

Parish of Bangor, Member of Ards Pastoral Community

Parish Priest: Very Rev Joseph Gunn St Comgall's Presbytery, 27 Brunswick Road, Bangor, Co Down, BT20 3DS
T: (028) 9146-5522 E: bangor@downandconnor.org W: www.bangorparish.com Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9.30pm to 1pm.

PARISH NEWSLETTER

31st Sunday of the Year – 30 October 2022 –

Your prayers are requested for

Recently Deceased: Robert Magee

Month's Mind: Frances Cunningham

Anniversaries:

Charles O'Hara, Anne O'Regan, Mona Mulligan, Stephen Lennon, Denis Gray, Cecilia Walsh, Peter McCausland, Thomas & Hanna Carlin, Elizabeth Savage, Charlotte Hutchinson, Agnes McGrogan.

SUNDAY MASS TIMES THIS WEEKEND

ST COMGALL'S CHURCH, DONAGHADEE

Sunday 30th October @ 9.00am

ST COMGALL'S CHURCH BRUNSWICK ROAD

Saturday vigil 29th October @ 6.30pm
Sunday 30th October @ 10am & 12noon

MASS TIMES FOR:

DAILY MASS NEXT WEEK – 31st Oct to 4th November

Requiem Mass – Robert Magee on Monday 31st at 10am

ALL SAINTS DAY 1st November - 9.30am, 1pm, 7.30pm

ALL SOULS DAY 2nd November - 9.30am, 1.00pm, 7.30pm

Morning Mass: Thursday and Friday at 9.30am

A number of Masses including funerals are recorded.

These can be accessed by clicking on the link below:

www.churchservices.tv/bangor

Solemn Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place every Monday. Adoration will last from after Morning Mass until **4.00pm**.

Parish Centre will be closed for **1 week** from Monday 31st Oct to Saturday 5 Nov to conserve energy.

For more details on the different notices please go on to the parish website:

www.bangorparish.com

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Mass is Live Streamed and can be accessed via the Parish Website

www.bangorparish.com

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Holy Hour in St Comgall's Donaghadee – every 2nd Sunday in the month @ 2.45pm

Saint Martha's Guild – St Comgall's Brunswick Road

It is proposed to revive the St Martha's Guild to ensure the regular cleaning of the church on a rota basis. Any parishioner interested in volunteering in this vital service is kindly asked to give his/her name into the Parish Office during office hours 9.30am-1pm or by email: bangor@downandconnor.org

Come and be a part of the Friendship Club Tuesdays at 10am. ALL WELCOME!!!

PRAYING WITH THE ICONS under **The Four Saints** found in 'Parish Today'

TROCAIRE

Thanks to all who supported our Trocaire Coffee Morning. We raised a fantastic £1,305! (This included a family donation for £260 in memory of Colette Orr who was a regular supporter of our Trocaire Sales).

PARISH SACRAMENTAL CLASSES

Sacramental Class for **CONFIRMATION**. Starting: The first Sunday in **JANURAY the 6th 2023** at **10.30am to 11.45am** in Saint Comgall's Parish Centre.

Cost £40 to include workbooks and supplies.

Due to pressure of space - only children registered by **Monday 12 December** will be accepted this year. Register interest with the Parish Office by email.

[giving child's name, class, age, school]

St Vincent de Paul Helpline

077 0367 9384

Bethany Bereavement Support Group
we are here to support and listen.
Confidential.
07740-286738

BAPTISM REGISTRATION

Please register online **SIDE BAR** under '**Sacramental Preparation**'

This is a **7** Page Bulletin so please scroll down!

Full Copy of The Sunday Missalette can be found on The Parish Website Under "News"

PARISH CENTRE – PARISH GROUPS RESTARTING – SEPTEMBER 2022

MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS
BRIDGE CLUB at 7.30pm YOUTH CLUB 6.30pm – 8.30pm	FRIENDSHIP CLUB at 10.00am IRISH DANCING CLASSES at 6.00pm SENIOR CHOIR Starting 11 th October at 7.30pm	MENCAP Every fortnight at 6.00pm YOUTH CLUB 6.30pm – 8.30pm BADMINTON Every fortnight at 8.00pm	BRIGINI'S (Girls aged 6-10) at 6.30pm IRISH CLASS & CEILI DANCING at 7.00pm
BOOKING OF PARISH CENTRE: Contact Thomas on T: 07305 746 263 or Email: mcmullanthomas481@gmail.com			
If you have a parish group and wish to advertise the times of starting or day in this Parish Newsletter please contact the parish office by email on: bangor@downandconnor.org			

AT A GLANCE – NEWS ITEMS IN THE PARISH AND AROUND THE DIOCESE

To see the fuller details please go to the parish website 'Parish Bulletin'

FRI 4 – 6 NOV MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT WEEKEND
Friday 4th November - Sunday 6th November 2022. The International Hotel, Cork Airport, Info/ Booking - www.marriageencounter.ie

SAT 12 NOV at 12noon.
A series of workshops for Cantors will take place during the coming year. In association with the Schola Cantorum in St Paul's Church Mullingar, beginning at 12noon and ending at 2.00pm.

SAT 26 NOV BEGINNING EXPERIENCE: The loss of a partner through death, separation or divorce is devastating. Booking essential. To find out more, contact Phil: 02890 207645 or Marie 07896119669 or email belfastbe@yahoo.com

Knock Shrine - Daily Masses continue to be broadcast at 12 Noon and 7.30pm, with Rosary at 7pm. For further details, please see www.knockshrine.ie

Dromantine Retreat and Conference Centre

Friday, 4 November (5pm) - Sunday, 6 November (2pm) CHURCH ABUSE: A UNIQUE BETRAYAL - *A call to listen, a call to action, a call to change.*

Tobar Mhuire Retreat and Conference Centre
For further information on any of the courses or booking please telephone 028 4483 0242 or send a direct message on our Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/tobarmhuirepassionists>

Directed Retreat
Sunday pm, November 13 – Friday am, November 18 - Charge: £495.00 (full board)

The Positive Ageing Roadshows on:
Friday 28 October 2022, 11am- 2pm, Kircubbin Community Centre
Register by Friday 21 October 2022, 12noon
See details on page 6.

PARISH NOTICES

The Society of St Vincent de Paul offers practical and confidential help to those in need throughout the North Down Area. We know it can be hard to ask for help but please, if you need help call us on our.

Helpline: 077 0367 9384.

PLEDGE FOR NOVEMBER

Many people offer spiritual support to a relation who is struggling because of alcohol or an addiction problem. Parishioners who wish to take a short-term Pioneer pledge during the month of the Holy Souls are invited to visit www.pioneers.ie/pray.

Certificate in Christian Thought –
Drumalis Retreat Centre, Larne
2-year Part-Time Course now open for enrolment. If interested contact maura@drumalis.co.uk or T: 028 2827 6455

A Postcard from Rome - Well-known peacemakers, Fr Martin Magill and Rev Steve Stockman, together with Steve's wife Janice, will be in conversation with the BBC's Jim Fitzpatrick at the Catholic Chaplaincy QUB this **Wednesday 2 November at 7.30pm**. They'll share the story of their memorable pilgrimage to Rome when, together with a group of students from the Chaplaincy, they met Pope Francis at the Vatican. The Chaplaincy's Choir, Canticle, will provide music and song and there'll be testimony from students. The Chaplaincy will also share news of its ambitious plans for the future. Refreshments will be served afterwards. If you'd like to come along and learn more about how you can support the Chaplaincy's important work with students, you'd be most welcome.

Norms for Indulgences at the Commemoration of ALL SOULS. From twelve O'clock noon on 1 November until midnight on 2 November, all who have confessed, received Holy Communion and prayed for the pope's intentions (One Our Father, One Hail Mary, or any other prayer of one's choice) can gain one plenary indulgence by visiting a church or oratory, and there reciting one Our Father and the Apostle's Creed. This indulgence is applicable only to the souls of the departed. Confessions may be made anytime within the week preceding or the week following 1 November.

The faithful who visit a cemetery and pray for the dead may gain a plenary indulgence applicable only to the Holy Souls on the usual conditions once per day from 1 to 8 November. (For conditions see above).

Indulgences are granted through the ministry of the Church. See Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC, 1471-9, 1498) for a fuller explanation.

The Society of St Vincent de Paul offers practical and confidential help to those in need throughout the North Down Area. We know it can be hard to ask for help but please, if you need help call us on **our Helpline: 077 0367 9384**.

To help us to help others you can make direct payments to Conferences Bank Account. St Comgall's, Allied Irish Bank. Sort Code 93-82-03. A/C No is 25302098. Most Holy Redeemer Ballyholme, Allied Irish Bank. Sort Code 93-82-03. A/C No. 06885061.

Donations can also be made to SVP Giving Page at www.svp-ni.co.uk. If you are a UK income tax-payer please consider Gift Aiding your donation, which will enhance your donation by 25% at no extra cost to you. Gift Aid forms are available on the Parish website, or on request, via SVP Helpline number, as above.

The Society is always on the lookout for new Members, and if you are interested and can spare a few hours per week please speak to a Conference Member, or leave your name and contact number on the Helpline and we will return to you promptly. You will be warmly welcomed and full training will be given.

We can now accept donations of Good quality furniture – please call our Helpline or speak to a member of the Society.

STOREHOUSE NORTH DOWN - Storehouse continues to help **St Vincent De Paul** provide non-perishable food for those in need. **Non perishable foodstuff donations, for Storehouse, have recommenced. Donations can be left in the receptacle in the Bishops Porch at the rear of the Church** or Storehouse welcomes donations of foodstuff at their premises, 12 Balloo Avenue, Bangor on Mondays and Thursdays between 10.00am to 3.00 pm. Cash donations are also very acceptable.

Storehouse North Down update

Due to the economic situation and the approach of winter we are seeing an increase in requests for hampers. We were giving out between 30 and 40 hampers per week. This has now increased to between 40 and 50 per week. From February to the end of August we have given out 788 hampers helping approximately 2000 people. It is only by your support that we can supply help to those in need. Thank you for your support and generosity.

We are often asked what we need. Here is a list of items we are always short off.

Cooking oil; Tins of chunky chicken, stewed steak and minced steak; Snacks such as Ravioli, Macaroni, Meatballs; Tins of custard; Long life milk; Tins of meals for rice eg chilli con carne, chicken curry, etc; Packets of noddles, pasta in sauce etc; Cleaning sprays; Washing up liquids; Shampoos, shower gel and deodorants for both men and women; Washing powder; Liquid soap.

TRÓCAIRE thank you for your help. You can donate in the following ways:

- Online at www.trocaire.org.
T: 0800 912 1200 (NI)
 - By post: Trócaire, 50 King Street, Belfast, BT1 6AD (NI).
- *****

Follow these links for more information about ACCORD NICMCS:
<http://www.4ni.co.uk/c/1763/accord-ni-catholic-marriage-care-service-belfast>
<http://www.facebook.com/accordmarriagecare>



Please find below the link to the Safeguarding Office 2022 E-Bulletin. Newsletter - available to view on our website <https://downandconnorsafeguarding.com/newsletters/>



BANGOR PARISH PODCAST

You can listen to the Parish Podcasts Praying with the Icons by clicking on the audio files on the website or by searching for "Parish of Bangor Podcast" in the apple or google podcast Apps. Then subscribe to our channel so that you will receive all the latest podcasts straight to your device.

<https://www.bangorparish.com/the-parish-today/the-columban-sisters/>

LINK FOR: 

Sr Maura's PRAYING TOWARDS... SUNDAY REFLECTIONS on the HOLY SCRIPTURES.



31st Sunday of the Year – 30 October 2022

Lord Jesus, you have said, 'Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you.' I come to you in faith and trust, in love and hope. Let me know your closeness to me and your care for me and for all who are dear to me.

My intention: Hear my prayer (*mention intention*); grant what I ask, and may I always trust that in all that happens in life, you will be close to me as my friend, guide and saviour. And so, Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

Penitential Act: I confess to the almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

PRAYERS AT HOLY COMMUNION

Spiritual Holy Communion Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that you are present
in the most Blessed Sacrament.
I love you above all things and
I desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you as if you have already come,
and unite myself wholly to you.
Never permit me to be separated from you.
Amen.
composed by Saint Alphonsus Liguori

ANIMA CHRISTI

Prayer to the Most Holy Redeemer

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, embolden me.
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
O good Jesus, hear me.
Within your wounds hide me.
Never permit me to be separated from you.
From the evil enemy defend me.
At the hour of my death call me
and bid me to come to you,
that with your Saints I may praise you
for age upon age. Amen

Prayer Online: Come and join us at... www.soulparemission.com Who are we? We are a new interactive prayer website created by Jacinta Crockford DipTH, Spiritual Director living in Down and Connor. What's on offer? A variety of PDF meditations on Scripture, Mother Teresa, Ignatius Spirituality to name but a few. Lots of content to Dive into! There you will find - Podcasts on Faith, Friendship & Knowledge; Rosaries, Prayers and Marian Consecration, Videos of Reflective Prayers during Adoration. Come and join us and be part of the local prayer movement online!

CALENDAR OF SAINTS DAYS

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2022

Thursday 27th October

Saint Otteran, Monk

Friday 28th October

Saints Simon & Jude, Apostles

Saturday 29th October

Saint Colman, Bishop

Sunday 30th October

31st Sunday of the Year

Tuesday 1st November

ALL SAINTS DAY

Wednesday 2nd November

ALL SOULS DAY – Commemoration of all the faithful departed

Thursday 3rd November

Saint Malachy, Principal Patron of the Diocese

Friday 4th November

Saint Charles Borromeo, Bishop

Saturday 5th November

Saint Martin de Porres, Religious

Sunday 6th November

32nd Sunday of the Year

Norms for Indulgences at the Commemoration of ALL SOULS. From twelve O'clock noon on 1 November until midnight on 2 November, all who have confessed, received Holy Communion and prayed for the pope's intentions (One Our Father, One Hail Mary, or any other prayer of one's choice) can gain one plenary indulgence by visiting a church or oratory, and there reciting one Our Father and the Apostle's Creed. This indulgence is applicable only to the souls of the departed. Confessions may be made anytime within the week preceding or the week following 1 November.

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Indulgences are granted through the ministry of the Church. See Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC, 1471-9, 1498) for a fuller explanation.

South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust Carer Support Service
Are you an unpaid carer who cares for a family member or friend?

You are invited to come along to the Carer Support Service Carer Hub in Bangor.

When: 1st Wednesday of every month

Where: North Down Community Wellbeing Hub, Main Street

Time: 10.30 – 1pm

No need to book, just call in at any time during the morning for carer information advice and guidance. Join us for tea/coffee and scones, we would love to meet you.



FRI 28 OCT - TAIZÉ PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS - You are warmly invited to Taizé Prayer Around the Cross on Friday 28th October, **from 8 - 9pm** in Holy Family Church, Limestone Road. This is an opportunity to take time out to pray with the beautiful Taizé chants, to be still and to be refreshed. Everyone is very welcome, please come along and bring your friends. Refreshments will be served afterwards in the Gathering Space.

BEGINNING EXPERIENCE: The loss of a partner through death, separation or divorce is devastating. Beginning Experience is offering a programme of bereavement support in St Bride's Hall, Derryvolgie Ave., Belfast on three Saturdays (**November 26.**) Booking essential. To find out more, contact Phil: 02890 207645 or Marie 07896119669 or email belfastbe@yahoo.com

CONFERENCE CENTRE NEW WORKSHOPS 2022 - BOOKINGS

NOW OPEN - Please contact Jacinta or Louisa to reserve your

place: TEL: 028 (048 from ROI) 3082 1964 EMAIL:

admin@dromantineconference.com

CHURCH ABUSE: A UNIQUE BETRAYAL - *A call to listen, a call to action, a call to change*

Friday, 4 November (5pm) - Sunday, 6 November (2pm)

Tobar Mhuire Retreat and Conference Centre

For further information on any of the courses or booking please telephone 028 4483 0242 or send a direct message on our Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/tobarmhuirepassionists>

Directed Retreat

Tobar Mhuire invites individuals, seeking to take time out to rest, reflect and be refreshed through private prayer, to a residential directed retreat in a calm and reflective atmosphere with Timothy Ray (Tobar Mhuire's writer-in-residence, an Ignatian spiritual director and author of eight books on Celtic spirituality).

These retreats will include daily liturgy, one-to-one spiritual conversations with your spiritual director, and opportunities for communal faith-sharing and enjoying the hospitality, environs and grounds of Tobar Mhuire.

Sunday pm, November 13 – Friday am, November 18

Charge: £495.00 (full board)

FRI 4 – 6 NOV MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT WEEKEND Friday 4th November - Sunday 6th November 2022. The International Hotel, Cork Airport, Info/ Booking - www.marriageencounter.ie

SAT 5 NOV - Rally for their Lives - Please join us for this most important Life Chain at Belfast City Hall on Saturday 5th November at 2.00pm to stand for the protection of babies in the womb. For more information contact Precious Life on 02890278484 /07592280522.

SAT 12 NOV. A series of workshops for Cantors will take place during the coming year. We begin the first workshop, in association with the Schola Cantorum, in St Paul's Church Mullingar, beginning at 12 noon and ending at 2.00 p.m.

Special Belfast Pilgrimage to Fatima at Easter 2023 ex Dublin, Departing Wednesday (Holy Week) 5th April 5 nights. Full Easter ceremony and tour of Lisbon. Optional tour to seaside on Easter Saturday. Contact James Treacy 0035361921470

Free draw: Win a trip to Medjugorje with the Irish Centre Win one week's all included package trip to Medjugorje for one person. This includes 7 nights B&B, return airport transfer and flight (up to €300 flight & luggage value). To be in with a chance to win go to our website www.med-irishcentre.com For more details tel. 00353 1443 4510 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.com

Certificate in Christian Thought – Adult Faith Development Programme *Two-year, part-time course, now enrolling for 2022-2023 intake* The Certificate in Christian Thought invites you to learn, reflect and discuss aspects of spirituality, theology and scripture at a greater depth. It is possible to do the course for personal development solely and/or to complete the written assignments required by St Mary's University College, which validates the course. For further information, please email maura@drumalis.co.uk or phone Drumalis during office hours 02828 276455/02828 272196



WITH LOVE AND GRATITUDE IN CHRIST,
SR ANASTASIA AND THE SISTERS OF ST ELISABETH CONVENT

✝

SEND
PRAYER
INTENTION



Dear Friend,

Our Convent's Online Christmas Market is now open, you will find wonderful Christmas items for all your friends, family members, and loved ones. You can follow the link below and order the gifts now so we can deliver them in time for the holiday.

All the Christmas products represented on our website are made by hand with prayer and love!

AID TO THE CHURCH

<https://www.acnireland.org/n-donate>

SUBSCRIBE TO THE MIRROR

Congolese religious sister murdered

A TERRORIST ATTACK IN EASTERN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO LEFT TWO PEOPLE, INCLUDING A RELIGIOUS SISTER, DEAD AND A HOSPITAL DESTROYED IN THE VILLAGE OF MABOYA. By Paulo Aído



Sister Marie-Sylvie Kavuke Vakatsuraki, of the Little Sisters of the Presentation of Our Lady in the Temple, from Butembo, was one of the victims of an attack that took place on Wednesday 19 October. **Responsibility for the attack has been claimed by the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), a Ugandan Islamist group also known as Islamic State – Central African Province (ISCAP).**

The terrorists looted a pharmacy and a hospital, which was then set on fire. **The religious sister and a patient were burned to death inside the building.**

Sister Marie-Sylvie Kavuke Vakatsuraki. (Credit: Aid to the Church in Need)

Speaking to international Foundation Aid to the Church in Need, **Father Marcelo Oliveira, head of the Comboni Missionaries in DR Congo**, described the “terror” of that night. “The ADF rebels attacked the village, and more precisely the hospital. **They looted everything they could find, taking medicines, and at the end they set fire to the building. A nun, who is also a doctor and was on night duty, was burned alive, along with a patient.**” As soon as she realised that they were under attack, **Sister Marie-Sylvie called the local parish so that the priests and religious could flee.** Otherwise, the situation could have been even more tragic.

Once the hospital was destroyed “the rebels continued on their way and **set fire to another hospital nearby.** All this happened in the village of Maboya, which is about 20 kilometres from the city of Butembo and 30 from the city of Beni”, Fr Marcelo explains to ACN. Besides the two victims, there are also **many people still unaccounted for** and who were likely taken by the Islamists to carry the looted goods. **“Several people disappeared, possibly taken to carry the medicines and everything else they looted from the hospitals, a couple of pharmacies and some shops”,** explains the Portuguese priest. **Bishop Melchizedec Sikuli Paluku**, in a statement sent to ACN, expresses the deep consternation with which the local diocese of Butembo-Beni received the sad news of this new attack, which it firmly condemns, “deploring the loss of human lives”, namely that of Sister Marie-Sylvie. **“There are no words, such is the horror that it surpasses all tolerable limits”, the Bishop writes. Father Marcelo Oliveira says that the Democratic Republic of Congo is experiencing a real war that the world pretends to ignore, and that is causing an atmosphere of terror among the population.**



“The terror continues. **The people are afraid, everybody tries to escape.** This is a hidden war, silent – or silenced – so that nobody does anything and the population continues to suffer”, says the Comboni missionary. The extreme violence is caused by the great wealth in the soil of this African country, which has been literally looted for years. **“The terror that took place in this village is the same that happens in so many neighbouring villages, but that is not picked up on by the news.** There are a lot of interests at stake, given the riches in this part of the country”, he adds. The issue of insecurity in the country had already been described by the Comboni priest at the time that Pope Francis was supposed to visit the country in July, this year. **“The issue of lack of security is serious, in cities as well, but especially in the East of the country, with many armed attacks, many tribal conflicts, and all this because of the interests in the minerals”,** said the missionary at the time, referring to such riches as gold, diamonds, cobalt and coltan, which is a key component in the IT, computer and smartphone industries. The Pope’s visit was postponed for health reasons.



What is RCIA?

RCIA (the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) is a process to introduce the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church to individuals who wish to learn more about Catholicism, including the opportunity, if they wish, to become Catholic through the Sacraments of Initiation.

RCIA is a time of teaching, formation and conversion to come to know, love and develop a relationship with God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

How do I sign up for RCIA?

The first step is to request a conversation with Fr Gunn PP T:028 9146 5522. We are facilitating one to one meetings on RCIA with the help of Sr Maura Gallahue in Bangor Parish.

When and where does RCIA meet together in the Diocese?

We meet Thursday nights from 6.30 - 8.00 pm at St Mary's Hall, Chapel Lane, Belfast BT1 1HH from October to May. The start date for the programme is Thursday 6th October 2022. For registration form: E: rcia@downandconnor.org

What is the format of the sessions?

The sessions begin with prayer, followed by teaching, question and answer and small group discussion and concludes with prayer.

What is the cost for attending RCIA?

There is a minimal cost to you to attend RCIA. Resources are provided by the diocese.

May I bring my spouse/fiancé to the sessions?

Yes, you may. We encourage your spouse/fiancé to attend the sessions with you.

If I have been baptized in another church, do I need to be baptised again?

In most cases, you do not need to be baptised again. The Catholic Church requires that you were baptised with water, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We will need a copy of your baptismal certificate or other proof of baptism from the church where you were baptised. Proof of baptism may include a letter from the church, a copy of the membership record indicating that you were baptised, etc.

I was told I need a sponsor who is a baptised and confirmed Catholic, and is in good standing in the Catholic Church. What if I don't know anyone who could do that?

Don't worry about it. We have people who volunteer to fulfil the sponsor role.

Do I have to attend every session?

Our desire is to have you attend all sessions. RCIA is certainly a place where you will learn about what the Catholic Church believes and teaches; however, it is much more than that. It is a process of getting to know Jesus Christ and growing together in community. RCIA is a process of conversion to a life with Christ. This process takes time and commitment on your part.

How many sessions can I miss?

RCIA is a building-block process and each session builds on the one before. However, we realise that there may be situations which would cause someone to be unable to attend. Therefore, absences are handled on a case-by-case basis. If you must miss a session, arrangements can be made to provide you with a copy of the notes from that session.

Can a Catholic attend to learn more about their faith?

Yes, we have had many people do this in the past and would love to have you join us to learn more about your Catholic faith!