

The Year-Round Catechumenate 2019

The *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* describes a process that exists at the heart of the Church's life and on the same schedule as the Church: every day, all year long. This process calls us to adapt our ministry to the needs of the diverse people with whom we minister and to welcome people when God calls them. Come to the NGCI to hear from parish ministers who have established a year-round catechumenate, to discover the benefits of the process, and to learn to thrive amid the messiness that brings grace to our lives.

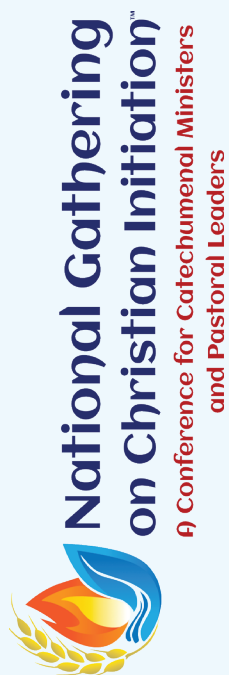
What's New This Year

- Spanish-language discussion groups and handouts
- Pre-gathering sessions for RCIA coordinators
- Q+A panel discussion with clergy
- Bring your team!
Group rate and group housing options
- Experienced Christian initiation ministers serving as table discussion leaders

Goals of the Gathering

- Participants will reflect on whether or not their parishes are "year-round" parishes that are constantly evangelizing, catechizing, celebrating, and initiating.
- Participants will realize and appreciate that Christian initiation is gradual, depends on God's grace, and varies according to the action of the individuals.
- Participants will learn how to sustain a year-round inquiry process and develop a continuous baptismal catechumenate that will inspire and form the whole parish community.
- Participants will assess their own parish situations and draft realistic timelines for growth and change.

Visit www.NGCI.org for more information.



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New Location for 2019:
Loyola University
Chicago Lake Shore
Campus

YOU ARE INVITED
July 2–3, 2019 • Chicago, IL



**National Gathering
on Christian Initiation™**

A Conference for Catechumenal Ministers
and Pastoral Leaders

**The Year-Round Catechumenate
2019**

When parishes engage in a year-round catechumenate, they welcome people when God calls them. The year-round process can seem messy, and sometimes it is. But God calls people in the messiness of their lives, and parishes need to be ready to minister during those times. While that may sound overwhelming and unimaginable, it is not only possible, it is also the best stewardship of the gifts and talents of initiation ministers. The **National Gathering on Christian Initiation™** invites parish initiation ministers and diocesan leaders to come together to reflect on this theme through interactive sessions, table discussions, and prayer.



- Fellowship with initiation ministers from around the country.
- Interactive multimedia presentations, complimentary resources, and expert training.
- On-site bookstore to peruse and purchase helpful resources for your ministry.
- Opportunities for prayerful reflection on the liturgies of the RCIA.

The **National Gathering on Christian Initiation™** will have two tracks. **Parish Leaders and Initiation Ministers** will gain practical skills, discuss common challenges, and share best practices to enrich their work. An online learning session will be available for new ministers and those interested in exploring the basics of the *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*. **Regional and Diocesan Trainers** will explore and discuss practical strategies for implementing effective training and formation in their local communities.

The 2019 gathering will take place at the Loyola University Chicago Lake Shore Campus, located in the Rogers Park neighborhood, seven miles north of downtown and within steps of public transportation.

Registration Costs

Early Bird Registration by March 6, 2019 **\$200**

Individual Registration by May 11, 2019 **\$250**

Group Rate: Parishes or dioceses that register 4+ people **\$25 off per person**
Includes lunch for July 2nd & 3rd.

July 1st Opening Reception **\$30**

Optional. Includes an open bar. Limited registration.

schedule

July 1, 2019	
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM	Optional RCIA Coordinators Forum (Limited Registration) Strategies to Engage Parish Leaders in the RCIA Process
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Opening Reception Optional. Tickets are \$30. Includes an open bar.
July 2, 2019	
8:00 AM – 8:50 AM	Registration
9:00 AM – 9:15 AM	Welcome and Introductions
9:15 AM – 9:30 AM	Opening Prayer
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM	General Session A Year-Round Parish: Living the Baptismal Catechumenate
11:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Coffee Break
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	General Session A Messy Process: People Coming, Going, and Celebrating
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	Lunch Included in registration
2:00 PM – 3:15 PM	Breakout Session Parish Leaders and Initiation Ministers Sustaining a Year-Round Inquiry Regional and Diocesan Trainers Conducting a Diocesan Assessment of the RCIA in Parishes
3:30 PM – 5:00 PM	General Session A Continuous Catechumenate: How Do I Do This All Year?
5:30 PM – 6:00 PM	Ritual Celebration
6:00 PM	End of Day Dinner and evening on your own

July 3, 2019	
8:00 AM – 9:00 AM	Optional Morning Session Q+A Panel with Priests: Engaging Parish Clergy in the RCIA
9:00 AM – 9:25 AM	Morning Prayer
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM	Training Session Planning in the Period of the Catechumenate
11:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Coffee Break
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Breakout Session Parish Leaders and Initiation Ministers Journeying with Baptized and Catechized Adults Regional and Diocesan Trainers Rite of Election: Theology and Practice (Part 1)
12:30 PM – 1:30 PM	Lunch Included in registration
1:30 PM – 2:30 PM	Breakout Session Parish Leaders and Initiation Ministers The Season of Lent and the Period of Purification and Enlightenment Regional and Diocesan Trainers Rite of Election: Theology and Practice (Part 2)
2:45 PM – 4:00 PM	General Session Developing a Plan: From School Year to Year Round
4:00 PM – 4:45 PM	General Session Mystagogy and Beyond: A Time for Postbaptismal Catechesis and Evangelization
4:45 PM – 5:00 PM	Closing and Prayer

Register today to reserve your place at www.NGCI.org



800-933-1800

ngci@ltp.org

The 2019 NGCI Team



Mary Birmingham is the author of many resources for Christian initiation, including *Year-Round Catechumenate* and the *Word and Worship* series. She served as the director of music, liturgy, and Christian initiation at Ascension Catholic Community, Melbourne, Florida, until her recent retirement. She is a former member of the North American Forum on the Catechumenate.



Ximena DeBroeck, PhD formed Christian initiation ministers in English and Spanish while serving as director of the Office for Worship and Sacramental Formation for the Archdiocese of Baltimore. She is an assistant professor of Sacred Scripture at St. Mary's Seminary and University, Baltimore, and a senior fellow at the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology.



Angela Darrow Flynn and the Christian initiation team at Immaculate Conception Church, Durham, North Carolina, have implemented a year-round catechumenate at the parish. She is the director of liturgy and music at the parish. Her studies have focused on the restored order of the sacraments of initiation with the *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* as the normative initiation model.



Msgr. Richard Hilgartner assists with the Christian initiation process at St. Joseph Parish, Cockeysville, Maryland, where he serves as the pastor. He is an adjunct instructor of systematic theology and the director of liturgy at St. Mary's Seminary and University, Baltimore. He is a former executive director of the USCCB Secretariat of Divine Worship.



Michael Ruzicki, author of *Guide for Training Initiation Ministers: An Introduction to the RCIA*, is the training and events manager at Liturgy Training Publications. Previously, he served as a parish pastoral associate and diocesan coordinator of adult and sacramental formation in the Archdiocese of Baltimore. He is a former team member of the North American Forum on the Catechumenate.