



Diocese of  
OWENSBORO

## **RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)**

For more information please refer to the Diocesan Office of Worship

1. As of September 1, 1988 the RCIA process is mandatory for the reception of all unbaptized persons over the age of seven into the Catholic Church.
2. Normally, the RCIA in its adapted form (Part II, chapters 4 & 5) should be used for receiving baptized persons from other Christian Churches and other baptized but uncatechized persons into the Catholic Church.
3. Permission from the bishop must be obtained before it is determined for pastoral reasons to abbreviate the Rite or that an individual would not participate in all the stages called for in the Rite. (#331 of Rite; National Statutes #20)
4. The period of the catechumenate for all unbaptized persons over seven years old should extend for at least one full year, preferably from before Lent one year until Easter the following year. (National Statutes #6)
5. The anointing with the Oil of Catechumens is to be omitted from the baptism of adults (all over seven) at the Easter Vigil. This anointing should be performed during the Lenten period of purification and enlightenment. (National Statutes #16)
6. The period of mystagogy following baptism should last at least until the next Easter. (National Statutes #24)