

## **Why I Am Catholic**

New Catholics.

Every year I am inspired and renewed by the men and women who go through our Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) and decided at Easter to become Catholic. On Easter Sunday I was overjoyed to see three of our newest Catholics who—having become Catholic on Saturday night—come back the next day to make their Second Communion. They were as excited as any second grader, truly showing their childlike faith.

This year more than 1,500 people came into the Catholic Church in the Archdiocese of Atlanta. "According to the latest annual figures from the Official Catholic Directory, almost 64,500 adults were baptized in the church in the United States last year, and almost 93,000 came into full communion." (USCCB) New Catholics invite us and challenge us to look at our faith in deeper ways and to appreciate what we have.