

## Some Personal Stories of RCIA Journeys



I undertook the process with my 14 year old daughter. I believed God had always been there for me.

Through good times and especially the bad times I have always, as I believe, been looked after. Because God meant such a lot to me I wanted to “do it right.”. What better way to praise God than to do so in the Church from the beginning of Christianity.

I joined the RCIA process after the deaths of my grandmother and, more recently, my father. RCIA has opened my eyes to living in a community and has given me a better under-standing of life.

I was baptised in the Church of England and joined the RCIA process after many years of intention. My wife and five children are all baptised Catholics, attending various stages of school at primary and College. It has meant a lot to me to fulfill this experience and feel free to fully celebrate in our Church community with our family.

Having attended two Catholic schools but never being baptised, I found that, since leaving school, I missed being part of the Catholic community. The RCIA has put me in touch with my values and what is important in life.

I joined to find a community that my family (husband and two sons) and I can become involved in, and to give my children the gift of being a part of the Catholic faith, both at home and at school. This experience has given me more strength to enjoy my family and work life whilst being part of a caring community.

The opportunity of joining the RCIA came at a crucial stage in my life where I was looking for guidance. I am finding it extremely beneficial and am really enjoying what it is bringing to my life.

Joining the Church has been a matter of timing. I have always wanted to follow this spiritual path and the timing was never right, having a busy work life and then being a mum. This has been my time, a time for me to do something that means a lot to me. The time in the RCIA has given me a sense of calm in my already busy life. It has shown me I have a lot of growth in me, and it has given me comfort in knowing I have place in the Church family.

Being married to a Catholic drew me to do something about joining the Church. Since my marriage I have observed through him and his family such a calming, peaceful relationship within the Church and the clergy. I want to be part of that. RCIA has completed the circle of our Catholic family.

I joined because my children are attending a Catholic school, and I wanted to learn more about their faith. Then I realised that I was supposed to be on this journey at this stage of my life. It has shown me that having faith and something to believe in is a wonderful thing to embrace.

I attended a local church and felt a sense of belonging within that community. I joined the RCIA to develop this sense of belonging. From what I have learned with the RCIA I have begun to work more with the poor and the homeless.

A curiosity about the Catholic faith enticed me and I wanted to learn how to give love and forgiveness to others so my life would become happier and more satisfying.