

# **CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS**

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

**2024-2025**



# COORDINATING TEAM

## COORDINATOR

Father Dennis Gill, Rector

[fr.dgill@archphila.org](mailto:fr.dgill@archphila.org)

Lauren Schartz, Dismissal Catechists

[laurenschartz0@gmail.com](mailto:laurenschartz0@gmail.com)

## CANDIDATES

Mary Ann Leigh, Inquirers

[maryannleigh98@gmail.com](mailto:maryannleigh98@gmail.com)

Sarah Contrucci, Records

[scontrucci@gmail.com](mailto:scontrucci@gmail.com)

## SPONSORS

Magdalena Erario, Sponsor Recruitment and Updates

[mag.m.kaminska@gmail.com](mailto:mag.m.kaminska@gmail.com)

Aaron Pisacane, IT

[aaronpisacane@gmail.com](mailto:aaronpisacane@gmail.com)

Father Matthew Carroll, OP, Parochial Vicar

[fr.mcarroll@archphila.org](mailto:fr.mcarroll@archphila.org)

## CATECHETICAL SESSIONS

Charlotte Lopacki Pisacane, Hospitality and Attendance

[cjlr8@aol.com](mailto:cjlr8@aol.com)

Elizabeth Halstead

[ehalstead@chs-adphila.org](mailto:ehalstead@chs-adphila.org)

Dan Heenan, Opening Prayer and Night Prayer (Compline)

[dan.heenan@live.com](mailto:dan.heenan@live.com)

*Coordinating Team Meetings at 6:30 PM in the Neumann Room as indicated below.*

## 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 Charlotte Lopacki Pisacane,  
[cjlr8@aol.com](mailto:cjlr8@aol.com), and/or 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

*Discussion Groups*

*Assignments for the leaders for the Opening Prayer/Celebrations of the Word of God and leaders and readers for Night Prayer (Compline) are coordinated by Dan Heenan.*

# LITURGICAL AND SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS

**Saturday, October 5, 2024**

**Rite for Entrance into the Catechumenate**

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

Thursday, October 17, 2024

Rite of Welcoming the Candidates

Saturday, January 18, 2025

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

Thursday, March 6, 2025

Rite for Sending Catechumens for Election

and Candidates for Recognition by the Bishop

**Sunday, March 9, 2025**

**Rite of Election of Catechumens**

**and of Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion**

**Cathedral Basilica at 3:00 PM**

Thursday, March 20, 2025

Penitential Rite for Candidates

Saturday, March 22, 2025

Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation for Candidates

At 4:15 PM in the Cathedral Basilica

**Saturday, March 22, 2025**

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

**Thursday, March 27, 2025**

**Handing on of the Creed**

**Saturday, March 29, 2025**

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

**Sunday, April 6, 2025**

**Third Scrutiny at the 11:00 AM Solemn Mass**

**Thursday, April 10, 2025**  
**Handing on of the Lord's Prayer**

**Thursday through Sunday, April 17 through April 20, 2025**  
**The Sacred Paschal Triduum**

**Rites of Immediate Preparation on Holy Saturday at 9:00 AM**  
**(Saturday, April 19, 2025, 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 27, 2025  
Conferral of Confirmation at the 11:00 AM Solemn Mass  
In the Cathedral Basilica

Saturday, May 3, 2025  
Order of Reception of Those Already Validly Baptized  
into the Full Communion of The Catholic Church  
At the 5:15 PM Mass in the Cathedral Basilica

**Saturday, May 10, 2025**  
**Rite for Entrance into the Catechumenate**  
**At the 5:15 PM Anticipated Mass**

Saturday, June 7, 2025  
Vigil of Pentecost  
Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation for Neophytes  
At 4:15 PM in the basilica

Sunday, June 8, 2025  
Solemnity of Pentecost  
Conferral of Confirmation at the 11:00 AM Solemn Mass in the Cathedral Basilica

2024

**PERIOD OF EVANGELIZATION  
AND PRECATECHUMENATE**

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

6:30 PM Coordinating Team Meeting

Catechetical Topic

*What is Christian Initiation?*

*What is Faith?*

Catechist

Father Dennis Gill

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

*Distribution of the Believing in Jesus books*

Catechetical Topic

*The Blessed Trinity:*

*God the Father*

Catechist

Father Dennis Gill

Pages 113-119 in *Believing in Jesus*

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Catechetical Sunday

*All catechists are expected to attend the 5:15 PM Anticipated Mass*

*(Saturday, September 14, 2024)*

*for the annual blessing of Parish Catechists.*

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Catechetical Topic

*The Blessed Trinity:*

*God the Son*

Catechist

Father Dennis Gill

Pages 37-91 in *Believing in Jesus*

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Catechetical Topic

*The Blessed Trinity:*

*God the Holy Spirit*

Catechist

Father Matthew Carroll, OP

Pages 105-112 in *Believing in Jesus*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

6:30 PM Coordinating Team Meeting

*Distribution of the Holy Bibles*

Catechetical Topic

*Revelation and Tradition*

*The Holy Bible:*

*The Old Testament*

Father Matthew Carroll, OP

Catechist

Pages 3-22 in *Believing in Jesus*

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2024**

**RITE OF ENTRANCE INTO THE CATECHUMENATE**

**AT THE 5:15 PM ANTICIPATED MASS**

## PERIOD OF THE CATECHUMENATE AND ITS RITES

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

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

*Assignments for Dismissal Catechists are coordinated by Lauren Schartz.*

*The Minor Exorcisms, Blessings of the Catechumens and Anointing of Catechumens will take place occasionally throughout the Catechumenate during the Celebrations of the Word of God.*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10

Catechetical Topic

*The Holy Bible:*

*The New Testament*

Catechist

Monsignor John Savinski

Pages 23-34; 93-103 in *Believing in Jesus*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17

**RITE OF WELCOMING THE CANDIDATES**

*Distribution of the Catechism of the Catholic Church*

Catechetical Topic

*Living a Sacramental Life*

*The Paschal Mystery*

Catechist

Father Dennis Gill

Pages 153-171 in *Believing in Jesus*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24

Catechetical Topic

*The Sacrament of Baptism*

Catechist

Father Dennis Gill

Pages 173-182 in *Believing in Jesus*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31

Catechetical Topic

*The Sacrament of Confirmation*

Catechist

Father Matthew Carroll, OP

Pages 183-188 in *Believing in Jesus*

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7  
Catechetical Topic  
Catechist  
Pages 153-162 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Sacrament of the Eucharist*  
Father Dennis Gill

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14  
Catechetical Topic  
  
Catechist  
Pages 153-171 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Celebration of Mass*  
*Manner of Reception of Holy Communion*  
Father Dennis Gill

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21  
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 5  
Catechetical Topic  
  
Catechist  
Pages 199-204 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick*  
*Holy Viaticum*  
Monsignor John Savinski

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12  
Catechetical Topic  
Catechist  
Pages 217-223 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Sacrament of Holy Orders*  
Father Matthew Carroll, OP

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19  
Catechetical Topic  
Catechist  
Pages 205-215 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Sacrament of Matrimony*  
Father Hyacinth Marie Cordell, OP

## 2025

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2

Catechetical Topic

Catechist

Pages 227-247 in *Believing in Jesus*

*Living a Moral Life*

*The First Commandment*

Father Dennis Gill

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

Catechetical Topic

Catechist

Pages 239-247 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Second Commandment*

Monsignor John Savinski

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16

Catechetical Topic

Catechist

Pages 239-247 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Third Commandment*

Monsignor John Savinski

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23

Catechetical Topic

Catechist

Pages 249-273 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Fourth Commandment*

Monsignor John Savinski

THURSDAY, January 30

Catechetical Topic

Catechist

Pages 249-273 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Fifth Commandment*

Father Matthew Carroll, OP

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Catechetical Topic

Catechist

Pages 249-273 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Sixth Commandment*

Father Philip Bochanski

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13  
Catechetical Topic  
Catechist  
Pages 249-273 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Seventh Commandment*  
Monsignor John Savinski

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20  
Catechetical Topic  
Catechist  
Pages 249-273 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Eighth Commandment*  
Monsignor John Savinski

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27  
Catechetical Topic  
  
Catechist  
Pages 249-273 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Ninth Commandment*  
*Preparing for Lent*  
Father Dennis Gill

THURSDAY, MARCH 6  
6:30 PM Coordinating Team Meeting  
**RITE FOR SENDING CATECHUMENS FOR ELECTION  
AND CANDIDATES FOR RECOGNITION BY THE BISHOP**  
Catechetical Topic  
Catechist  
Pages 249-273 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Tenth Commandment*  
Father Matthew Carroll, OP

**SUNDAY, MARCH 9  
RITE OF ELECTION OF CATECHUMENS  
AND OF CALLING THE CANDIDATES TO CONTINUING CONVERSION  
CATHEDRAL BASILICA AT 3:00 PM**

# PERIOD OF PURIFICATION AND ENLIGHTENMENT AND ITS RITES

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

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

Catechetical Topic

Catechist

Pages 227-237 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Ongoing Call to Conversion*

Father Dennis Gill

THURSDAY, MARCH 20

**PENITENTIAL RITE FOR CANDIDATES**

Catechetical Topic

Catechist

Pages 131-152 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Call to Holiness*

Father Matthew Carroll, OP

SATURDAY, MARCH 22

**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE AND RECONCILIATION FOR CANDIDATES**

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

**FIRST SCRUTINY AT THE 5:15 PM ANTICIPATED MASS**

THURSDAY, MARCH 27

**HANDING ON OF THE CREED**

Catechetical Topic

Catechist

Pages 121-128 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Creed and the Lord's Prayer*

Monsignor John Savinski

SATURDAY, MARCH 29

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

THURSDAY, APRIL 3

Catechetical Topic

Catechist

Pages 67-73 in *Believing in Jesus*

*The Way of the Cross*

Father Philip Bochanski

SUNDAY, APRIL 6

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

THURSDAY, APRIL 10  
**HANDING ON 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*

**THURSDAY THROUGH SUNDAY, APRIL 17 THROUGH 20  
THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM**

**rites of immediate preparation  
on Holy Saturday at 9:00 AM**

*(Saturday, April 19, 2025, 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 MYSTAGOGY

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

6:30 PM Coordinating Team Meeting

*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 26

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

*Neophytes wear their baptismal garments to Mass.*

SUNDAY, APRIL 27

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

THURSDAY, MAY 1

Catechetical Topic

*The Church, the Body of Christ*

*Precepts of the Church*

Catechist

Monsignor John Savinski

Pages 131-152 in *Believing in Jesus*

SATURDAY, MAY 3

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

**ORDER OF RECEPTION OF THOSE ALREADY VALIDLY BAPTIZED  
INTO THE FULL COMMUNION OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH  
AT THE 5:15 PM MASS IN THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA**

THURSDAY, MAY 8

Catechetical Topic

*The Blessed Virgin Mary and the Saints*

*The Holy Rosary*

Catechist

Father Matthew Carroll, OP

Pages 277-283 in *Believing in Jesus*

SATURDAY, MAY 10

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

**RITE OF ENTRANCE INTO THE CATECHUMENATE**

THURSDAY, MAY 15

Catechetical Topic

*Human Life Issues*

Catechist

Father Philip Bochanski

Pages 249-273 in *Believing in Jesus*

SATURDAY, MAY 17

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

THURSDAY, MAY 22

Catechetical Topic

*Social Justice and the Gospel*

*The Works of Mercy*

Catechist

Father Philip Bochanski

Pages 249-273 in *Believing in Jesus*

SATURDAY, MAY 24

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

THURSDAY, MAY 29

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

*Completion of Parish Registration Forms*

SATURDAY, MAY 31

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

THURSDAY, JUNE 5

Catechetical Topic

*Catholic Practices and Devotions*

Catechist

Father Dennis Gill

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

SATURDAY, JUNE 7

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 PM Mass.*

SUNDAY, JUNE 8

SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST

**CONFERRAL OF CONFIRMATION AT THE 11:00 AM SOLEMN 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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