

## Christian Initiation for Unbaptized Children over the Age of 7

Children over the age of 7 will participate in the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults adapted for children. Parents of these children will be expected to attend the adult RCIA sessions every time their children are in session. The children's sessions will **take place on two Tuesdays each month**. They will also attend the Sunday 10:00a.m. Mass for Breaking Open the Word beginning October 23. They will participate in Rites, as well, the first one being October 16, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.



## IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

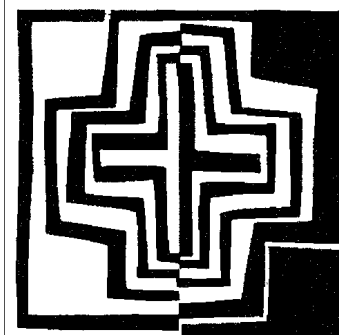
Nicole Bernal Ruiz  
Faith Formation Director  
790 26 1/2 Road  
Grand Junction, CO 81506

Phone: 970-242-6121  
Fax: 970-256-0276  
E-mail: [nruiz@ihmgjt.org](mailto:nruiz@ihmgjt.org)

## IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

## Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

RCIA  
2011-2012



# RCIA

Many folks become interested in learning more about the Catholic way of discipleship through friends, spouses, relatives or a personal quest for meaning. The modern Church has reawakened an ancient process, the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults, to journey with these people as they discern the call of God to follow the Catholic pathway.



At IHM, this process **begins in the fall and ends in the spring for most people**, but some people may spend several years discerning if they are ready to receive their sacraments. This process is open to **unbaptized people (known as Catechumens)**, or **people baptized in other**

**Christian faiths (known as Candidates for Full Communion)**. Both groups of people walk through the process together, although some of the rituals and steps may differ. The parish is blessed with a large team of people who facilitate this process. Most of the team members went through the process themselves at some time.

Each Catechumen or Candidate will have a **Sponsor**, someone to attend Tuesdays with them and help them work through issues and questions as they arise. **They are welcome to invite their Sponsor to be their Godparent**, as well, or they may choose a friend or a relative to fill this role.



## Sessions

**Sessions are held on  
Tuesdays, 6:30p.m.-8:00p.m.  
in the Parish Hall.**

The **first session** will begin on **Tuesday, September 6, 2011**. Opening night will be a wonderful time to bring spouses, significant others, children, potential sponsors, etc. It will be an opportunity to get to know the RCIA process and the people involved.

Beginning **October 23**, Candidates and Catechumens will be asked to attend the **10:00a.m. mass at IHM** to participate in **Breaking Open the Word**. After listening to the readings and Fr.'s homily, team members will lead a discussion with participants for the remainder of Mass.

## Sacraments

This process prepares people to receive the **Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation**. Participants also learn and practice the **Sacrament of Reconciliation**. Depending on the marital status of the participant, he or she may need to meet with our Pastoral Associate, Bev Goodrich, or Fr. John Farley, to discuss whether an annulment must be pursued or if a marriage must be convalidated. These issues are discussed individually and privately.

**Most people receive sacraments at the Easter Vigil, which falls on  
April 7, 2012.**

First Session: September 7, 2011

6:30p.m.

Rite of Welcome/Acceptance: October 16, 2011 6:00 p.m.

Easter Vigil: April 7, 2012