

## 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.

<b>Sunday, August 23, 2020</b> 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	<b>Inquiry Session 1</b> Welcome to the RCIA!
<b>Sunday, August 30, 2020</b> 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	<b>Inquiry Session 2</b> What is Faith
<b>Sunday, September 6, 2020</b> 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	<b>Inquiry Session 3</b> The Holy Trinity
<b>Sunday, September 13, 2020</b> 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	<b>Inquiry Session 4</b> Who is Jesus Christ?
<b>Sunday, September 20, 2020</b> 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	<b>Inquiry Session 5</b> The Bible
<b>Sunday, September 27, 2020</b> 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	<b>Inquiry Session 6</b> Divine Revelation
<b>Sunday, October 4, 2020</b> 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	<b>Inquiry Session 7</b> Your Prayer Life
<b>Sunday, October 11, 2020</b> 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	<b>Inquiry Session 8</b> Catholic Prayers and Practices
<b>Sunday, October 18, 2020</b> 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	<b>Inquiry Session 9</b> The Mass and the Church Year
<b>Sunday, October 25, 2020</b> 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	<b>Inquiry Session 10</b> Who Shepherds the Church?
<b>Sunday, November 1, 2020</b> 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	<b>Inquiry Session 11</b> The Church as Community
<b>Sunday, November 8, 2020</b> 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	<b>Inquiry Session 12</b> Mary and the Saints
<b>Sunday, November 15, 2020</b> 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	<b>Inquiry Session 13</b> Eschatology: the “Last Things”
<b>November 15 through 20, 2020</b>	<b>Individual Interviews</b>
<b>Sunday, November 22, 2020</b> 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	<b>Inquiry Session 14</b> The RCIA Process and Rites
<b>Sunday, November 29, 2020</b> No Session / Thanksgiving Weekend	<b>No Session:</b> Thanksgiving Weekend

## 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.

<b>Sunday, December 6, 2020</b> 9:00 AM Mass – St. Mary’s Basilica	<b>Rite of Acceptance and Welcome</b>
<b>Sunday, December 6, 2020</b> 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	<b>Catechumenate Session 1</b> The People of God and The Early Church
<b>Sunday, December 13, 2020</b> 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	<b>Catechumenate Session 2</b> Baptism
<b>Sunday, December 20, 2020</b> 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	<b>Catechumenate Session 3</b> Confirmation
<b>Sunday, December 27, 2020</b> No Session / Christmas Weekend	<b>No Session</b> Christmas Eve
<b>Sunday, January 3, 2020</b> 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	<b>Catechumenate Session 4</b> Eucharist
<b>Sunday, January 10, 2021</b> 9:00 AM Mass / St. Mary’s Basilica	<b>Rite of Sending for Candidates</b>
<b>Sunday, January 10, 2021</b> 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	<b>Catechumenate Session 5</b> Confession
<b>Sunday, January 10, 2021</b> 3:30 PM / Ss. Simon and Jude Cathedral	<b>Rite of Reception for Candidates:</b> Call to Continuing Conversion
<b>Sunday, January 17, 2021</b> 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	<b>Catechumenate Session 6</b> Anointing of the Sick
<b>Sunday, January 24, 2021</b> 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	<b>Catechumenate Session 7</b> Matrimony and Holy Orders
<b>Sunday, January 31, 2021</b> 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	<b>Catechumenate Session 8</b> Christian Moral Living
<b>Sunday, February 7, 2021</b> 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	<b>Catechumenate Session 9</b> Social Justice
<b>Sunday, February 14, 2021</b> 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	<b>Catechumenate Session 10</b> Election: Saying “Yes” to Jesus
<b>Wednesday, February 17, 2021</b> 7 AM, 12 PM, 3 PM, 5:30 PM / St. Mary’s	<b>Ash Wednesday Services</b>
<b>February 14 to 19, 2021</b>	<b>Individual Interviews</b>

## 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.

<b>Saturday, February 20, 2021</b> 9 AM to 4 PM / St. Mary's Basilica	<b>RCIA Retreat Day</b> For Catechumen, Candidates and Sponsors
<b>Sunday, February 21, 2021</b> 9:00 AM Mass / St. Mary's Basilica	<b>Rite of Sending for Catechumenate</b>
<b>Sunday, February 21, 2021</b> 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	<b>Purification &amp; Enlightenment Session 1</b> Living Lent
<b>Sunday, February 21, 2021</b> 3:30 PM / Ss. Simon and Jude Cathedral	<b>Rite of Election for Catechumenate:</b> Enrollment of Names for Catechumenate
<b>Sunday, February 28, 2021</b> 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	<b>Purification &amp; Enlightenment Session 2</b> Scrutinies: Looking Within
<b>Sunday, March 7, 2021</b> 9:00 AM Mass / St. Mary's Basilica	<b>Rite: First Scrutiny</b> Samaritan Woman at the Well
<b>Sunday, March 7, 2021</b> 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	<b>Purification &amp; Enlightenment Session 3</b> The Creed
<b>Sunday, March 14, 2021</b> 9:00 AM Mass / St. Mary's Basilica	<b>Rite: Second Scrutiny</b> Man Born Blind
<b>Sunday, March 14, 2021</b> 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	<b>Purification &amp; Enlightenment Session 4</b> The Way of the Cross
<b>Sunday, March 21, 2021</b> 9:00 AM Mass / St. Mary's Basilica	<b>Rite: Third Scrutiny</b> Raising of Lazarus
<b>Sunday, March 21, 2021</b> 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	<b>Purification &amp; Enlightenment Session 5</b> The Lord's Prayer
<b>Sunday, March 28, 2021</b> 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM	<b>Purification &amp; Enlightenment Session 6</b> The Meaning of Holy Week
<b>Thursday, April 1, 2021</b> 7:00 PM Mass / St. Mary's Basilica	<b>Holy Thursday:</b> Mass of the Lord's Supper
<b>Friday, April 2, 2021</b> 3:00 PM / Good Friday Service	<b>Good Friday Service:</b> 12:00 PM Stations / 3:00 PM Service

## Sacraments of Initiation

<b>Saturday, April 3, 2021</b> 10:00 AM to 12 Noon / St. Mary's Basilica	<b>Sacraments of Initiation</b> <b>Rehearsal and Rite of Ephphetha</b>
<b>Saturday, April 3, 2021</b> 7:00 PM Easter Vigil / St. Mary's Basilica	<b>Sacraments of Initiation:</b> Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist
<b>Sunday, April 4, 2021</b> 7 AM, 9 AM or 11 AM Mass / St. Mary's	<b>Easter Sunday</b> (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.

<b>Sunday, April 11, 2021</b> 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	<b>Mystagogy Session 1</b> Conversion: A Lifelong Process
<b>Sunday, April 18, 2021</b> 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	<b>Mystagogy Session 2</b> The Role of the Laity
<b>Sunday, April 25, 2021</b> 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	<b>Mystagogy Session 3</b> Your Spiritual Gifts
<b>Sunday, May 2, 2021</b> 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	<b>Mystagogy Session 4</b> Discernment
<b>Sunday, May 9, 2021</b> No Session / Mother's Day	<b>No Session:</b> Mother's Day (Family Life Handout)
<b>Sunday, May 16, 2021</b> 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	<b>Mystagogy Session 5</b> Our Call to Holiness & Living the Virtues
<b>Sunday, May 23, 2021</b> 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM	<b>Mystagogy Session 6</b> Evangelization
<b>May 23 to 28, 2021</b>	<b>Individual Interviews</b>

## 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 15–20, 2020)  
After an appropriate period of inquiry during the period of evangelization and pre-catechumenate, the inquirer may now publicly declare 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 14-19, 2021)  
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 23-28, 2021)  
We'll explore and discern how God is calling you to serve the local Church and community.