

# **CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS**

**CATHEDRAL PARISH OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL  
AND SHRINE OF SAINT KATHARINE DREXEL  
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA**

**2023-2024**



## CHRISTIAN INITIATION CONTACTS 2023-2024

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## PLEASE NOTE

*Catechetical Sessions take place in the Neumann Room behind the Basilica.*

*Catechumens assemble year-round  
with informal sessions from June through September each year.*

*If you cannot make a Catechetical Session, please alert Mary Ann Leigh  
and your Parish Sponsor.*

## GUIDING TEXTS

*The Holy Bible and Lectionary for Mass*

*Catechism of the Catholic Church*

<http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/catechism/catechism-of-the-catholic-church/>

*The Biblical Readings for the Celebration of Mass for each day can be found at:*

<http://usccb.org/bible/readings/060416.cfm>.

*Believing in Jesus, Leonard Foley, OFM  
Franciscan Media, Cincinnati, Ohio, 2009*

*Please regularly check [formed.org](http://formed.org) for excellent resources.  
The parish code is **07854f**.*

# PLAN FOR CATECHETICAL SESSIONS

7:00 PM

*Opening Prayer/Celebration of the Word of God*

7:15 to 8:00 PM

*Catechesis*

8:00 to 8:15 PM

*Questions and Answers/Discussion*

8:20 PM

*Announcements*

8:20 PM to 8:30 PM

*Night Prayer (Compline)*

8:30 PM to 9:00 PM

*Social*

*Assignments for the leaders for the Opening Prayer/Celebration of the Word of God  
are coordinated by Dan Heenan.*

*Assignments for the leaders and readers for Night Prayer are coordinated by Sarah Contrucci.*

# LITURGICAL AND SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS

**Saturday, October 7, 2023**

**Rite of acceptance into the Order of catechumens**

**At the 5:15 PM Anticipated Mass**

Thursday, October 12, 2023

Rite of Welcoming the Candidates

Saturday, January 20, 2024

Conditional baptisms at 4:15 PM in the Baptistry, if needed

Thursday, February 15, 2024

Parish Celebration for Sending Catechumens for Election  
and Candidates for Recognition by the Bishop

**Sunday, February 18, 2024**

**Celebration of the Rite of Election of Catechumens  
and of the Call to Continuing Conversion of Candidates  
Who Are Preparing for Confirmation and/or Eucharist  
or Reception into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church  
Cathedral Basilica at 3:00 PM**

Thursday, February 29, 2024

Penitential Rite for Candidates

Saturday, March 2, 2024

Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation for Candidates

At 4:15 PM in the Cathedral Basilica

**Saturday, March 2, 2024**

**First Scrutiny at the 5:15 Anticipated Mass**

**Thursday, March 7, 2024**

**Presentation of the Creed**

**Saturday, March 9, 2024**

**Second Scrutiny at the 5:15 Anticipated Mass**

**Sunday, March 17, 2024**  
**Third Scrutiny at the 11:00 AM Solemn Mass**

**Thursday, March 21, 2024**  
**Presentation of the Lord's Prayer**

**Thursday through Sunday, March 28 through March 31, 2024**  
**The Sacred Paschal Triduum**

**Preparation Rites on Holy Saturday at 9:00 AM**  
**(Saturday, March 30, 2024 in the Cathedral Chapel)**

**Celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil at 8:00 PM**  
**(separate schedule will be provided for the Sacred Paschal Triduum)**

Sunday, April 7, 2024  
Conferral of confirmation at the 11:00 AM Solemn Mass  
In the Cathedral Basilica

Saturday, April 13, 2024  
Reception of Baptized Christians  
into the Full Communion of The Catholic Church  
At the 5:15 PM Mass in the Cathedral Basilica

**Saturday, April 20, 2024**  
**Rite of acceptance into the Order of Catechumens, if needed**  
**At the 5:15 PM Anticipated Mass**

Saturday, May 18, 2024  
Vigil of Pentecost  
Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation for Neophytes  
At 4:15 PM in the basilica

Sunday, May 19, 2024  
Solemnity of Pentecost  
Conferral of Confirmation at the 6:30 PM Mass in the Cathedral Basilica

2023

ONGOING PERIOD OF EVANGELIZATION  
AND PRECATECHUMENATE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Catechetical Topic

*What is Christian Initiation?*

*What is Faith?*

Catechist

Father Dennis Gill

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Catechetical Topic

*The Blessed Trinity:*

*God the Father*

Catechist

Philip Clark

Pages 113-119 in *Believing in Jesus*

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Catechetical Sunday

*All catechists and sponsors are expected to attend the 5:15 PM Anticipated Mass  
(Saturday, September 16, 2023)  
for the annual blessing of Parish Catechists.*

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Catechetical Topic

*The Blessed Trinity:*

*God the Son*

Catechist

Philip Clark

Pages 37-91 in *Believing in Jesus*

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Catechetical Topic

*The Blessed Trinity:*

*God the Holy Spirit*

Catechist

Father Dennis Gill

Pages 93-112 in *Believing in Jesus*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5

*Distribution of the Holy Bibles*

Catechetical Topic

*Revelation and Tradition*

*The Holy Bible:*



Catechist  
Pages 3-22 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Old Testament*  
Philip Clark

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2023**  
**RITE OF ACCEPTANCE INTO THE ORDER OF CATECHUMENS**  
**AT THE 5:15 PM ANTICIPATED MASS**

## PERIOD OF THE CATECHUMENATE

*The Dismissal of Catechumens takes place at the Anticipated Mass for Sunday at 5:15 PM in the Basilica.*

*Dismissal Sessions take place in the Neumann Room behind the Basilica.*

*Assignments for Dismissal Catechists are coordinated by Lauren Kudlick*

*The Minor Exorcism, Blessing and Anointing of Catechumens will take place occasionally throughout the Catechumenate during the Celebration of the Word of God.*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

### **RITE OF WELCOMING THE CANDIDATES**

Catechetical Topic

*The Holy Bible:*

*The New Testament*

Catechist

Sister Marganne Drago, SSJ

Pages 23-34 in *Believing in Jesus*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

*Distribution of the Catechism of the Catholic Church*

Catechetical Topic

*Living a Sacramental Life*

*The Paschal Mystery*

Catechist

Father Hyacinth Cordell, OP

Pages 153-171 in *Believing in Jesus*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26

Catechetical Topic

*The Sacrament of Baptism*

Catechist

Monsignor John Savinski

Pages 173-182 in *Believing in Jesus*

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2

Catechetical Topic

*The Sacrament of Confirmation*

Catechist

Father Brandon Artman

Pages 183-188 in *Believing in Jesus*

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Catechetical Topic

*The Sacrament of the Eucharist*

Catechist

Father Dennis Gill

Pages 153-162 in *Believing in Jesus*

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Catechetical Topic

Catechist

Pages 153-162 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Celebration of Mass*

*Manner of Reception of Holy Communion*

Father Dennis Gill

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Catechetical Topic

Catechist

Pages 189-197; 227-237 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Sacrament of Penance*

*and Reconciliation*

*Sin, Mortal and Venial*

Father Dennis Gill

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7

Catechetical Topic

Catechist

Pages 199-204 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick*

*Holy Viaticum*

Father Brandon Artman

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

Catechetical Topic

Catechist

Pages 217-223 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Sacrament of Holy Orders*

Monsignor John Savinski

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

Catechetical Topic

Catechist

Pages 205-215 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Sacrament of Matrimony*

Monsignor John Savinski

## 2024

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4

Catechetical Topic

Catechist

Pages 227-247 in *Believing in Jesus*

*Living a Moral Life*

*The First Commandment*

Sister Marganne Drago, SSJ

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11

Catechetical Topic

Catechist

Pages 239-247 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Second Commandment*

Monsignor John Savinski

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18

Catechetical Topic

Catechist

Pages 239-247 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Third Commandment*

Monsignor John Savinski

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20

***CONDITIONAL BAPTISMS AT 4:15 PM IN THE BAPTISTERY, if needed***

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25

Catechetical Topic

Catechist

Pages 249-273 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Fourth Commandment*

Father Hyacinth Cordell, OP

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Catechetical Topic

Catechist

Pages 249-273 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Fifth Commandment*

Father Dennis Gill

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Catechetical Topic

Catechist

Pages 249-273 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Sixth Commandment*

*Preparing for Lent*

Father Dennis Gill

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15

**PARISH CELEBRATION FOR SENDING CATECHUMENS FOR ELECTION  
AND CANDIDATES FOR RECOGNITION BY THE BISHOP**

Catechetical Topic

*The Seventh Commandment*

Catechist

Philip Clark

Pages 249-273 in *Believing in Jesus*

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

**CELEBRATION OF THE RITE OF ELECTION OF CATECHUMENS  
AND OF THE CALL TO CONTINUING CONVERSION OF CANDIDATES  
WHO ARE PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION AND/OR EUCHARIST  
OR RECEPTION INTO THE FULL COMMUNION OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH  
Cathedral Basilica at 3:00 PM**

## PERIOD OF PURIFICATION AND ENLIGHTENMENT

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Catechetical Topic

Catechist

Pages 249-273 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Eighth Commandment*

Monsignor John Savinski

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29

**PENITENTIAL RITE FOR CANDIDATES**

Catechetical Topic

Catechist

Pages 249-273 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Ninth Commandment*

Philip Clark

SATURDAY, MARCH 2

**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE AND RECONCILIATION FOR CANDIDATES  
AT 4:15 PM IN THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA  
FIRST SCRUTINY AT THE 5:15 ANTICIPATED MASS**

THURSDAY, MARCH 7

**PRESENTATION OF THE CREED**

Catechetical Topic

Catechist

Pages 37-91; 249-273 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Tenth Commandment*

Father Dennis Gill

*Prepare the White Garments and Candles for the Easter Vigil*

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

**SECOND SCRUTINY AT THE 5:15 ANTICIPATED MASS**

THURSDAY, MARCH 14

Catechetical Topic

Catechist

Pages 131-152 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Call to Holiness*

Father Dennis Gill

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

**THIRD SCRUTINY AT THE 11:00 AM SOLEMN MASS**

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

**PRESENTATION OF THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Catechetical Topic

*Preparation for Holy Week  
and the Sacred Paschal Triduum*

Catechist

Father Dennis Gill

Pages 61-82 in *Believing in Jesus*

*First Review for the reception of the Sacraments of Christian Initiation*

**THURSDAY THROUGH SUNDAY, MARCH 28 THROUGH 31  
THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM**

**PREPARATION RITES ON HOLY SATURDAY AT 9:00 AM**

*(Saturday, March 30, 2024 in the Cathedral Chapel)*

**CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION AT  
THE EASTER VIGIL AT 8:00 PM**

*(Separate schedule will be provided for the Sacred Paschal Triduum)*



## PERIOD OF POST-BAPTISMAL CATECHESIS OR MYSTAGOGY

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

*Recently baptized adults of the Cathedral Parish are invited to this session to celebrate the anniversary of their Baptism.*

Catechetical Topic

*Living a Christian Life*

*The Beatitudes*

*Grace and Heaven*

Catechist

Father Dennis Gill

Pages 227-237, 285-294 in *Believing in Jesus*

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

*Neophytes and their godparents assemble as a group for the 5:15 Mass. Neophytes wear their baptismal garments to Mass.*

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

**CONFERRAL OF CONFIRMATION AT THE 11:00 AM SOLEMN MASS  
IN THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA**

THURSDAY, APRIL 11

Catechetical Topic

*The Church, the Body of Christ*

*Precepts of the Church*

Catechist

Father Brandon Artman

Pages 131-152 in *Believing in Jesus*

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

*Neophytes and their godparents assemble as a group for the 5:15 Mass.*

**RECEPTION OF BAPTIZED CHRISTIANS  
INTO THE FULL COMMUNION OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH  
AT THE 5:15 PM MASS IN THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA**

THURSDAY, APRIL 18

Catechetical Topic

*The Blessed Virgin Mary and the Saints*

*The Holy Rosary*

Catechist

Sister Marganne Drago, SSJ

Pages 277-283 in *Believing in Jesus*

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

*Neophytes and their godparents assemble as a group for the 5:15 Mass.*

**RITE OF ACCEPTANCE INTO THE ORDER OF CATECHUMENS, if needed**

THURSDAY, APRIL 25

Catechetical Topic

*Social Justice and the Gospel*

*The Works of Mercy*

Catechist

Philip Clark

Pages 249-273 in *Believing in Jesus*

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

*Neophytes and their godparents assemble as a group for the 5:15 Mass.*

THURSDAY, MAY 2

Catechetical Topic

*Human Life Issues*

Catechist

Father Brandon Artman

Pages 249-273 in *Believing in Jesus*

SATURDAY, MAY 4

*Neophytes and their godparents assemble as a group for the 5:15 Mass.*

THURSDAY, MAY 9

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Holy Mass at 5:15 PM followed by a Light Supper and an Easter Reflection

SATURDAY, MAY 11

*Neophytes and their godparents assemble as a group for the 5:15 Mass.*

THURSDAY, MAY 16

Catechetical Topic

*Catholic Practices and Devotions*

Catechist

Father Dennis Gill

Sister Mary Luchia, PVM

Pages 121-128; 277-294 in *Believing in Jesus*

*Completion of Parish Registration Forms*

SATURDAY, MAY 18

VIGIL OF PENTECOST

**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE AND RECONCILIATION FOR NEOPHYTES**

***AT 4:15 PM IN THE BASILICA***

*Neophytes and their godparents assemble as a group for the 5:15 Mass.*

SUNDAY, MAY 19

SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST

**CONFERRAL OF CONFIRMATION AT THE 6:30 PM MASS**

**IN THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA**

*The Dismissal Sessions continue, if needed,  
at the Sunday Anticipated Mass at 5:15 PM in the Basilica.  
They take place in the Neumann Room behind the Basilica.*

# NOTES

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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