

CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS
CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL
AND SHRINE OF SAINT KATHARINE DREXEL
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA
2026-2027

COORDINATING TEAM

COORDINATOR

Father Dennis Gill, Rector
fr.dgill@archphila.org

DISMISSAL CATECHISTS

Daniel Heenan
dan.heenan@live.com

PAROCHIAL MINISTER FOR (UNBAPTIZED) INQUIRERS

Mary Ann Leigh, Inquirers
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PARISH COORDINATOR OF BAPTIZED INQUIRERS

Sarah Contrucci, Records
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PARISH ASSISTANT FOR HISPANIC INQUIRERS

Miriam Rodriguez, Hispanic Community
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CATECHUMENS AND CANDIDATES

Sarah Contrucci, Records
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SPONSORS

Dawn Kulick
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CATECHETICAL SESSION ENVIRONMENT AND HOSPITALITY

Charlotte Lopacki Pisacane
cjlr8@aol.com
Aaron Pisacane, IT
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PRAYER FOR THE CATECHETICAL SESSIONS

Dan Heenan, Opening Prayer and Night Prayer (Compline)
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, Catechumens, Candidates and Sponsors,
please respond to the Tuesday e-mail with this information.*

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:
<https://bible.usccb.org/readings/calendar>

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Please regularly check formed.org for excellent resources.
The parish code is 07854f.

PLAN FOR CATECHETICAL SESSIONS

Plan is modified for the Mystagogy Period

7:00 PM

Celebration of the Word of God

7:15 to 8:00 PM

Catechesis

8:00 to 8:15 PM

Questions and Answers

8:15 PM to 8:35 PM

Discussion Groups

8:35 PM

Announcements

Night Prayer (Compline)

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

LITURGICAL AND SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS

Saturday, June 20, 2026

Additional Rites TBD

Rite for Entrance into the Catechumenate

At the 5:15 PM Anticipated Mass

Thursday, September 17, 2026

Rite of Welcoming the Candidates

Saturday, January 16, 2027

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

Thursday, February 11, 2027

Rite for Sending Catechumens for Election

and Candidates for Recognition by the Bishop

Sunday, February 14, 2027

Rite of Election of Catechumens

and of Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion

Cathedral Basilica at 3:00 PM

Thursday, February 25, 2027

Penitential Rite for Candidates

Saturday, February 27, 2027

Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation for Candidates

At 4:15 PM in the Cathedral Basilica

Saturday, February 27, 2027

First Scrutiny at the 5:15 PM Anticipated Mass

Thursday, March 4, 2027

Handing on of the Creed

Saturday, March 6, 2027

Second Scrutiny at the 5:15 PM Anticipated Mass

Sunday, March 14, 2027

Third Scrutiny at the 11:00 AM Solemn Mass

Thursday, March 18, 2027
Handing on of the Lord's Prayer

Thursday through Sunday, March 25 through March 28, 2027
The Sacred Paschal Triduum

Rites of Immediate Preparation on Holy Saturday at 9:00 AM
(Saturday, March 27, 2027, in the Cathedral Chapel)

Celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil at 8:00 PM
(Saturday, March 27, 2027, in the Cathedral Basilica)
Separate schedule will be provided for the Sacred Paschal Triduum

Sunday, April 4, 2027
Conferral of Confirmation at the 11:00 AM Solemn Mass
In the Cathedral Basilica

Any Sunday of Easter Time at Any Sunday Mass
Order of Reception of Those Already Validly Baptized
into the Full Communion of The Catholic Church

Saturday, May 15, 2027
Vigil of Pentecost
Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation for Neophytes
At 4:15 PM in the basilica

Sunday, May 16, 2027
Solemnity of Pentecost
Conferral of Confirmation at the 11:00 AM Solemn Mass in the Cathedral Basilica

2026

**CONCLUSION OF THE PERIOD OF EVANGELIZATION
AND PRECATECHUMENATE**

SATURDAY, JUNE 20

ADDITIONAL RITES TBD

RITE FOR ENTRANCE INTO THE CATECHUMENATE

AT THE 5:15 PM ANTICIPATED MASS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Catechetical Topic

What is Christian Initiation?

What is Faith?

Catechist

Father Dennis Gill

PERIOD OF THE CATECHUMENATE AND ITS RITES

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

On occasion the Dismissal of Catechumens will take place at the 11:00 AM Solemn Mass in the Cathedral Basilica.

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

Assignments for Dismissal Catechists are coordinated by Dan Heenan.

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, SEPTEMBER 10

Distribution of the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults.

Catechetical Topic *The Blessed Trinity:*

God the Father

Catechist *Father Dennis Gill*

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 1-19; 49-63

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

RITE OF WELCOMING THE CANDIDATES

Catechetical Topic *The Blessed Trinity:*

God the Son

Catechist *Father Eric Banecker*

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 77-100

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Catechetical Sunday

*All catechists are expected to attend the 5:15 PM Anticipated Mass
(Saturday, September 19, 2026)
for the annual blessing of Parish Catechists.*

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Catechetical Topic *The Blessed Trinity:*

God the Holy Spirit

Catechist *Deacon Chike Egbufoama*

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 101-110

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1

6:30 PM Coordinating Team Meeting

Distribution of the Holy Bibles

Catechetical Topic

Revelation and Tradition

The Holy Bible:

The Old Testament

Catechist

Father August Taglianetti

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 21-33

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

Catechetical Topic

The Holy Bible:

The New Testament

Catechist

Monsignor John Savinski

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 21-33

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

Distribution of the Catechism of the Catholic Church

Catechetical Topic

Living a Sacramental Life

The Paschal Mystery

Catechist

Father Dennis Gill

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 165-179

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

Catechetical Topic

The Sacrament of Baptism

Catechist

Father Dennis Gill

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 181-199

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29

Catechetical Topic

The Sacrament of Confirmation

Catechist

Father Eric Banecker

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 201-211

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5

6:30 PM Coordinating Team Meeting

Catechetical Topic

The Sacrament of the Eucharist

Catechist

Father Dennis Gill

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 213-232

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Catechetical Topic

The Celebration of Mass

Manner of Reception of Holy Communion

Catechist

Monsignor John Savinski

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 213-232

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Catechetical Topic

*The Sacrament of Penance
and Reconciliation*

Sin, Mortal and Venial

Catechist

Father Jordan Kelly, OP

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 65-75; 233-247

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3

6:30 PM Coordinating Team Meeting

Catechetical Topic

*The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick
Holy Viaticum*

Catechist

Father Eric Banecker

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 249-259

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10

Catechetical Topic

The Sacrament of Holy Orders

Catechist

Monsignor John Savinski

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 261-275

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17

Catechetical Topic

The Sacrament of Matrimony

Catechist

Father August Taglianetti

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 277-292

2027

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7

6:30 PM Coordinating Team Meeting

Catechetical Topic

Living a Moral Life

The First Commandment

Catechist

Father Dennis Gill

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 307-321; 339-349

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14

Catechetical Topic

The Second Commandment

Catechist

Monsignor John Savinski

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 351-359

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21

Catechetical Topic

The Third Commandment

Catechist

Father Jordan Kelly, OP

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 361-371

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28

Catechetical Topic

The Fourth Commandment

Catechist

Father Eric Banecker

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 373-385

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4

6:30 PM Coordinating Team Meeting

Catechetical Topic

The Fifth Commandment

The Seventh Commandment

Preparing for Lent

Catechist

Father August Taglianetti

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 387-402, 417-428

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11

RITE FOR SENDING CATECHUMENS FOR ELECTION

AND CANDIDATES FOR RECOGNITION BY THE BISHOP

Catechetical Topic

The Sixth Commandment

Catechist

The Ninth Commandment

Father Dennis Gill

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 403-416, 439-446

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

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
Stations of the Cross on Thursdays at 6:30 PM in the Cathedral Chapel*

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Catechetical Topic

The Eighth Commandment

The Tenth Commandment

Catechist

Father August Taglianetti

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 429-438, 447-457

THURSDAY, February 25

PENITENTIAL RITE FOR CANDIDATES

Catechetical Topic

*The Ongoing Call to Conversion
and the Call to Holiness*

Catechist

Father Dennis Gill

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 307-321

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27

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 4

HANDING ON OF THE CREED

6:30 PM Coordinating Team Meeting

Catechetical Topic

The Creed and the Lord's Prayer

Catechist

Father Eric Banecker

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 35-47, 481-495

SATURDAY, MARCH 6

SECOND SCRUTINY AT THE 5:15 PM ANTICIPATED MASS

THURSDAY, MARCH 11

Catechetical Topic

The Way of the Cross

Catechist

Father August Taglianetti

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 89-100

SUNDAY, MARCH 14

THIRD SCRUTINY AT THE 11:00 AM SOLEMN MASS

THURSDAY, MARCH 18

HANDING ON OF THE LORD'S PRAYER

Catechetical Topic

*Preparation for Holy Week
and the Sacred Paschal Triduum*

Catechist

Father Dennis Gill

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 89-100

**THURSDAY THROUGH SUNDAY, MARCH 25 THROUGH 28
THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM**

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

(Saturday, March 27, 2027, in the Cathedral Chapel)

**celebration of the sacraments of initiation
at the Easter Vigil at 8:00 PM**

(Saturday, March 27, 2027, in the Cathedral Basilica)

Separate schedule will be provided for the Sacred Paschal Triduum

PERIOD OF MYSTAGOGY

THURSDAY, APRIL 1

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

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 151-162; 307-321

SATURDAY, APRIL 3

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

Neophytes wear their baptismal garments to Mass.

SUNDAY, APRIL 4

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

Or the Neophytes and their godparents assemble as a group for the 11:00 AM Mass.

Neophytes wear their baptismal garments to Mass.

THURSDAY, APRIL 8

Catechetical Topic

The Church, the Body of Christ

Precepts of the Church

Catechist

Deacon Chike Egbufoama

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 111-139, 334-335

SATURDAY, APRIL 10 or

SUNDAY, APRIL 11

Neophytes and their godparents assemble as a group for the 5:15 PM Mass or 11:00 AM Mass.

THURSDAY, APRIL 15

Catechetical Topic

The Blessed Virgin Mary and the Saints

The Holy Rosary

Catechist

Father Jordan Kelly, OP

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 141-149

SATURDAY, APRIL 17 or
SUNDAY, APRIL 18

Neophytes and their godparents assemble as a group for the 5:15 PM Mass or 11:00 AM Mass.

THURSDAY, APRIL 22

Catechetical Topic

Human Life Issues

Catechist

Father Dennis Gill

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 387-402

SATURDAY, APRIL 24 or
SUNDAY, APRIL 25

Neophytes and their godparents assemble as a group for the 5:15 PM Mass or 11:00 AM Mass.

THURSDAY, APRIL 29

6:30 PM Coordinating Team Meeting

Catechetical Topic

Social Justice and the Gospel

The Works of Mercy

Catechist

Father Eric Banecker

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 323-338

SATURDAY, MAY 1 or
SUNDAY, MAY 2

Neophytes and their godparents assemble as a group for the 5:15 PM Mass or 11:00 AM Mass.

THURSDAY, MAY 6

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 8 or
SUNDAY, MAY 9

Neophytes and their godparents assemble as a group for the 5:15 PM Mass or 11:00 AM Mass.

THURSDAY, MAY 13

Catechetical Topic

Catholic Practices and Devotions

Catechist

Deacon Chike Egbufoama

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 293-303; 461-480

SATURDAY, MAY 15

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, MAY 16

SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST

CONFERRAL OF CONFIRMATION AT THE 11:00 AM SOLEMN MASS

IN THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA

Neophytes and their godparents assemble as a group for the 11:00 AM Mass.

*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: _____

Published September 2026