

## Who Belongs in the Catechumenate (RCIA):

1. **Unbaptized children\*:** ages 7 – 13 and ...  
**Unbaptized teenagers:** ages 14 – 17 and ...  
**Unbaptized adults:** ages 18 + ... who want to become Catholic.  
These Unbaptized children, teenagers and adults are to be fully initiated at the **Easter Vigil Mass** receiving all 3 sacraments from a priest.
  
2. **Protestant baptized children\*:** ages 7 – 13 and ...  
**Protestant baptized teenagers:** ages 14- 17 and ...  
**Protestant baptized adults:** ages 18+... who want to become Catholic.  
These Protestant children, teenagers and adults make their profession of faith, receive Confirmation and First Holy Communion, at the same Mass, **anytime of the year** from a priest.
  
3. **Catholic baptized teenagers:** ages 14 – 17 and....  
**Catholic baptized adults:** ages 18+... who want to make their first Holy Communion and Confirmation. These Catholic teenagers and adults may receive their Confirmation and First Holy Communion, at the same Mass, **anytime during the Easter Season** from a priest.

## Who does not belong in the Catechumenate (RCIA):

1. **Unbaptized Infants / Children:** ages 0 – 6. These infants/children are to be baptized in the faith of their parents **at anytime of the year**.  
These infants/children do not require any preparation.
  
2. **Catholic baptized children:** ages 7 – 13. These children are to be prepared for their First Holy Communion and Confirmation through a parish sacramental program offered either through a **Religious Education Program or Catholic School**.  
They first receive First Holy Communion from a Priest and then... they receive Confirmation from a Bishop.
  
3. **Catholic baptized teenagers:** ages 14 – 17 and...  
**Catholic baptized adults** ages 18+... who have already received their First Holy Communion and want to receive Confirmation.  
These teenagers and adults are to be prepared for Confirmation through a **Parish or Inter-Parish or Archdiocesan Confirmation Program**.  
They receive Confirmation from a Bishop.

### **\*Note:**

Children participating in the Catechumenate (RCIA), for pastoral reasons, may be enrolled in a parish Religious Education Program or Catholic School at the same time they are preparing to be fully initiated through the Catechumenate (RCIA).