# The Catechumenal Process (RCIA)

MYSTAGOGY AND THE NEOPHYTE YEAR

### MYSTAGOGY AND THE NEOPHYTE YEAR

Devoted to post-baptismal 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.

> RITE OF ELECTION
> Call to Continuing Conversion  $c_{ATECHUMENATE}$

PURIFICATION AND ENLIGHTENMENT

PURIFICATION AND ENLIGHT 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.

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION
Reception into Full Communion

# Minor Rites in the Period of Purification and Enlightenment

- Penitential Rite (Candidates)
- · Scrutinies (Catechumens)

RITE OF ACCEPTANCE
Rite of Welcome

- Presentation of the Creed and the Lord's Prayer
- Preparation Rites

### CATECHUMENATE

This is 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]

### **PRECATECHUMENATE**

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

Start

PRECATECHUMENATE

PERIODS

STEPS

CATECHUMENS

CANDIDATES