

**Our Lady of The
Greenwood
Roman Catholic
Church**

The R.C.I.A



Frequently Asked Questions - F.A.Q.

For more information

*Call
(317) 888-2861*

What is....

Candidate: Someone who has been baptized in another Christian Faith. The Catholic Church recognizes the baptism bestowed by most Christian denominations (i.e. the baptism was performed with flowing water and the words “Father, Son, and Holy Spirit” were used.) Since baptism confers an everlasting mark on the soul, the Church does not “rebaptize”. When entering the Catholic Church at Easter the candidate makes a “profession of faith” in Catholicism.

Catechumen: Someone who has never been baptized into any Christian faith. They will be baptized at the Easter Vigil

Sponsor: All candidates and catechumens must have a **sponsor**, who:

- Acts as a personal connection between the candidate & community
- Provides support and encouragement
- Answers questions the candidate or catechumen might have
- Is available
- Listens to and shares personal faith stories
- Prays with and for the candidate or catechumen
- Introduces the candidate or catechumen to other members of the community
- Participates in instructions, gatherings, and ceremonial rites wherever possible

Godparent: Is chosen by the **catechumen**. It is common that the godparent also serve as **sponsor** to the catechumen. The godparent:

- Accepts a lifetime commitment to help the neophyte keep his/her baptismal commitment
- Must be fully initiated themselves, having received baptism, confirmation, and Eucharist
- Must be approved by the pastor
- Must be reasonably informed on current Church teaching

*Because He Cares,
....We Care!*

What if I don't know anyone to serve as sponsor or godparent?

The parish has many wonderful people eager to sponsor a candidate or catechumen. Please let us know, and we will introduce you.