

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 years.

Sunday, August 25, 2019 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 1 Welcome to the RCIA!
Sunday, September 1, 2019 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 2 What is Faith
Sunday, September 8, 2019 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 3 The Holy Trinity
Sunday, September 15, 2019 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 4 Who is Jesus Christ?
Sunday, September 22, 2019 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 5 The Bible
Sunday, September 29, 2019 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 6 Divine Revelation
Sunday, October 6, 2019 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 7 Your Prayer Life
Sunday, October 13, 2019 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 8 Catholic Prayers and Practices
Sunday, October 20, 2019 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 9 The Mass and the Church Year
Sunday, October 27, 2019 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 10 Who Shepherds the Church?
Sunday, November 3, 2019 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 11 The Church as Community: Dia de los Muertos Festival
Sunday, November 10, 2019 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 12 Mary and the Saints
Sunday, November 17, 2019 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 13 Eschatology: the “Last Things”
Sunday, November 24, 2019 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Inquiry Session 14 The RCIA Process and Rites
November 24 through 30, 2019	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 1, 2019 9:00 AM Mass – St. Mary’s Basilica	Rite of Acceptance and Welcome
Sunday, December 1, 2019 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Catechumenate Session 1 The People of God
Sunday, December 8, 2019 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Catechumenate Session 2 The Early Church
Sunday, December 15, 2019 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Catechumenate Session 2 The Sacraments: An Introduction
Sunday, December 22, 2019 No Session / Christmas Week	No Session Christmas Week
Sunday, December 29, 2019 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Catechumenate Session 3 The Sacrament of Matrimony
Sunday, January 5, 2020 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Catechumenate Session 4 The Sacrament of Holy Orders
Sunday, January 12, 2020 9:00 AM Mass / St. Mary’s Basilica	Rite of Sending for Candidates
Sunday, January 12, 2020 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Catechumenate Session 5 The Sacrament of Baptism The Sacrament of Confirmation
Sunday, January 12, 2020 3:30 PM / Ss. Simon and Jude Cathedral	Rite of Reception for Candidates: Call to Continuing Conversion
Sunday, January 20, 2019 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Catechumenate Session 6 The Sacrament of the Eucharist
Sunday, January 27, 2019 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Catechumenate Session 7 The Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick
Sunday, February 2, 2020 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Catechumenate Session 8 Christian Moral Living
Sunday, February 9, 2020 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Catechumenate Session 9 Social Justice
Saturday, February 22, 2020 8 AM to 3:30 PM / The Casa	RCIA Day of Recollection (Retreat)
Sunday, February 23, 2020 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Catechumenate Session 10 Election: Saying “Yes” to Jesus
Wednesday, February 26, 2020 7 AM, 12 PM, 3 PM, 6:30 PM / St. Mary’s	Ash Wednesday Services
February 23 to 29, 2020	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.

Sunday, March 1, 2020 9:00 AM Mass / St. Mary's Basilica	Rite of Sending for Catechumenate
Sunday, March 1, 2020 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Purification & Enlightenment Session 1 Living Lent
Sunday, March 1, 2020 3:30 PM / Ss. Simon and Jude Cathedral	Rite of Election for Catechumenate: Enrollment of Names for Catechumenate
Sunday, March 8, 2020 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Purification & Enlightenment Session 2 The Creed
Sunday, March 15, 2020 9:00 AM Mass / St. Mary's Basilica	Rite: First Scrutiny Samaritan Woman at the Well
Sunday, March 15, 2020 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Purification & Enlightenment Session 3 The Way of the Cross
Sunday, March 22, 2020 9:00 AM Mass / St. Mary's Basilica	Rite: Second Scrutiny Man Born Blind
Sunday, March 22, 2020 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Purification & Enlightenment Session 4 The Lord's Prayer
Sunday, March 29, 2020 9:00 AM Mass / St. Mary's Basilica	Rite: Third Scrutiny Raising of Lazarus
Sunday, March 29, 2020 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Purification & Enlightenment Session 5 The Meaning of Holy Week
Saturday, April 4, 2020 3:00 PM Confessions / St. Mary's Basilica	Candidates celebrate the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation
Sunday, April 5, 2020 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	Purification & Enlightenment Session 6 Review of the Sacraments of Initiation
Thursday, April 9, 2020 7:00 PM Mass / St. Mary's Basilica	Holy Thursday Service: Mass of the Lord's Supper
Friday, April 10, 2020 12:00 PM Stations / 3:00 PM Service / 7 PM Taize / St. Mary's Basilica	Good Friday Services

Sacraments of Initiation

Saturday, April 11, 2020 10:00 AM to 12 Noon / St. Mary's Basilica	Sacraments of Initiation Rehearsal and Rite of Ephphetha
Saturday, April 11, 2020 7:00 PM Easter Vigil / St. Mary's Basilica	Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist
Sunday, April 12, 2020 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 19, 2020 No Session	No Session
Friday, April 26, 2020 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Mystagogy Session 1 Conversion: A Lifelong Process
Sunday, May 3, 2020 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Mystagogy Session 2 The Role of the Laity
Sunday, May 10, 2020 No Session	No Sessions Mother's Day
Sunday, May 17, 2020 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Mystagogy Session 5 Your Spiritual Gifts
Sunday, May 24, 2020 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Mystagogy Session 6 Discernment
Sunday, May 31, 2020 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Mystagogy Session 7 Evangelization
May 31 to June 7, 2020	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 pre-catechumenate 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 (November 24-30, 2019)
After an appropriate period of inquiry during the period of evangelization and pre-catechumenate, 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 23-29, 2020)
Your decision to continue forward and celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) at the Easter Vigil (April 11, 2020) 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 31-June 7, 2020)
We’ll explore and discern how God is calling you to serve the local Church and community.