

Journey of Faith



Our Faith Is a Lifelong Process

Lisa, Tomás, Terrence, and Tanya went out with Mrs. Evans and their sponsors to celebrate becoming members of the Church.

"It's really cool," Tomás said, smiling. "I feel like we're all really part of something."

"Yeah!" Lisa added. "Something really big! Something we'll be part of forever."





How do you feel after becoming a member of the Church?

Journeying Together

Welcome to the family!

You've learned a lot about God and the Church. You celebrated your "birthday" in the family of God. You received the sacraments of penance and Eucharist. You shared your excitement with everyone in the Church. They shared their love and joy with you.

But your journey of faith isn't over. All your brothers and sisters in the Church are ready to help you grow closer to God. You will learn, pray, and have fun together. You will do many things for your Church, and your Church will do many things for you. Just like any other family.



A Time to Remember

Do you remember how you felt when you first started the RCIA? You had a lot to learn and to do. It must have seemed a little scary. But you did it!

Place a "Y" next to the statements you agree with. Place an "N" next to the statements you don't agree with.

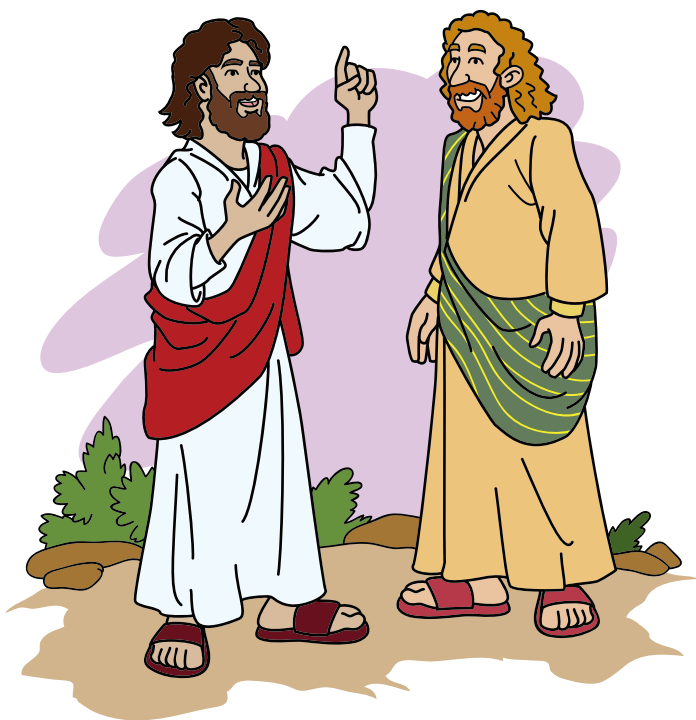
- _____ I feel excited every time I attend Mass.
- _____ I'm never bored during Mass.
- _____ I feel a little lonely because I don't know many people yet.
- _____ People at church are always glad to see me.
- _____ I don't feel any different from when I started the RCIA.
- _____ I am ready to work with and for my Church family.
- _____ There are still a lot of things I don't understand.

Pick one of the statements above and write one or two sentences about why you agree or disagree with it.

Keep on Growing

If you're feeling scared or unsure about your new faith, don't worry. Even Jesus' disciples had feelings like that. At different times, the disciples felt happy and excited, a little scared, a little unsure, and sometimes even a little disappointed.

Remember Peter? He didn't always understand what Jesus wanted of him. Sometimes Jesus had to correct him. When Jesus said he would suffer and die, Peter said he would never let that happen to Jesus. You can read more about it in the Gospel of Matthew 16:21–23.



The other disciples made mistakes about Jesus, too. There's a story about James and John wanting to sit beside Jesus in heaven. Jesus corrected them and told them how they could really be great in God's eyes. You can read more about it in the Gospel of Mark 10:35–45.

Our Spiritual Helper

Jesus knew that all his followers would need help living their faith. Living like Jesus wasn't (and still isn't!) easy.

When Jesus ascended into heaven, his disciples were sad and afraid. They didn't know how they could help build Jesus' Church if he was gone. But on **Pentecost**, a miracle happened that changed them.

All of the disciples were together in one room. Suddenly a sound came from heaven. It was like a gust of strong wind, and it filled the entire house. Then what looked like tongues of fire appeared over the disciples' heads.

The disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking about God. The disciples went out into the city of Jerusalem and began to talk to people from all over the world. Each person heard the disciples speaking in his or her own language.

Peter told the people about what was done to Jesus. Then he told them how they could be saved by believing in Jesus. Thousands of people heard Peter and believed in Jesus because of Peter's words.

That's why we call Pentecost the birthday of the Church. Pentecost was the day our Church on earth began to grow. Jesus' followers continued to grow in faith after Pentecost. Just like them, we continue to grow and develop in our faith, too.



What areas of your faith do you want to explore or learn more about?

What about your faith are you excited to go out and share with others?



FIND THE HIDDEN WORDS

Using the clues, identify the word. Then find the word in the scramble of letters below.

yohl iipstr

niwd

aefslm

rhucch

eetrp

Who came to the disciples at Pentecost?

What sound did the disciples hear in the upper room?

What did the disciples see over each other's heads?

Pentecost is the birthday of the

Who told the people about what was done to Jesus?

In Short

- Conversion is a lifelong process.
- God's grace and hard work are needed for spiritual growth.
- Participation is an important part of our community faith.



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