

**CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE BOWL QUESTIONS**  
**Topic: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**

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1. RCIA stands for \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. Rite of Catholic Initiation of Adults
  - b. Reason for Christian Initiation of Adults
  - c. Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
  - d. Ritual of Catholic Instruction of Adults

**Answer: C)** “This edition of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults...” *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Study Edition, viii, Foreword*

2. The RCIA is \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. A catechetical instruction program for all adults
  - b. A process for adults of formation, catechesis, and initiation into the life of the Church within the community of the faithful
  - c. A program for lapsed Catholics
  - d. A program only for those Catholics who have never received the Sacrament of Confirmation

**Answer: B)** “The initiation of catechumens is a gradual process that takes place within the community of the faithful...” #4 The rite of initiation is suited to a spiritual journey of adults that varies according to the many forms of God’s grace...” #5 *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Study Edition, p. 3, CCC 1248.*

3. The chronological order of the periods in the RCIA process is \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. Precatechumenate, Purification and Enlightenment, Catechumenate, Mystagogy
  - b. Catechumenate, Mystagogy, Inquiry, Purification and Enlightenment
  - c. Precatechumenate, Catechumenate, Purification and Enlightenment, Mystagogy
  - d. Catechumenate, Inquiry, Purification and Enlightenment, Mystagogy

**Answer: C) Outline:** Period of Evangelization and Precatechumate, Period of Catechumenate, Period of Purification and Enlightenment, Period of Mystagogy **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Study Edition, p. 14**

4. When a person first begins inquiring into the Catholic faith, the first period of the process is called the period of evangelization and \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. Questioning
  - b. Searching
  - c. Pre-Catechumenate
  - d. Mystagogia

**Answer: C) OUTLINE FOR CHRISTIAN INTIATION OF ADULTS**, First time period: Period of Evangelization and Pre-catechumenate, "This is a time, of no fixed duration or structure, for inquiry and introduction to Gospel values..." **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Study Edition, p. 14**

5. The first step of the RCIA process (when an inquirer becomes a catechumen) is called \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. The Rite of Acceptance
  - b. The Rite of Purification
  - c. The Rite of Reconciliation
  - d. The Rite of Conversion

**Answer: A) (title) First Step: Acceptance into the Order of Catehcumens**, and #41: "The Rite that is called the Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens ..." **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Study Edition, p 17**

6. All of these are correct, except: Mystagogia is \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. A period that goes deeper into the mysteries of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist
  - b. Usually takes place during the Easter season
  - c. Is optional
  - d. A time of postbaptismal catechesis for the neophytes

**Answer: C)** The neophytes should begin the period of mystagogy by participating...throughout the Easter season...the mystagogy should embrace a deepened understanding of the mysteries of baptism, confirmation, and the eucharist...the immediate mystagogy or postbaptismal catechesis during the Easter season, the program for the neophytes..." **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Study Edition p. 366, #22, 23, 24**

7. In the RCIA process, Catechumens are \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Baptized adult Catholics who have not received the sacraments of Eucharist and/or Confirmation
- b. Christians who have been baptized in a Non-Catholic faith
- c. Baptized adult Catholics who have not been catechized
- d. Adults who have never been baptized

**Answer: D)** “The term “catechumen” should be strictly reserved for the unbaptized who have been admitted into the order of Catechumens;” **p. 363: #2** “Those who have already been baptized in another Church or ecclesial community should not be treated as catechumens or so designated.” **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Study Edition p. 367, #30:**

8. In the RCIA process the Scrutinies are rituals that occur \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. On the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of Lent
- b. On the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of Advent
- c. On the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of Mystagoga
- d. On the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of Ordinary Time

**Answer: A)** “The scrutinies ...are celebrated on the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent...” **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Study Edition p. 79, #146**

9. All are true about the Penitential Rite, except \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. it is a separate Scrutiny for the baptized adults preparing for reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church
- b. it normally occurs on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent
- c. it is a rite for the Elect and candidates
- d. it presumes that the candidates are approaching the maturity of faith

**Answer: C)** “This penitential rite is intended solely for celebrations with baptized adults preparing for confirmation and eucharist or reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church...” **# 463** “This penitential rite may be celebrated on the Second Sunday of Lent...” **#462** “Because the penitential rite... its celebration presumes that the candidates are approaching the maturity of faith and understanding requisite for fuller life in the community.” **#460, Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Study Edition**

10. The Rite of Election \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Is normally presided over by the Bishop in the cathedral of the diocese
- b. Must be celebrated during the Liturgy of the Eucharist
- c. Is a minor exorcism
- d. Involves the signing of the senses

**Answer: A)** "...Admission to election therefore belongs to the bishop... and the presiding celebrant for the Rite of Election is the Bishop himself..."

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Study Edition, p. 63 #121**

11. Another name for the Rite of Election is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Ritual of Purification and Enlightenment
- b. Rite of Acceptance
- c. Enrollment of Names
- d. Rite of Welcome

**Answer: C)** SECOND STEP Election or Enrollment of Names. **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Study Edition, p. 1**

12. When the Elect in the RCIA process are confirmed, the oil used is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. the oil of the catechumens
- b. Sacred Chrism
- c. Oil of anointing
- d. Oil of conversion

**Answer: B)** CELEBRATION OF CONFIRMATION p. 145, Anointing with Chrism, "A minister brings the chrism to the celebrant." **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Study Edition, p. 146, #235**

13. Ordinarily the Creed and the Our Father are presented to the catechumens in the RCIA process during \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. The period of the pre-catechumenate
- b. The period of Mystagogy
- c. Advent
- d. Lent

**Answer: D)** "The first Presentation to the Elect is the Presentation of the Creed, during the week following the first scrutiny.. The second presentation to the elect is the presentation of the Lord's Prayer, during the week following the third scrutiny." **#148** "The scrutinies ...are celebrated on the Third,

Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent..." #146, **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Study Edition, p. 79**

14. During the RCIA process the Scrutinies use the Gospel readings from \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Cycle A
- b. Cycle B
- c. Cycle C
- d. Cycle D

**Answer: A)** "...The Scrutinies which are celebrated on the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent; the readings with their chants are those given for these Sundays in the Lectionary for Mass, Year A. **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Study Edition, p. 79, #146**

15. The most important celebration of the Liturgical Year is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Christmas Midnight Mass
- b. Good Friday Services
- c. Easter Vigil
- d. Pentecost

**Answer: C)** "Therefore Easter is not simply one feast among others, but the "Feast of feasts," the solemnity of solemnities." **CCC #1169**

16. After the first rite in the RCIA process, all of the following are considered candidates except \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. those who are baptized in other Christian faiths
- b. those who are baptized Catholic, but are uncatechized
- c. those who are unbaptized
- d. those who are baptized Catholic, but are not fully initiated

**Answer: C)** "The term "catechumen" should be strictly reserved for the unbaptized who have been admitted into the order of Catechumens. **p. 363, #2**, "Those who have already been baptized in another Church or ecclesial community should not be treated as catechumens or so designated." **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Study Edition, p. 367, #30**

17. A neophyte is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. another name for a catechumen
- b. an inquirer
- c. a sponsor

d. a newly baptized Catholic Christian

**Answer: D)** “After the completion of their Christian initiation in the sacraments of baptism, confirmation, and eucharist, the neophytes should begin the period of mystagogy...” **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Study Edition, p. 366, #22**

18. The length of the catechumenate \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. is one full year
- b. Is at least 6 months long
- c. Is 9 months long
- d. Depends on the grace of God, and the readiness of the individual

**Answer: D)** “The catechumenate is an extended period during which the candidates are given suitable pastoral formation and guidance, aimed at training them in the Christian life.” #75 “The duration of the catechumenate will depend on the grace of God and on various circumstances,...#76, **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Study Edition, p. 37 – 38**

19. During the RCIA process, “Breaking open the Word” \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Is the time when the Catechumens are dismissed after the Liturgy of the Word
- b. Is a more in depth examination of the Liturgy of the Word that helps the elect to become more actively engaged with the word of God
- c. Involves, re-reading the gospel, faith sharing, exegesis, active response
- d. All above are correct

**Answer: D)** “During the period of the catechumenate there should be celebrations for the word of God...These celebrations of the word are: ...participation in the liturgy of the word at the Sunday Mass...celebrations held in connection with catechetical instruction.” #81 p. 40 “If the eucharist is to be celebrated, the catechumens are normally dismissed at this point...after the dismissal the group of catechumens goes out, but does not disperse. With the help of some of the faithful, the catechumens remain together to share their joy and spiritual experiences... **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Study Edition, p. 31, # 67**