**Important To Do List**

If you are attending OCIA because:

* You are currently not a Catholic or you are a Catholic who has not received the sacrament of confirmation **you must provide your certificate of baptism** from whatever church you were baptized.
* You will need a **sponsor**. A sponsor must be a fully initiated Catholic, i.e., one who is baptized and confirmed and is a Catholic in good standing. A Catholic in good standing is one who follows the **Precepts of the Church\*** and if married is in a valid marriage.
  + If you choose a sponsor who is not a member of this parish, they will have to provide a letter of suitability to be a sponsor from their Catholic Church.
  + If necessary, we can help you find a sponsor.
* If you need a marriage annulment, this must be completed before the Rite of Election which happens early in Lent. If your annulment is not complete by then, you can still complete OCIA and then enter the Church later when the annulment is finalized.
* You will have the option of choosing a confirmation name. You can also use your baptismal name as your confirmation name.

**\*The Five Precepts of the Church**

These represent the **ABSOLUTE MINIMUM** that one must do to be a Catholic in good standing.

1. You shall attend Mass on Sundays and on holy days of obligation.
2. You shall confess your sins in the Sacrament of Reconciliation at least once a year.
3. You must receive Holy Communion at least once a year during the season of Easter.
4. You shall observe the days of fasting and abstinence established by the Church.
5. You shall help to provide for the needs of the Church according to your ability.

This is all discussed in greater detail as we proced.