

Young Apprentices

A RESOURCE FOR THE RCIA

INQUIRY SESSION: THE PEOPLE OF GOD, THE BODY OF CHRIST



My Story

Some of us were born into a loving family. Some of us were adopted into a loving family. Some of us are loved and cared for by other family members. We are all members of a family.



AND THINK

- Describe your family.
- How is your family like other families?
- What are some special or unique things about your family?



God's Story

Through our journey in the RCIA, we become members of another family—the family of God. We best get to know this family by becoming active members of our parish. In the parish we meet other members of the family of God, also called the People of God.

God has invited and called each of us to become members of his loving family. That is why we are a part of this RCIA process. Through the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist, we become God's daughters and sons, members of God's Church on Earth.

Christ is the Head of the Church on Earth, and we are the Body of Christ. As every part of our physical body—eyes, ears, hands, and feet—is needed so that the whole body may function well, so every part of the Body of Christ is needed so that Church on Earth, the Body of Christ, may be complete.



Our Response

God has called you by name to begin the journey of the RCIA. Step by step, you will grow closer to God and closer to becoming a member of the Body of Christ.



- Who invited or encouraged you to begin this journey?
- What are your questions about God and about the Church as you begin?
- What do you know or believe about God? About the Catholic Church?

Sharing God's Word

With your family, read 1 Corinthians 12: 12-27. Then invite all family members discuss the following questions:

- *What gifts and talents do you have?*
- *How might you use these gifts and talents to serve the Body of Christ?*

The Scripture reading is available at usccb.org/bible/readings.

Faith Words

Body of Christ

The Body of Christ is a New Testament image for the Church, which teaches that the members of the Church are made one in Christ, the Head of the Church.



People of God

The People of God is a New Testament image for the Church, which teaches that God the Father calls everyone to be his people in Jesus, his Son.

The Communion of Saints and the Temple of the Holy Spirit



In today's session, you learned that two names for the Church are People of God and Body of Christ. The Church is known by many names. Two other well-known names are the Communion of Saints and Temple of the Holy Spirit.

The **Communion of Saints** is the communion of holy things and holy people that make up the Church. It is the unity of all the faithful, those living on Earth, those in Purgatory, and those in Heaven with God.

The image of the **Temple of the Holy Spirit** is from Saint Paul (see 1 Corinthians 3:16), reminding us that the Holy Spirit dwells within each of the baptized members and within the whole Church. The Holy Spirit is the source of the Church's life and of her unity as the one People of God.