



Vanessa's Testimony

My entire life, I have been blessed with family and friends who center their lives around our faith. The love of Jesus and the steadfast knowledge that he has the most wonderful plan for my life has always been a source of hope and my motivation to try to live a life of service.

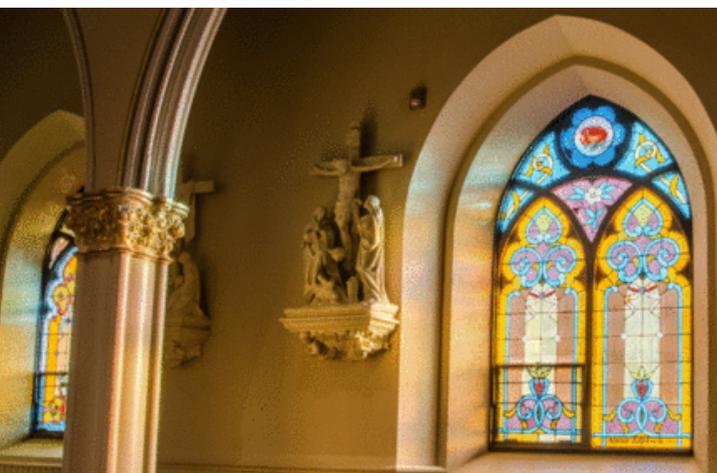
When I met my husband, Kyle in 2019 it became so clear to me that God's plan for my life was unfolding in ways I couldn't have imagined. My husband's faith and commitment to the Church and to Jesus reinforced everything I believed in, and I quickly found a new respect and admiration for the Catholic Church. As Kyle and I continued our relationship and attended Church together more regularly, my intrigue and attraction to the Catholic Faith grew. We were engaged in September of 2020 and shortly thereafter, I decided the most important thing I could do to ensure we walked this life united was to officially become Catholic.

RCIA was a fabulous experience for me. We worked through our weekly teachings during the height of the pandemic. For so many it was a hopeless time, but **studying the sacraments each week, with others who were focused in the same direction brought amazing peace and hope.**

I was also blessed to have my sweet niece Caroline, preparing for her First Communion at St. Paul's at the same time. Caroline is a precious girl and her heart is so full of the love of Jesus. During the Lenten Season, Caroline and I attended Adoration together several times, she accompanied me to Stations of the Cross twice, attended Good Friday Mass with us, and even came and supported me at the Easter Vigil. Quite a commitment for an 8-year-old! We both made our first reconciliation the same week and she encouraged me to not be nervous and assured me that I would feel so much better after. She was right! Having this sweet connection with "my girl" has truly been a blessing from God and I am forever grateful for it.

In September of 2021 Kyle and I were married at St. Paul's. Father Colin guided us through the marriage prep program. During those precious meetings and as Kyle and I prepared to commit to spend the rest of our lives together, with our God at the center of our marriage, I knew that for us, my becoming Catholic made it work. We were now united in all areas of our lives. As we hope to start our own family soon, I find such comfort and joy in knowing that we are aligned, fully.

Vanessa Crocetto



Are you considering becoming Catholic?

Do Any of these statements apply to you?

- I have never been baptized.
- I am baptized but have had little or no faith formation.
- I am baptized and have had faith formation in another religious tradition.
- I am baptized Catholic but have not received the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation.