



Diocese of
Fall River
Southeastern MA • Cape Cod • The Islands

Secretariat for
**The New
Evangelization**

OCIA Inquiry

Handout #1

Directions: Please pair up with someone you do not know and briefly interview the person using the questions below. When we come back from break, each person will briefly introduce the other to the group using the information from the interview.

1. What is your name?
2. Are you married or single?
3. If you have children or grandchildren, tell me about them.
4. If you are employed, where do you work and what do you do?
5. Where were you born and raised? How long have you lived in the area?
6. What are your interests/hobbies?
7. Name two reasons why you came to this meeting tonight.



OCIA Inquiry

Handout #2

Why do Catholics...?

Directions: You may have many questions about the Catholic Church. This is natural and appropriate. This is what the inquiry session is all about. This is an opportunity to ask any questions you may have about the Church and its various teachings so that you may grow in your understanding of what the Church is, does, believes, and prays. Remember, there is no such thing as a "dumb" question.

You don't have to put your name on this form. This will allow us to direct our teaching as we begin to answer your questions through the remaining inquiry sessions.

1. In the Catholic Church, I'm not sure why they...

2. I'm not sure I believe...

3. I would like to know what the Catholic Church teaches about...

4. I really don't understand...



OCIA Discernment Questions

Approaching the end of the Catechumenate

Dear Catechumen/Candidate,

We are approaching the final phase of our OCIA journey. This is an appropriate time to pause and to reflect on where we have been and where we are going. The following questions are for you to reflect on your journey and to prepare for your discernment meeting. Please take some time over the next two weeks to set aside some time in prayer and reflection to discern and answer the following questions. This is not a test!

Remember, the discernment meetings are not an evaluation, but a time for you to pray and meet with one of the team members to discern where you have been and what lies ahead.

Before reflecting on the questions, please read and reflect on any one or all of the following Scriptures:

- A. Blind Bartimaeus: Mk 10:46-52
- B. The Prodigal Son: Lk 15: 11-32
- C. The Woman at the Well: Jn 4:4-26
- D. The Road to Emmaus: - Lk 24:13-35

PART 1. Reflect on the journey you have been on so far by thinking about and answering the following questions.

- a. How have you begun to experience a new identity, a new way of life, a new way of looking at the world, or a new way of experiencing the Lord?
- b. What has been the most influential or life-changing part of your journey so far during the OCIA process?
- c. How have you responded to the call to discipleship?



PART 2. Evaluate what ways you have seen change and growth during this journey.

- a. How do you feel you have grown in understanding the teachings and practices of the Catholic faith?
- b. What things might you still be struggling with or be confused about? Remember, this is normal ("faith seeking understanding").

PART 3. In each of the suggested Scripture readings at the beginning of these discernment questions there is a growing recognition and change of heart. Please describe how these may relate to the journey you have been on in the OCIA process.

1. How have you grown in your desire to pray and read Scripture?
2. How strong is your desire to live a truly Catholic life through participation in the sacraments and living according to the teachings of the Church?
3. How do you feel about spreading the good news of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church to family, friends, co-workers, etc.?

PART 4. Do you feel you are ready to become one of the "elect" (Catechumens) or to be recognized by the Bishop (Candidates) at the Rite of Election, and to be fully initiated into the Catholic Church through Baptism, Confirmation, and First Eucharist during the Easter Vigil?

- Please circle either YES or NO.

PART 5. Try to describe your feelings and thoughts about this step of your journey.