



## Who Do You Say That I Am?

When someone asks us a question regarding some controversial subject, it is usually easy to say what this person or that group thinks about the topic. It is usually more difficult, at least for some people, to say what they themselves think about the situation. It is particularly difficult if we know that our answer is going to create tension, rejection or even persecution. We can put ourselves in the situation of today's Gospel and ask how we would answer Jesus' question. Who do you say that I am? Jesus was interested in what His disciples had to say about Him. Did they really believe that Jesus was the Son of God? Did they really believe in Jesus' teachings? Were they really ready to put everything aside to follow our Lord, no matter how difficult it might be?

Jesus poses the same question, "Who do you say that I am?" to each and every one of us. How will we answer the question? Do we truly believe with our whole being that Jesus is our Lord? Do we take the Gospel seriously? Are we ready to put aside everything and carry out our Lord's will? Let us do some serious self-examination this coming week and make sure that we can answer that most important question, "Who do you say that I am?"

*Father David*

## RCIA Begins in September

The RCIA program, the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults, is a program designed for:

- Adults who have never been baptized
- Adults who were baptized in another Christian Church and now wish to inquire about full membership in the Catholic Church
- Adults who were baptized Catholic yet never had the chance to receive Eucharist or be Confirmed

Our RCIA Team and those who were welcomed into the Church at the Easter Vigil are now enjoying the summer season. The journey we shared was an important one, and every one of us has deepened our relationship with God because of this experience.

And now comes the time to share the exploration of the great mystery that is our faith with others. This year's group will move on to involvement in the many ministries of our community, always with a smile and a prayer for other seekers. So we again extend the invitation...Are you, a friend or a family member searching for a deeper spirituality? Has someone shared with you their dream about being baptized? Were you baptized Catholic, but did not receive the remaining Sacraments of Initiation? Were you baptized into another faith, but wish to enjoy full communion in the Catholic Church?

*"Come inside, you cannot know what the Church is from the outside.  
Come into the presence of the Lord in Word, in Sacrament, and in the Church."*

Have you ever wondered what it is like to be a Catholic? Have you ever wondered about the process of becoming a Catholic? Do you have a relative, friend or neighbor who might be interested in becoming Catholic? Invite them to share what we experience when we receive the sacraments. Tell them about the RCIA program or give them a copy of this bulletin.

**The informational meeting will be Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. in the Ministry Center.**  
For further information, email Jenn Andrews at [jenn@stjamesge.org](mailto:jenn@stjamesge.org)