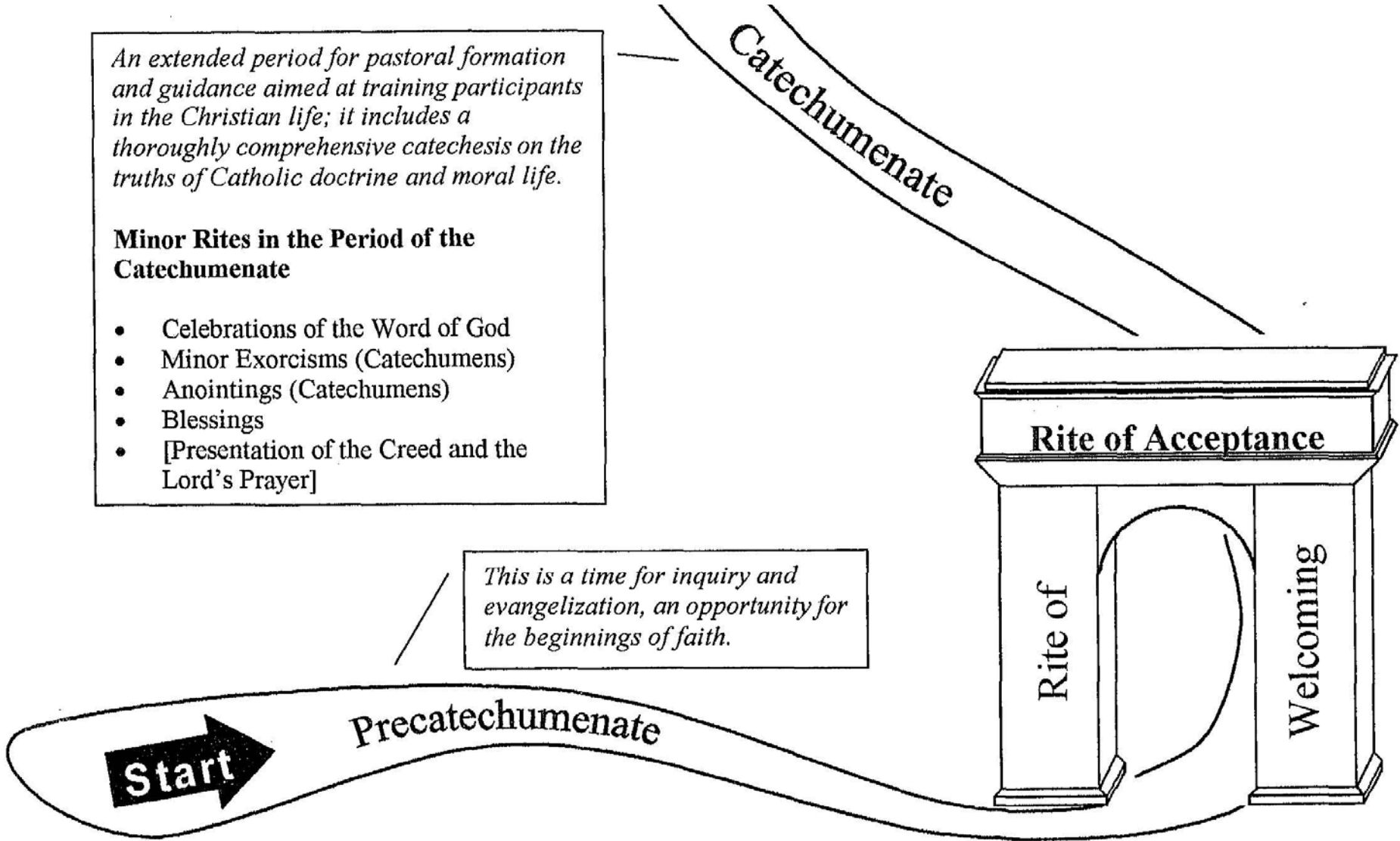
Start

Precatechumenate

Rite of Acceptance

Rite of

Welcoming



## The Catechumenal Process (RCIA)

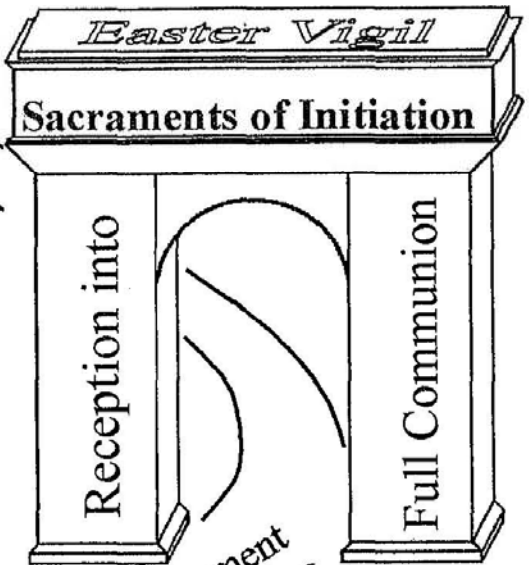
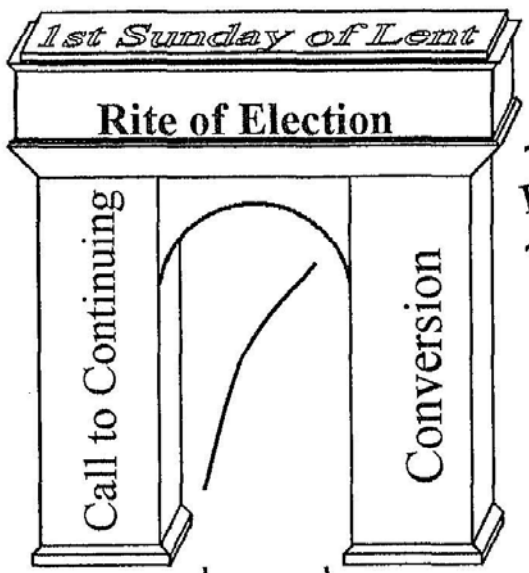
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**Legend**

- - Catechumens
- - Candidates
- ⋈ - Periods
- ⌒ - Steps

*Mystagogy and the Neophyte Year*

*Devoted to postbaptismal catechesis, this period is a time for deepening the Christian experience, for spiritual growth, and for entering more fully into the life and unity of the community.*



*Purification and Enlightenment*

*Coinciding with **Lent**, this period consists more in interior reflection than in instruction. It is intended to enlighten the minds and hearts of participants with a deep knowledge of Christ the Savior.*

**Minor Rites in the Period of Purification and Enlightenment**

- Penitential Rite (Candidates)
- Scrutinies (Catechumens)
- Presentation of the Creed and the Lord's Prayer
- Preparation Rites

*Catech.*