

RCIA or the **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults** is the name given to the process by which people who are searching and exploring their Faith in Jesus Christ enter into full communion with the Catholic Church. It includes several stages marked by study, prayer and rites at Mass. It is a journey in faith supported and encouraged by the whole Christian Community.

You can find out more about RCIA in Motherwell Diocese [here](#).

Every community will benefit from being renewed by the introduction of new members and St. Brendan's is no exception. On Saturday, the infant Ruaridh will be baptised here and on Sunday a young woman, Hope (surname withheld for privacy) will begin a journey which she hopes in God's Providence will lead her into full communion with the Roman Catholic Church through the Sacrament of Confirmation and Eucharist one week in advance of her wedding to Fraser. The inspiration and model which we will use with Hope for this life changing journey, is the story of the meeting on Easter Sunday of the two disciples with a stranger as they walk away from Jerusalem in the direction of the (non-existing) village of Emmaus, said to be situated seven miles away from Jerusalem. Muirhouse is Emmaus - where each one of us lives is the Emmaus in our life story.

Anne Therese our sacristan, wants to be the companion who will accompany Hope on this journey and to meet not only with her each Sunday pm between now and Easter 2022, but in her own spiritual life to meet with and experience more fully the presence of Jesus just like the two disciples. They will be joined on most weeks by a parishioner who in conversation with Hope will describe their experience of our faith practice under such headings as Prayer, the Sacraments, Jesus as the Sacred Heart and Mary known as Our Lady, Mass (the Eucharist), Sacred Scripture, the Word of God, the hierarchy in the Church; the saints of the Church; the four last things - Death, Judgement, Hell and Heaven; the Trinity. The priest will provide the theology as teaching, Anne Therese will provide their experience.

We will pray for Hope because she will help to renew our community as she journeys with some of our members towards the Easter Vigil next year, as the night when we will hope to welcome her into full communion with us.

This is the method and the purpose of the Rite of Christian Commission of Adults (RCIA). Any other persons who might wish to join those who like Anne Therese will journey with Hope, should contact Fr. Ness at their earliest convenience.