

## RCIA: A Journey in Faith

A few years ago, I remember the mother of one of our school children and an elderly gentleman, both of whom attended Mass here at Christ the Servant. Both were raised in another faith tradition, yet married to a Catholic. They had children whose sacramental initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and First Eucharist) had occurred at the parish over the years. They themselves had attended all of the parent classes for their children's baptisms, first penance, first Eucharist, and Confirmation, and certainly provided an example of faith and love over the years.



Having known them for several years and experiencing their lived faith I really questioned wanting them to be placed in a lengthy RCIA process. Perhaps what should have happened, as I reflect back, is that we should have met, shared in discussions about our common faith life, and celebrated the Reception of Baptized Christians into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church at the Saturday Vigil Mass surrounded by family and friends who saw them here every week, in fact many more years than I. They were in reality very Catholic in their understanding of the faith; and perhaps the greatest oversight was to disregard their faith journey and their readiness for full communion.

This may reflect your own journey of faith – IF - you are reading this bulletin – OR - if someone has shared this with you. Not everyone necessarily belongs in the same grouping and not everyone necessarily needs to follow the exact same process.

If you know of someone who is on a faith journey that is leading them toward full communion with the Catholic Church – please show them this article – and invite them to share their story with me.

Msgr. Lew Gaetano