



## **Rite of Accepting the Non-Baptized**

The process of Christian Initiation is a gradual journey marked by a number of rituals and culminating at the Easter Vigil with Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.

At the 11:00am Mass on November 16, 2008 those seeking baptism (called catechumens) were accepted into the church, given the sign of the cross and claimed for Christ. They are now looking forward to their baptism in water at Easter.

This ritual is also intended to help each of us reflect on our own baptism. Being claimed for Christ and accepting the cross of Christ has more meaning as we progress on our faith journey. We might ask “Do I truly accept the cross of Christ in my life?” “What does the cross of Christ mean?” “What does it mean to be claimed for Christ?” and finally, “How am I living out my baptismal commitment to follow Christ?” Please keep these catechumens in your prayers as they continue their journey of faith. Introduce yourself to them and give them encouragement.

### **George Jay Bunce**

I am 73 years old, happily married to Diane for 44 years have 3 daughters and 6 grandchildren. I attended Sunday school as a child with my friends but was not raised in a religious environment. I have always believed in God. I have been attending 7:30am Mass with my family for years and we raised our children Catholic. I now want to be baptized and receive the sacraments. My wife, Diane is my sponsor.

### **Lauren Dahl**

I am a 3<sup>rd</sup> grader at St. Mark School. My dad was raised Catholic and my mom was raised in the Methodist Church. I want to be baptized in the Catholic Church. I have been reading about the Church and have so many questions. Ivy Hawksford and Katie Hemmen are in my class and help me with questions. My dad is my sponsor.

### **Sonya Flower**

I grew up in the Midwest. My mother and grandparents are Ukrainian Catholic. Although we didn't attend church regularly, my grandmother's faith life influenced me and I always followed many of their beliefs. I also knew God loved me. After searching and evaluating different religions, I believe the Catholic faith is the true church for me. I love to play softball and have a 5 year old Labrador named Indiana. My sponsor is Francesca LaPosta.

### **Diego Fountain**

I am 10 years old and in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade in Room 9 at Meridian Park Elementary. I like sports and have many friends. Two years ago my mom took in 2 foster children and I began to struggle because of the divided

attention at home. My mom says that I am very sensitive and so when I started asking God for help and began asking my mom questions about God, she knew she needed some help. Since my mom was baptized Catholic she decided it was time for the whole family to start going back to church. I am very excited about being baptized at Easter. My sponsor is Russ Gamman

## **Tanya Guzman**

I am 11 years old and attend Parkwood Elementary school. My family is Catholic and because we moved often I was never baptized. I am very excited to be baptized and able to go to communion. My sponsor is my mother, Alicia.

## **Esha Nath**

I am a 5<sup>th</sup> grader at St. Mark School. My dad is Catholic and my mom is Hinhu and I am so excited about being baptized in the Catholic Church. My sponsor is my dad, Nilesh.

## **Barton J. Potter**

I was born and raised in Shoreline and graduated from Shorewood High School. I am an automotive technician for Carter Subaru. My fiancée Ellen Duffy and I have a 2 month old daughter and are planning on a July wedding. I grew up knowing about God but not attending church on a regular basis. I really came to appreciate the Catholic Church through my relationship with Ellen and her family. In my spare time I love to work on my race car, ride dirt bikes, and most of all spend time with my family. My sponsor is Patrick Duffy.