

BECOMING CATHOLIC



Sacred Objects & Symbols

Kathy Horan

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this book.

About the Author



Kathy Horan has worked extensively in a range of leadership roles with Catholic Education SA and within the Archdiocese of Adelaide. Kathy holds Master Degrees in Theology and Educational Leadership.

Supporting parents and adult enquirers seeking to become Catholic has been a significant thread running through all her roles in ministering to the community. This is expressed in working with RCIA candidates and also with parents, particularly in family-based sacrament preparation.

Kathy continues to work on a voluntary basis in several parish/school settings to support both parents and catechists/teachers in their own faith formation. This support is offered as a practical way for parents to engage with their children as they prepare to celebrate the sacraments. Kathy also continues to support RCIA candidates as they journey in faith towards becoming Catholic.



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Sacred Space



Family life

When we are born, we are born into a family.

Our parents welcome their newly-born son or daughter.

Every family has its own rituals, or ways of celebrating special family events, such as birthdays, weddings, graduations, Christmas, Easter, sporting events and many more.



In special family celebrations:

- We invite people to celebrate with us.
- We often wear our special, or our best, clothes.
- We prepare our homes to welcome our guests.
 - A meal is prepared and enjoyed.
- We talk to one another and share our stories.
- We give thanks for the gathering and celebration.
- At the end of the meal, we say farewell and go back to our homes.



Just as our parents gave us the gift of life and a family to belong to, they also bring us along to the Church so that we can become members of the family of God.

When they do this for us, they are starting us on the journey of becoming Catholic. In God's family we learn how to get to know other families in the local church.





Sacred Objects

The Catholic community gathers together each Sunday for Mass to celebrate the Lord's Day.


Every Catholic community has sacred objects that are present in the church where they gather to worship and pray.





Sacred objects inside the church help us to focus and to understand what is happening in this sacred space.

Each sacred object has a meaning and a use in the liturgy, or worship, of the community.

 Liturgy: This word describes what the community does when it gathers together to celebrate the Eucharist, or Mass.



Why are the objects called sacred?

These objects are called sacred because they have been blessed and are used in our religious celebrations.





Find your favourite family photo. Write about the memories this photo reminds you of. 