

RCIA

St. Ferdinand Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

2023 – 2024 Calendar Rev A

RCIA Mission Statement

We are missionary disciples of Jesus Christ, guided by the Holy Spirit, who are called to “Go and make disciples of all nations” by serving as catechists for our parish community. We are privileged witnesses of all those who are starting on their own spiritual journey to come and seek Christ through the telling of our stories, sharing of life experiences, and opening of our minds and hearts to the Word of God. We are dependent on the flow of Christ’s love through us as we advise and guide them in an environment of prayer and trust, viewing them with the eyes of Christ. We will do this through the catechesis of the Catholic Faith, breaking open the word of God and receiving the Sacraments.

Welcome to our St. Ferdinand RCIA group! We are very happy to have you here to learn about our Lord Jesus Christ and the Church he founded. This is our schedule for the entire year. It may seem like a long commitment of time for you to make, but at the end, hopefully, you will agree that it passed by quickly. Our year is divided into 4 parts and each one has a specific focus. RCIA is not a program or “class,” but rather an ongoing formation process. During the year you will learn what the Catholic Church teaches and how to begin living your life as a Catholic. All of the members of the RCIA team are here to help you. Please feel free to call us at any time. Our names and phone numbers are at the end of the schedule.

Our first phase is called the Inquiry Period or Pre-Catechumenate Period. It is during this time that we explain to you about the essential beliefs of the Catholic Faith, so that you can decide whether you want to continue with the next phase of the process.

Inquiry or Pre-Catechumenate Period	Page 2
Catechumenate Period	Page 2
Purification & Enlightenment / Lent	Page 3
Holy Week	Page 4
Mystagogia	Page 5
RCIA team members contact list	Page 6
RCIA Resource Center	Page 7

Date: Thurs unless noted	Topic	Compendium CCC & notations	Catechist
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Inquiry or Pre-Catechumenate Period - Inquirers

Sep 7, 2023	Welcome, Introductions & Our Faith Stories	Receive Bible & Compendium. CCC Compendium Question 1, Appendix A&B	Paul Segura
Sep 14	Trinity and Creed	CCC Compendium # 25-58, 136-166, 47, 217, 598	Patty Holbert Paul Segura
Sep 21	Revelation and Tradition	CCC Compendium # 6-17	Gina Burrow
Sep 28	Jesus, the Messiah	CCC Compendium # 79-93, 101-135	Sue Russell
Oct 5	Moral Life	CCC Compendium # 357-441, 596-597 Appendix B	Josie Mead
Oct 12	Sacred Scripture	CCC Compendium # 18-24	Fr. Nick
Oct 19	Liturgical Calendar & Walk Through Mass	CCC Compendium # 218-223, 233-249, 288- 289	Eileen Sobery, Deacon Phil
Oct 26	Saints & Angels of the Church	CCC Compendium # 59-61, 194-195, 209, 211, 234, 564	Patty Holbert
Wed, Nov 1	Solemnity of All Saints	~ No session! ~	Holy Day Mass see bulletin for times
Nov 2	Church History	CCC Compendium # 161-193	Sue Russell
Nov 9	Prayer & Prayer Styles	CCC Compendium # 534-598, Appendix A	Josie Mead
Nov 15	Church Tour	Meet in Church	Fr. Nick
Nov 23	Happy Thanksgiving!	~ No session! ~	9:00 a.m. Mass (bring canned goods donation)
Nov 30	Advent	<i>Sponsors to receive sample Sponsor Letter to be sent to Archbishop. Practice for Rite of Acceptance/Welcoming</i>	Eileen Sobery
Sun, Dec 3	Donut Social after Masses 11:00 am Mass	RCIA is host group! Rite of Acceptance (Not Baptized), Rite of Welcoming (Baptized)	All

This ends the Period of Inquiry. At this time you will be asked if you wish to continue with RCIA formation. Please prayerfully consider whether God is asking you to become part of the Catholic Church!

Catechumenate Period – Catechumens (Not Baptized)/Candidates (Baptized)

Dec 7	Blessed Virgin Mary	CCC Compendium # 94-100, 196-199, 562-563	Sue Russell
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Fri Dec 8	Solemnity of The Immaculate Conception	~ No session! ~	Holy Day Mass see bulletin for times
Dec 14	Eschatology: The End Times	CCC Compendium # 202-216, Appendix B: Four Last Things	Paul Segura
Dec 21	Pot Luck Dinner	Also this week: Service project - make sandwiches for St. Vincent de Paul	All
Mon Dec 25	Solemnity of The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)	~ No session! ~	Holy Day Mass see bulletin for times
Dec 28	Merry Christmas!	~ No session! ~	
Jan 4, 2024	Sacraments & Sacramentals	CCC Compendium # 224-232, 250-251, 295, 321, 351 & 353	Paula Yount, Theresa Wright
Jan 11	Baptism: Sacrament of Initiation	CCC Compendium # 252-264, Appendix B: 7 Gifts of the Holy Spirit Candidate Baptismal Certificates Due	Deacon Phil
Jan 18	Confirmation: Sacrament of Initiation	CCC Compendium # 265-270, Appendix B: 7 Gifts of Holy Spirit	Patty Holbert
Jan 25	Eucharist: Sacrament of Initiation	CCC Compendium # 271-294	Fr. Nick
Feb 1	Anointing of the Sick	CCC Compendium #313-320	Debbie Henderson, Paula Yount
Feb 8	Lent	CCC Compendium # 106, 301	Debbie Henderson, Gina Burrow, Theresa Wright

This ends the period of the Catechumenate. Those committing to following Christ as a Catholic Christian will enter the next phase of preparation: Lent.

Lenten Purification and Enlightenment Period:
Elect (Unbaptized) – Candidates (Baptized)

Lent is a prayerful and reflective season. During this time we look at our lives and consider how we can grow closer to God and serve Him to the best of our ability.

Sun, Feb 11	Rite of Sending	11:00 am Mass @ St. Ferdinand	
Feb 14	Ash Wednesday	See bulletin for Mass times	
Feb 15	Holy Orders & Religious Life	CCC Compendium # 322-336, 342, 192-193	Fr. Nick, Deacon Phil, Religious Sister
Sat, Feb 17	Rite of Election (Not Baptized) & Call to Continuing Conversion (Baptized)	2:00 pm, Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis	Paul Segura

Feb 22	Social Justice	CCC Compendium # 358, 401-414, 509-520	Deacon Gerry Lauterwasser
Feb 29	Chastity & Matrimony	CCC Compendium # 337-350	Deacon Gerry Lauterwasser
Sun, Mar 3	Celebrate 1st Scrutiny (Elect Only)	11:00 am Mass @ St. Ferdinand	
Mar 7	Sin, Forgiveness, & Reconciliation	CCC Compendium # 73-78, 296-312, 594-595	Sue Russell, Theresa Wright
Sat, Mar 9	9:00 am – 3:30 pm Retreat @ Pallottine Retreat Center; details to follow. 1st Confession for the Baptized 5:00 pm Mass @ St. Ferdinand: Celebrate 2nd Scrutiny (Elect Only)		RCIA team
Mar 14	Historical Holy Week	CCC Compendium # 111-131, Gospel Passion narratives: Matt 26-27, Mark 14-15, Luke 22-23, John 18-19	Paul Segura
Sun, Mar 17	Celebrate 3rd Scrutiny (Elect Only)	9:00 am Mass @ St. Ferdinand	
Mar 21	Liturgical Holy Week	Liturgical Holy Week is the last catechetical (teaching) session of RCIA prior to initiation!	Debbie Henderson, Eileen Sobrey, Theresa Wright

Holy Week

Holy Week is the most important week in the Liturgical Calendar: it is the solemn celebration of the Mystery of Christ's Passion, Death, and Resurrection. Those who are called to the Sacraments of Initiation share in these Mysteries in a particular way with Him: we die to sin, and rise to live new Life in Him. ... How am I responding to His call?

Sun, Mar 24	<i>Palm Sunday Mass – Meet in the gym @ 10:30 am for 11:00 am Mass</i>
Thurs, Mar 28	<i>Holy Thursday – 8:00 am Morning Prayer (optional) 7:00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper</i>
Fri, Mar 29	<i>Good Friday – 8:00 am Morning Prayer (optional) 7:00 pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion</i>
Sat, Mar 30	<i>Holy Saturday – 8:00 am Morning Prayer/Rite of Ephphatha Easter Vigil practice afterwards 7:30 pm or 30 min prior to Vigil Mass Meet in Gathering Space</i>

Mystagogia - Neophytes (Newly Baptized)/Newly Received (Baptized)

The final period of RCIA is Mystagogia. Now you are Catholic! Rejoice and celebrate as you learn more about how you are called to reveal God's presence to the world. We will celebrate your full communion into the church during the next 50 days, leading up to Pentecost Sunday with several events.

Apr 4	Review Easter Vigil, discuss formation process	Savor your initiation!	RCIA team
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Apr 11	Walk Through Mass #2	Fr. Mike Schmitz video	Sue Russell
Apr 18	The Mystery of Suffering	CCC Compendium # 56, 72, 77, 117, 119, 281, 314	Deacon Phil
Apr 25	Visit Covenant Network?	TBD	Paul Segura
Sun, May 5	Shrine of St. Rose Philippine Duchesne?	TBD	Paul Segura
Sun, May 12	St. Joseph Shrine?	TBD	Paul Segura
May 16	The 3Ts: Time, Talent, & Treasure	CCC Compendium Appendix B	Sue Russell
Sun, May 19	Pentecost 11am Mass	“Inside the Vatican” video Pizza party / pot luck	1:30 pm Duchesne Hall

This is the end of the formal RCIA process. But your ongoing journey of coming to know God as you begin the rest of your life as a Catholic Christian continues. We wish you the best in all that you do! Please come back and visit us whenever you can, or volunteer to serve as a sponsor or train to be a catechist. May the Lord bless you always!

*Blessings in Christ,
St. Ferdinand RCIA Team*

Resources for RCIA participants

St. Ferdinand Parish: stferdinandstl.org

Daily Mass Scripture Readings: www.usccb.org/events/calendar

Archdiocese of St. Louis: archstl.org

The Vatican: vatican.va

Compendium of the CCC:

https://www.vatican.va/archive/compendium_ccc/documents/archive_2005_compendium-ccc_en.html

USCCB CCC: usccb.org/sites/default/files/flipbooks/catechism

St. Charles Borromeo CCC: <https://scborromeo2.org/catechism-of-the-catholic-church>

Catholic Answers: catholic.com

Covenant Radio - Local Catholic Station: ourcatholicradio.org AM1460/1080/102.9 FM

Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN): ewtn.com

Dynamic Catholic Institute: dynamiccatholic.com

Word on Fire (Bishop Barron): wordonfire.org

Ascension Press (Fr. Mike Schmitz): ascensionpress.com

Recommended Apps: Hallow, Amen, MassTimes, Laudate, Catholic NAB, Prayers