

Good Morning (Evening). My name is _____ and I am the Director / Coordinator of the RCIA here at _____ Parish. The RCIA stands for Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and is the process by which a person becomes a full member of the Catholic Church. This year ____ adults joined the Catholic Church at our parish Easter Vigil celebration. This should bring us all great joy, for at the end of Matthew's gospel Jesus tells us, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you."

This statement by Christ himself says to me that our number one role as a church is to bring others to Christ. Everything else we do as Catholic Christians should be directed to that mission. We come to Mass each Sunday to hear God's word so that we can go out into the world and live His mission and be a witness to others, to bring them to Him. We build up our own relationship with Christ and our own faith life not for ourselves, but so that we can share that faith and that relationship with someone else. When we receive the Eucharist, we become the body of Christ and we are to be the body of Christ in the world and bring others to Christ.

There is a Contemporary Christian song entitled "We Are the Body" by the band *Casting Crowns*, and I would like to share a few lines of it with you:

If we are the body
Why aren't His arms reaching?
Why aren't His hands healing?
Why aren't His words teaching?
And if we are the body
Why aren't His feet going?
Why is His love not showing them there is a way?

Jesus paid much too high a price
For us to pick and choose who should come
And we are the body of Christ

And so I ask each of you. . . is there someone out there to whom your arms could be reaching or your words teaching? Is there a family member, a friend, a co-worker, a neighbor. . . someone you could reach out to with His arms, someone who needs you to show them the way to Christ?

Pope Saint John Paul II said:

The fact that Christianity is a religion of love makes every evangelizer the teller of a love story, the singer of a love song. By example as well as by words, evangelizers must be teachers of love.

Show someone you love them. Invite them to know Christ through the Church.

Some of you may be sitting here with us now, and you have joined us for Mass. . . maybe for the first or second time or maybe for the 100th time, but you are not a full member of the Church.

Please know that we want you to be part of the Body of Christ. Maybe you are looking for something or someone to give meaning to your life. . . maybe you felt drawn here, but you don't know why. . . maybe you've been coming here for years. . . by yourself or with your family or a friend. Whatever your situation, if you would like to know Christ better, to learn about the Church, and to explore being one with the Body of Christ through the sacraments, I encourage you to ask about the RCIA.

Explain here how they can find out more. Will you have an info table after Mass? Will you have an open house or information night in the upcoming week(s)? Where can they find contact information for you or for the pastor to contact you directly with your questions. Add all this information here.

You can come and talk to us about the Church with no risk and no commitment. If you decide to start on the RCIA journey, the rewards and blessings have eternal possibilities. May God Bless You!