

RCIA Process – 15 month Schedule

January 2023 – Pentecost: May 19, 2024

Calendar Schedule 2023-2024 for Catechetical Instruction, Retreats and Liturgical Celebrations

Period of the Precatechumenate

Participants who have not received the Sacrament of Baptism will need to receive teachings on Faith and Baptism before going through the Rite of Acceptance as they will answer questions in that regard. The prayers speak of learning to know Christ and follow Him, therefore, they are to be guided to begin to develop a daily habit of prayer and understand how to live the Catholic Moral Life. Candidates, those who have already been validly baptized, will need to receive teachings on the Sacraments of Confirmation and the Holy Eucharist as they will ask to be accepted for catechetical instruction leading to Confirmation and the Holy Eucharist at the Rite of Welcoming. We teach to the Rites and from the Rites.

<u>Month</u>	<u>Teaching</u>
January	What is the Meaning of Life?
January	The Existence of God
January	Creation
January	Original Sin
February	The Story of the Bible
February	Divine Revelation / explanation of and preparing for Lent
February	Faith and Conversion
February	The Battle of Prayer – Daily Spiritual Reading leads to the development of a daily commitment to prayer

Wednesday, February 22, 2023: Ash Wednesday

March	The Moral Life: The 10 Commandments / Explain the meaning of Lent and how to live it.
March	The 10 Commandments (continued)
March	The Incarnation and Jesus' Public Ministry
March	Redemption; the Sign of the Cross
April	Explaining Holy Week

Sunday, April 9, 2023 Easter Sunday

April	Developing/strengthening a daily habit of Prayer
April	Praying with Scripture
April / May	The Church: The Kingdom of God on Earth
May	The Four Last Things
May	The Beatitudes
May	Mary, the Mother of God
Sunday, May 28	Pentecost
June	The Holy Spirit / Explain Pentecost from Acts 2
June	Great Adventure Bible Timeline DVD Program (8 weeks; taking into consideration that people will be taking vacations etc.) includes 8 min. video clips from key figures of the Bible with simple teaching of application to life
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July	Great Adventure Bible Timeline DVD Program
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July	Great Adventure Bible Timeline DVD Program
August Break	
September	Discovery: God's Love (Catholic Christian Outreach Series)
September	Discovery: Love's Initiative
September	Discovery: Jesus Christ – Our Lord
September	Discovery: Jesus Christ – Our Savior
October	Discovery: Love is Offered
October	Discovery: A New Life
October	Grace / Sacrament of Baptism: The Door to the Life of Grace
October	Liturgy: Communion with God / Sacrament of Confirmation: Sealed by the Holy Spirit
October	Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist: Jesus' Sacrifice for Us
November	The Holy Eucharist: Communion with and Sharing God's Joy
November	Retreat for Rite of Acceptance / Welcoming in parish or deanery

Sunday, December 3, 2023: Rite of Acceptance and Welcoming

Period of the Catechumenate: Participants are to receive teaching on the Sacraments and Living Life in Christ in preparation for the Rite of Election (unbaptized) and Call to Continuing Conversion (baptized). This will prepare participants to answer the questions they will be asked and understand the intentions of the prayers being prayed for them during these Rites. We teach to the Rites and from the Rites.

November	Sacrament of Holy Orders / Explanation of Advent and how to prepare spiritually for Christmas
December	Sacrament of Matrimony
December	Social Teaching of the Church
December	Expressions and Types of Prayer (including Praying with Scripture)
<i>December</i>	<i>No meeting: Christmas / New Year break</i>
January 2024	Sacrament of Penance - Reconciliation
January	Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick
January	Church Tour
January	The Universal Call to Holiness
February	The Virtues of Faith, Hope and Love
February	Cardinal Virtues and the Virtues of Chastity
February	The Dignity of the Human Person

Retreat on Saturday, February 10, 2024: The meaning of Lent – a time of purification and enlightenment, the Apostolic Church regarding a bishop and his apostolic succession, preparation for the Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion.

February 14 **Ash Wednesday**

Sunday, February 18 **Rite of Sending at the Parish / Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion at Cathedral on the First Sunday of Lent**

Period of Purification and Enlightenment: The Elect and Candidates are to receive direction on prayer and the spiritual life. Lent is to be spent much like a Retreat.

February	The Paschal Mystery / Stations of the Cross
March	Temptation and Sin / Preparation and Reception of the Sacrament of Penance

March Traditions of Prayer

Third Sunday of Lent First Scrutiny for the Elect (unbaptized)

Third Week of Lent Presentation of the Creed

March The Lord’s Prayer / Stations of the Cross

Fourth Sunday of Lent Second Scrutiny for the Elect (unbaptized)

March Sacramental Living / Explanation and Prayer of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament / Benediction

Fifth Sunday of Lent Third Scrutiny for the Elect (unbaptized)

Fifth Week of Lent Presentation of the Lord’s Prayer

March **Retreat before or on Holy Saturday: Preparation Rites: Immediate Sacramental Preparation; Explanation of the Easter Vigil; time for quiet prayer**

March 30, 2024 Holy Saturday: The Easter Vigil: Sacraments of Initiation

March 31 Easter Sunday

Period of Mystagogy – Neophytes (new Catholics) are introduced to a fuller and more effective understanding of the teachings with the help of God’s grace received in the Sacraments. Instruction on living a deeper Christian life, especially as it relates to the Sacraments.

April Celebration: Testimonies of the experience of Holy Saturday
Prayer in thanksgiving for “the wonderful works of God”

April Source: The Holy Spirit (Catholic Christian Outreach Series)

April Source: The Battle Within

May Source: Living in the Spirit

May Source: Barriers to Living in the Spirit

May Source: Docility to the Holy Spirit

May Source: Gifts and Fruits

Sunday, May 19 Pentecost

Neophyte Year Catholic Christian Outreach Faith Study Series:
Growth (6 sessions): GROWTH examines the fundamental practices which nurtures our Christian life such as prayer, Sacraments and fellowship.
Trust (8 sessions): TRUST helps participants grow in trusting the Lord in all aspects of life so as to live in greater freedom.
Commission (10 sessions): COMMISSION reveals our missionary identity as Catholics to spread the message and mission of Christ.