

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Period of Evangelization and Precatechumenate

Starting the Journey: The period of evangelization and pre-catechumenate is a time of inquiry when an individual begins to respond to some stirrings within to seek out life with Christ in the community of Catholic Christians. This is a period of searching, asking questions, and the initial stirrings of faith. During this period, inquirers form relationships with one another and with their catechists. Each inquirer will examine the Church and the ways in which its members worship together and live the Christian Faith. No commitments or promises are made. The period can last as long as you desire—a few months up to a few years.

Sunday, August 27, 2017 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 1 Welcome to the RCIA!
Sunday, September 3, 2017 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 2 What is Faith
Sunday, September 10, 2017 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 3 The Holy Trinity
Sunday, September 17, 2017 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 4 Who is Jesus Christ?
Sunday, September 24, 2017 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 5 The Bible
Sunday, October 1, 2017 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 6 Divine Revelation
Sunday, October 8, 2017 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 7 Your Prayer Life
Sunday, October 15, 2017 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 8 Catholic Prayers and Practices
Sunday, October 22, 2017 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 9 The Mass and the Church Year
Sunday, October 29, 2017 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 10 Who Shepherds the Church?
Sunday, November 5, 2017 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 11 The Church as Community
Sunday, November 12, 2017 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 12 Mary and the Saints
Sunday, November 19, 2017 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 13 Eschatology: the “Last Things”
Sunday, November 26, 2017 No Session / Thanksgiving Weekend	No Session: Thanksgiving Weekend
Sunday, December 3, 2017 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 14 The RCIA Process and Rites
December 3 through 8, 2017	Individual Interviews

Period of Catechumenate

The word “Catechumenate” comes from the ancient Greek, the language of the early Church. Catechumen means “a person receiving instruction.” During this period, you will study and discuss most of the Church’s main beliefs. You will also have a godparent or sponsor join you on your journey. This person can be a Catholic family member, a wise and good friend, or someone from the parish suggested by the team. Your sponsor should attend the RCIA sessions with you regularly and continue conversations with you outside of RCIA. They also serve as your representative and advocate to the Church.

Sunday, December 10, 2016 9:00 AM Mass – St. Mary’s Basilica	Rite of Acceptance and Welcome
Sunday, December 10, 2017 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Catechumenate Session 1 The People of God
Sunday, December 17, 2017 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Catechumenate Session 2 Baptism
Sunday, December 24, 2017 No Session / Christmas Eve	No Session Christmas Eve
Sunday, December 31, 2017 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Catechumenate Session 3 Confirmation
Sunday, January 7, 2018 9:00 AM Mass / St. Mary’s Basilica	Rite of Sending for Candidates
Sunday, January 7, 2018 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Catechumenate Session 4 Eucharist
Sunday, January 7, 2018 1:00 PM / Ss. Simon and Jude Cathedral	Rite of Reception for Candidates: Call to Continuing Conversion
Sunday, January 14, 2017 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Catechumenate Session 5 Confession and Anointing of the Sick
Sunday, January 21, 2018 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Catechumenate Session 6 Matrimony and Holy Orders
Sunday, January 28, 2018 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Catechumenate Session 7 Christian Moral Living
Sunday, February 4, 2018 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Catechumenate Session 8 Social Justice
Sunday, February 11, 2018 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Catechumenate Session 9 Election: Saying “Yes” to Jesus
Wednesday, February 14, 2018 7 AM, 12 PM, 3 PM, 5:30 PM / St. Mary’s	Ash Wednesday Services
February 11 to 16, 2018	Individual Interviews

Period of Purification and Enlightenment

During the period of purification and enlightenment, the focus becomes a stronger emphasis on the spiritual and mystical life in preparation for the sacraments. The guidelines for this period (which normally coincides with Lent) as well as the rites associated with them, enable catechists to shift the focus of teaching to reflection and meditation.

Saturday, February 17, 2018 9 AM to 4 PM / St. Mary's Basilica	RCIA Retreat Day For Catechumen, Candidates and Sponsors
Sunday, February 18, 2018 9:00 AM Mass / St. Mary's Basilica	Rite of Sending for Catechumenate
Sunday, February 18, 2018 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Purification & Enlightenment Session 1 Living Lent
Sunday, February 18, 2018 1:00 PM / Ss. Simon and Jude Cathedral	Rite of Election for Catechumenate: Enrollment of Names for Catechumenate
Sunday, February 25, 2018 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Purification & Enlightenment Session 2 Scrutinies: Looking Within
Sunday, March 4, 2018 9:00 AM Mass / St. Mary's Basilica	Rite: First Scrutiny Samaritan Woman at the Well
Sunday, March 4, 2018 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Purification & Enlightenment Session 3 The Creed
Sunday, March 11, 2018 9:00 AM Mass / St. Mary's Basilica	Rite: Second Scrutiny Man Born Blind
Sunday, March 11, 2018 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Purification & Enlightenment Session 4 The Way of the Cross
Sunday, March 18, 2018 9:00 AM Mass / St. Mary's Basilica	Rite: Third Scrutiny Raising of Lazarus
Sunday, March 18, 2018 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Purification & Enlightenment Session 5 The Lord's Prayer
Tuesday, March 20, 2018 7:00 PM Confessions / St. Mary's Basilica	Candidates celebrate the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation
Sunday, March 25, 2018 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Purification & Enlightenment Session 6 The Meaning of Holy Week
Thursday, March 29, 2018 7:00 PM Mass / St. Mary's Basilica	Holy Thursday: Mass of the Lord's Supper
Friday, March 30, 2018 3:00 PM / Good Friday Service	Good Friday Service: 12:00 PM Stations / 3:00 PM Service

Sacraments of Initiation

Saturday, March 31, 2018 10:00 AM to 12 Noon / St. Mary's Basilica	Sacraments of Initiation Rehearsal and Rite of Ephphetha
Saturday, March 31, 2018 7:00 PM Easter Vigil / St. Mary's Basilica	Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist
Sunday, April 1, 2018 7 AM, 9 AM or 11 AM Mass / St. Mary's	Easter Sunday (Easter Egg Hunt after the 11 AM Mass)

Period of Mystagogy

Sacramental initiation does not end with the celebration of the sacraments of initiation. *The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* provides for the final period, the period of postbaptismal catechesis or mystagogy (that is, reflection on the mysteries). During this time the neophyte is mentored into living as a Christian disciple in the World. This formal period of reflection and prayer continues until Pentecost Sunday.

Sunday, April 8, 2018 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Mystagogy Session 1 Conversion: A Lifelong Process
Friday, April 15, 2018 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Mystagogy Session 2 The Role of the Laity
Sunday, April 22 2018 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Mystagogy Session 3 Your Spiritual Gifts
Sunday, April 29 2018 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Mystagogy Session 4 Discernment
Sunday, May 6 2018 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Mystagogy Session 5 Our Call to Holiness & Living the Virtues
Sunday, May 13, 2018 No Session / Mother's Day	No Session: Mother's Day (Family Life Handout)
Sunday, May 20, 2018 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Mystagogy Session 6 Evangelization
May 20 to 25, 2018	Individual Interviews

Information on Individual Interviews

Individual Interviews – Period of Inquiry (Any time before the Period of Inquiry)
Before starting, the period of evangelization and precatechumenate inquirers will meet with the Director of Faith Development and/or the “Ambassador of Welcome” to review your information form, listen to your faith story, discover what questions you may have, and review the RCIA process with you before you enter the period of inquiry.

Individual Interviews – Period of Catechumenate (December 3–8, 2017)
After an appropriate period of inquiry during the period of evangelization and precatechumenate, the inquirer may now publicly declares their intention to continue their journey of faith toward full initiation in the Catholic Church. The decision to enter the period of catechumenate is a mutual decision between the inquirer and the RCIA team.

Individual Interviews – Period of Purification and Enlightenment (February 11-16, 2018)
Your decision to continue forward and celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) at the Easter Vigil (March 31, 2018) is a mutual decision between the catechumen/candidate and the RCIA team. The period of catechumenate can last a couple of months to several years depending on the needs and readiness of each catechumen/candidate.

Individual Interviews – Period of Mystagogy (May 20-25, 2018)
We'll explore and discern how God is calling you to serve the local Church and community.