

**TOPICS COVERED  
IN RCIA SESSIONS**

God  
Jesus  
Prayers and Practices  
Holy Spirit/Trinity  
Community/Church  
Ecumenism  
Communion of Saints  
Mary  
Last Things  
Morality/Social Justice  
Call of Holiness/10 Commandments  
Paschal Mystery  
Liturgy & Sacraments  
A Walk Through the Mass  
Baptism/Confirmation  
Eucharist  
Reconciliation  
Anointing of the Sick  
Holy Orders  
Matrimony  
Stewardship  
Signs and Symbols of Holy Week

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***Parish of the Immaculate***

***Welcome Home!***

*The role  
of the  
RCIA  
Sponsor*

*Parish of the Immaculate  
Owensboro, KY*

## Who is a sponsor?

- A sponsor is a personal representative of the Church who helps an individual feel at home among Catholics and with the Catholic Church.
- A sponsor is a witness of conversion, growth in knowledge of Catholic faith as well as practice in charity.
- A sponsor is a companion or guide to help the individual with conversion of heart in whatever way one can.
- A sponsor is a model: a sponsor continues to be open to growth in faith and putting into practice what that faith requires.

**Sacramentals** - objects, actions and prayers that aid us in the awareness of the presence of Christ in our lives.

**Objects** – candles, holy water, statues, ashes (Ash Wednesday), palms (Palm Sunday), rosary, holy cards, metals

**Actions** – sign of the cross, postures, blessing, procession, fasting, and abstinence

**Prayers** – traditional prayers, praying the rosary, Stations of the Cross, other forms of prayer

**Tour of the Church** – Spaces and objects found in the church and used during the liturgies. IN church we have the altar, tabernacle, ambry for the oils, confessional, baptismal font, Easter candle, ambo, sanctuary, sacristy, vestments, and vessels.

## What are the responsibilities of a sponsor?

- Sponsors should support their individual through prayer.
- Sponsors should attend the sessions with their individual. (Biweekly September through Lent; weekly from Lent through Easter).
- Sponsors should support and share faith experiences during group sessions.
- Sponsors should be present at liturgy with their individuals for the Rites and Scrutinies.
- Sponsors should meet with the individual during the week when the sessions do not gather. This is for the purpose of:
  - Assisting the individual with learning about the practices of the Catholic faith (You may want to review Sacramentals or give a tour of the Church.)
  - Discussing and emphasizing the content of the previous week
  - Reflecting on the Sunday Scripture
  - Providing time for personal support of the individual who is seeking to become a member of the Catholic Church.
  - Learning memorized prayers of the faith

## What are the qualifications?

- A sponsor must be a practicing Catholic.
- A sponsor must be confirmed.
- A sponsor must be 16 years of age or older.
- A sponsor should model their faith through words and actions.
- A parent cannot act as sponsor.

## What can a sponsor expect?

- Many times sponsors will note that they get more out of the RCIA process than individuals. Sponsors learn through the group gathering sessions and by sharing with their individual at their one-on-one meetings.
- Sponsors can expect their own spiritual journey to be enlightened and their faith nurtured as well.
- Sponsors learn the meaning of the word service. They share their time and talent, knowledge and wisdom with one another.
- Sponsors can expect support and help from the RCIA team and from those who have been sponsors in the past.

