

We all face difficulties in life. A relationship with Jesus provides us with a safe place to acknowledge our vulnerability. Jesus says:

***"Come to Me, all you who labour
and are burdened and
I will give you rest."*** Mtt 11:28

At different stages in life we have important decisions to make. If unsure of the way to go we turn for help to Jesus, who says:

***"I am the way, the truth and the life,
no-one can come to the Father,
except through me."*** Jn 14:6



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Prayer

*God of all ages,
you send out your Spirit
to touch the hearts of young people
so that they may believe in you,
and in Jesus who sent you.*

*Lord look kindly on the young people
who seek to know you.
As they listen for your voice,
open their hearts to your Spirit
and so bring to fulfilment
the good work you have begun in them.*

*May we who accompany them
offer a warm welcome,
so they feel at home amongst your people.
Help us to be signs of your love,
reverencing what is holy in them,
and always showing patience.*

*Deepen our faith in you and the Gospel message,
and to demonstrate this by our lives.
When others seem unsure or afraid,
may we offer words of encouragement.
In times of struggle help us
to be a source of strength.*

*In accepting your call to accompany others
on their faith journey,
may your love support me,
the life of Jesus inspire me,
and your Spirit guide and sustain me.*

*God of all people, times and places,
hear and grant my prayer.
Amen.*

Adapted from prayer by Ron Lewinski

What does being a Catholic Christian really mean?

Interested in finding out?

‘Come and See...’



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What does the Christian life offer?

Being a Catholic Christian involves more than belief in God. It is a commitment to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ, and help make known the message of the Gospel.

By choosing to **'Come and See...'** you will begin to discover not just who God is, but who you are too. It is a journey of the heart, the focus being more relational than knowledge focused.

All are invited, to embark on this journey with God

At various stages in life people respond to God's call and so are drawn to explore the Christian faith.

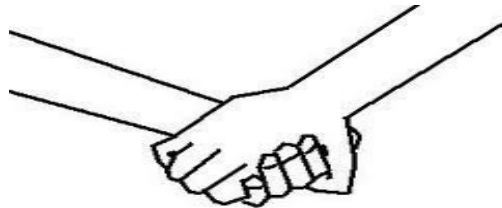
The Catholic Church has a process for welcoming and supporting those open to embark on the journey. The process is known as The Rite of Christian Initiation. It is a journey that takes place with peers who are also seeking to know God, and others who have already made a commitment to do so.

'Come and See...' is the first stage of the journey. It is an invitation to engage in conversations, experiences, and activities that open individuals to an appreciation of:

- **What we believe**
- **How we live**
- **How we pray and worship**
- **How we serve**

As they grow closer to Christ many people experience a sense of great joy and inner peace as they discover God's infinite love for them.

An invitation is being offered to young people interested in exploring whether the Catholic Church might be the place where they could find a spiritual home. The inquirers will be accompanied by a group of young people and adults throughout the journey, which begins on Tuesday 11th September, 6.30pm-8pm, Sacred Heart Parish Centre, Thornlie; Cnr Ovens Rd & Discovery drive.



What is required?

- An open heart and mind
- Willingness to participate in the six **Come and See** sessions
- Commitment to attend the Tuesday evening welcome and wind up sessions, plus the four Sunday afternoon sessions
- Completion of a Parental Consent form prior to the first session
- The sessions will not all be in the same venue, car pooling arrangements can be worked out
- At the wind up choose whether or not to continue the journey.



Pope Francis continually urges people to respond to Jesus' invitation to 'Come and See...' what faith can offer.

*"Accept the risen Jesus into your life. Even if you have been far away, take a small step towards him. He awaits you with open arms."
Pope Francis Easter 2013*

Yes, I'm interested. What now?

Fantastic! We look forward to meeting you. In the meantime:

- Inform
 - Collect the consent form
 - Check availability for the sessions
 - Ask a parent/guardian to complete the consent form. *(Add notes on the sheet indicating any issues regarding attendance or transport. People might be able to car pool.)*
 - Return the form by Friday 7 Sept
- One of the Come and See Team will contact you ahead of the 1st session.

*If you have particular questions or concerns, feel free to contact Anne Kennedy via christian.initiation@perthcatholic.org.au
Or via Mobile: 0426 561 328*