

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.

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| Sunday, August 28, 2022 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Inquiry Session 1 Welcome to the RCIA! |
| Sunday, September 4, 2022 NO Session | NO Session – Labor Day Weekend |
| Sunday, September 11, 2022 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Inquiry Session 2 What is Faith? |
| Sunday, September 18, 2022 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Inquiry Session 3 The Holy Trinity |
| Sunday, September 25, 2022 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Inquiry Session 4 Who is Jesus Christ? |
| Sunday, October 2, 2022 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Inquiry Session 5 The Bible - Divine Revelation |
| Sunday, October 9, 2022 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Inquiry Session 6 Your Prayer Life - Catholic Prayers and Practices |
| Sunday, October 16, 2022 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Inquiry Session 7 The Mass - The Sacrament of the Eucharist |
| Sunday, October 23, 2022 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Inquiry Session 8 The Church Year - Places in a Catholic Church |
| Sunday, October 30, 2022 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Inquiry Session 9 The Church as Community - Who Shepherds the Church? |
| Sunday, November 6, 2022 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Inquiry Session 10 Mary and the Saints |
| Sunday, November 13, 2022 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Inquiry Session 11 Eschatology: the “Last Things” |
| Sunday, November 20, 2022 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Inquiry Session 12 The RCIA Process and Rites |
| November 20 through 26, 2022 | Individual Interviews |
| Sunday, November 27, 2022 NO Session | NO Session – 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.

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| Sunday, December 4, 2022 9:00 AM Mass – St. Mary’s Basilica | Rite of Acceptance and Welcome |
| Sunday, December 4, 2022 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Catechumenate Session 1 The People of God |
| Sunday, December 11, 2022 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM | Catechumenate Session 2 The Early Church – Church History |
| Sunday, December 18, 2022 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM | Catechumenate Session 3 The Sacraments: An Introduction |
| Sunday, December 25, 2022 NO Session | NO Session – Christmas Day |
| Sunday, January 1, 2023 NO Session | NO Session – New Year’s Day |
| Sunday, January 8, 2023 9:00 AM Mass / St. Mary’s Basilica | Rite of Sending for Candidates |
| Sunday, January 8, 2023 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM | Catechumenate Session 4 The Sacrament of Baptism - The Sacrament of Confirmation |
| Sunday, January 8, 2023 3:30 PM / Ss. Simon and Jude Cathedral | Rite of Reception for Candidates: Call to Continuing Conversion |
| Sunday, January 15, 2023 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM | Catechumenate Session 5 The Sacrament of Eucharist |
| Sunday, January 22, 2023 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM | Catechumenate Session 6 Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation - Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick |
| Sunday, January 29, 2023 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM | Catechumenate Session 7 The Sacrament of Matrimony - The Sacrament of Holy Orders |
| Sunday, February 5, 2023 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM | Catechumenate Session 8 Christian Moral Living - The Dignity of Life |
| Sunday, February 12, 2023 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM | Catechumenate Session 9 A Consistent Ethic of Life |
| Sunday, February 19, 2023 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM | Catechumenate Session 10 Social Justice |
| Wednesday, February 22, 2023 7 AM, 12 PM, 3 PM, 6:30 PM / St. Mary’s | Ash Wednesday Services |
| Sunday, February 26, 2023 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM | Catechumenate Session 11 Election: Saying “Yes” to Jesus |
| February 26 to March 4, 2023 | 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.

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| Sunday, February 26, 2023 9:00 AM Mass / St. Mary's Basilica | Rite of Sending for Catechumenate |
| Sunday, February 26, 2023 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Purification & Enlightenment Session 1 Scrutinies |
| Sunday, February 26, 2023 3:30 PM / Ss. Simon and Jude Cathedral | Rite of Election for Catechumenate: Enrollment of Names for Catechumenate |
| Sunday, March 5, 2023 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM | Purification & Enlightenment Session 2 The Creed |
| Sunday, March 12, 2023 9:00 AM Mass / St. Mary's Basilica | Rite: First Scrutiny Samaritan Woman at the Well |
| Sunday, March 12, 2023 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM | Purification & Enlightenment Session 3 The Way of the Cross |
| Sunday, March 19, 2023 9:00 AM Mass / St. Mary's Basilica | Rite: Second Scrutiny Man Born Blind |
| Sunday, March 19, 2023 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM | Purification & Enlightenment Session 4 The Lord's Prayer |
| Sunday, March 26, 2023 9:00 AM Mass / St. Mary's Basilica | Rite: Third Scrutiny Raising of Lazarus |
| Sunday, March 26, 2023 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM | Purification & Enlightenment Session 5 The Meaning of Holy Week |
| Saturday, April 1, 2023 3:00 PM Confessions / St. Mary's Basilica | Candidates celebrate the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation |
| Sunday, April 2, 2023 9:00 AM Mass to 12:00 PM | Purification & Enlightenment Session 6 Preparing for the Sacraments of Initiation |
| Thursday, April 6, 2023 7:00 PM Mass / St. Mary's Basilica | Holy Thursday Service |
| Friday, April 7, 2023 12:00 PM Outdoor Stations / 3:00 PM Good Friday Service / St. Mary's Basilica | Good Friday Services |

Sacraments of Initiation

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| Saturday, April 8, 2023 10:00 AM to 12 Noon / St. Mary's Basilica | Sacraments of Initiation Rehearsal and Rite of Ephphetha |
| Saturday, April 8, 2023 7:00 PM Easter Vigil / St. Mary's Basilica | Receive the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist |
| Sunday, April 9, 2023 7 AM, 9 AM or 11:30 AM Mass / St. Mary's | Easter Sunday (Easter Egg Hunt after the 11:30 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.

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| Sunday, April 9, 2023 NO Session | NO Session - Easter Sunday |
| Friday, April 16, 2023 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Mystagogy Session 1 Conversion: A Lifelong Process |
| Sunday, April 23, 2023 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Mystagogy Session 2 The Role of the Laity |
| Sunday, April 30, 2023 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Mystagogy Session 3 Your Spiritual Gifts |
| Sunday, May 7, 2023 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Mystagogy Session 4 Discernment |
| Sunday, May 14, 2023 NO Session | NO Session - Mother's Day |
| Sunday, May 21, 2023 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Mystagogy Session 5 Our Call to Holiness – Living the Virtues |
| Sunday, May 28, 2023 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Mystagogy Session 6 Family Life - Evangelization |

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 20-26, 2022)
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/Enlightenment (February 26-March 4, 2023)
Your decision to continue forward and celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) at the Easter Vigil (April 8, 2023) 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.