



## RCIA Team is Forming

This year the Church of St. Michael is forming a substantial **RCIA** (Right of Christian Initiation of Adults) **Leadership Team**. This team will ultimately work with the Faith Formation Ministry staff person who will be joining the parish at a currently unspecified later date. In the interim, Dn. Dick and Maureen Roy will be forming and training the team along with Pam Bartoe, a long-time, and highly qualified, leader of RCIA in the Archdiocese.

The RCIA team members will be thoroughly trained to take on numerous roles needed for developing a strong RCIA parish foundation. We will be needing: catechists, presenter's, prayer partners, sponsors, technical and video people to document the entire process, hospitality people, Breaking Open the Word leaders, Inquiry leaders, people both young and old who will be a "welcoming presence" for those seeking to become part of our precious Catholic faith.

The goal of the RCIA process is to bring about 'conversion,' conversion of the heart and the acceptance and love of Jesus Christ as our ever-present Savior. We are not simply teaching Catholic rules and factoids. Though education is definitely a part of the process... there is no academic test required to become a Catholic. We, all of us, are challenged to learn about our faith throughout our lifetimes. But it is 'conversion' that brings about the opened heart and inquiring mind to do so.

Another goal of the RCIA process is to introduce these new people to the entire parish. We desire to introduce them to the ministries at St. Michael where they can meet and learn from our active parishioners and see the many opportunities and groups in which they and their families are able to participate in the life of the parish. Our goal is to "incorporate," not merely "educate."

RCIA meetings and events will be primarily an every Sunday occurrence with meetings either between masses or after the 10:30 am mass. We intend to do one or both at times. However, no team member will be obligated to attend every meeting or even every Sunday's events.

If you are interested in inquiring about this wonderful ministry, please contact Deacon Dick Roy at his home number, 952-898-4996.