

## To all those who participated in the National Parish Survey for the RCIA

The National Network for the RCIA, which prepared this survey on behalf of the New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference wishes to thank the people from the 54 parishes who put so much thought, time and effort into their responses.

You have provided our Bishops, the national network and your diocesan representative with increased optimism and an excellent overview of what is happening across the country. RCIA is definitely 'alive and active'! Your responses enable us to note the strengths, the challenges and the gaps that will guide future planning.

Here are some immediate highlights we'd like to share:

- Inviting potential catechumens.... we appreciate the variety of approaches used, but emphasise the need and success of those using the *personal* approach, especially at key moments, such as evenings for the engaged, preparation for sacraments, interviews for school enrolment
- The excellent use of the Rite and the Word (Sunday Readings) as the basis of process for catechumenate – and the strong use of lectionary-based catechesis.
- Good examples of collaboration between lay and clergy in leadership and process.
- A number of people who go through the RCIA process return to participate in a variety of roles, including leadership. The process is growing itself.

In 2018, Diocesan networks are going to:

- focus attention on 'content of formation' for RCIA Team members and
- look to ways of strengthening relationships between parishes and parish-schools

Re direction for future planning we highlight:

- the isolation of rural parishes
- multicultural languages, perspectives and needs
- the use of the National RCIA Calendar and National RCIA Policy

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Thank you for your participation