



Recommended Calendar and Outline of Curriculum 2017-2019

Pastors, RCIA Coordinators, Sponsors, and Catechists are to assist those making a journey of faith by their teaching and example. There are three recommended resources: the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, the *YOUcat*, and the *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults*. The recommended calendar and curriculum below is divided into the four periods as outlined by the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. Under each major section are associated topics from the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC), the *YOUcat* and the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults (USCCA). ***This is the recommended RCIA model that should be adapted to meet your local parish needs and/or circumstances.***

PERIOD 1: INQUIRY / PRE-CATECHUMENATE

Ideally this is a period of time that is to be ongoing. It is for anyone who has heard the good news of Jesus Christ from the living example of someone who has drawn them to the parish and they are interested in learning more. This first period of the process is an opportunity to introduce the Gospel values and the beginnings of the faith to those persons who desire to discover more about the faith. Topics that should be covered during this period include:

TOPIC	CCC	YOUCAT	USCCA
<i>Welcome/Overview of the RCIA Process</i>			
<i>What has led you to inquire more about the Catholic Faith?</i>			
<i>What do you hope to get out of the classes/process?</i>			
<i>How has your own journey of faith been up to this point in your life?</i>			
Existence of God: God's loving plan of Salvation/Man's Capacity for God	1, 27-43, 198-226, 239, 268-274	3-6	Chapter 1
The Story: God comes to meet Man	53-67, 238,388,758-786, 831	7-9	Chapter 2
The Most Holy Trinity: God as a communion of life and love	42, 202, 232-239, 245-261	34-39	Chapter 5
The Incarnation	422-478, 512, 606-607	71-112	Chapter 7
The Church	85-86, 737-801, 871-933	343-347	Chapter 10
Man's Response to God	142-149; 153-165,179-180, 183-184	20-24	Chapter 4
The 4 Marks of the Church: One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church	75-79, 551-553, 750, 811-885	129-145	Chapters: 10-11

TOPIC	CCC	YOUCAT	USCCA
The Communion of Saints: the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God	946-959, 1471-1479, 2635-2636	146-149	Chapter 12
Divine Revelation, Sacred Tradition and Sacred Scripture: What is the bible? etc.	50-78, 101-106	11-15, 143, 492	Chapter 3
Original Sin, Temptation, Garden of Eden	272-274, 309-414, 374-412, 1263-1264	67-70, 83, 197, 88, 525	Chapter 6
Sacramental Economy	168-169, 257-260, 1076-1109, 1113-1130	24, 39, 166-178	Chapter 13
Dignity of the Human Person	27, 355-379, 1701-1730	280-320	Chapters: 4, 7, 14, 23-24
Explanation of the Mass: Passover from Egypt, Real Presence	1085, 1104, 1140-44, 1322-1405	208-223	Chapter 17
Basic Introduction to Prayer: <i>Lectio Divina</i>	2558-2619, 2625-2679, 2697-2719	469-489	Chapter 35
<i>A walk-through of the church: Tabernacle, Ambo, Baptismal Font, Confessional, etc.</i>			
<i>Preparation for the Rite of Acceptance</i>			
<i>Rite of Welcoming & Acceptance</i>			

First Liturgical Step: Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens

This first step is of utmost importance. Candidates, who have had an initial conversion to Jesus Christ, celebrate the first major liturgical ritual of the initiation process. Once candidates have completed the period of the precatechumenate they declare their intention to the Church and the Church in turn, carrying out its apostolic mission, accepts them as persons who intend to become its members. God showers his grace on the candidates, since the celebration manifests their desire publicly and marks their reception and first consecration by the Church (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, 41).

The rite will take place on specified days during the year that are suited to the local conditions. The rite consists in the reception of the candidates, the celebration of the word of God, and the dismissal of the candidates; celebration of the Eucharist may follow (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, 44).

PERIOD 2: CATECHUMENATE

This is a period of time, in duration corresponding to the progress of the individual, a period meant for the nurturing and growth of the catechumens' faith and conversion to God; celebrations of the word and prayers of exorcism and blessing are meant to assist the process (RCIA, p16). We offer you three different 14-week options to use throughout the extensive period of catechumenate; these are meant to be tailored to the needs of your specific catechumens. There are topics that are repeated in each of these options that are meant to be explained in greater detail during this period:

TOPICS (OPTION 1)	CCC	YOUCAT	USCCA
Introduction to the Creed	170-174, 184-188, 192-197	25-29	Chapter: 4-5
Creation	279-290, 296-297, 293-295, 299, 339-241, 385, 306-307, 1604, 2501, 337-342, 344, 343	40-66, 260, 461	Chapter 1

TOPICS (OPTION 1)	CCC	YOUCAT	USCCA
God the Father	238-240, 279, 267-271, 2013, 2779-2784, 2786-2793, 2822-2827	30-37, 515-516, 521	Chapter 5
God the Son	260, 422-424, 425-429, 430-435, 436-440, 441-451, 461-464, 516, 519-560, 601-603	39, 71-99	Chapter 7
God the Holy Spirit	243-245, 685, 683-741, 1695, 2670-2672	113-120	Chapter 9
The Kingdom of God	541-553, 559-560, 668-677, 736-769, 2816-2819	89, 119, 123-125, 139, 520	Chapter 10
The Four Last Things: Death, Judgment, Heaven and Hell	678-679, 988-1004, 1005-1014, 1020-1050, 1472, 2548-2550	111-112, 152-155, 156-164, 159-160, 285, 468	Chapter 13
Liturgy	1066-1206	167-171, 192, 212	Chapter 14
Sacraments of Initiation	1213-1216, 1276-1278, 1229-1245, 1246-1254, 1250, 1282, 1256, 1284, 1257-1261, 1281, 1283, 1262-1274, 1279-1280, 2156-2159, 2165, 2167, 1285-1314, 1285-1288, 1315, 1302-1305, 1317-1319, 1323-1341	194-223	Chapters: 15-17
Holy Orders/ Anointing of the Sick	1120, 1127-1128, 1534-1535, 1536-1589, 1420-1421, 1499-1525	193, 249-251, 243-246	Chapters: 19-20

TOPICS (OPTION 1)	CCC	YOUCAT	USCCA
Freedom in Christ	1691-1698, 1705-1707, 1716-1724, 1730-1742, 1776-1794, 1965-1972	279-286, 295-296, 334-336	Chapters: 23-24
Grace	1129, 1742, 1810-1811, 1972, 1987-2016	338-341	Chapter 24
Justification and Merit	617, 654, 1266, 1987-1995, 2006-2011	337, 338, 341	Chapter 24

TOPICS (OPTION 2)	CCC	YOUCAT	USCCA
The Blessed Virgin Mary	148-149, 273, 411, 484-507, 721-726, 963-972, 2673-2679	80, 82-85, 117, 147-148	Chapter 12
Divine Providence	301-305, 306-308, 312-313, 314, 410	49-51	Chapters: 3, 5
The Paschal Mystery	512, 517-518, 571-591, 595-618, 624-628, 631-635, 638-655, 659-664	94-112	Chapters: 8, 14
Baptism	537, 977-978, 1113-1130, 1127-1128, 1213-1274	194-202	Chapter 15
The Eucharist (Part 1 of 2)	1323, 1333-1334, 1335, 1336, 1337-1341, 1373-1377	208-223	Chapter 17
The Eucharist (Part 2 of 2)	1322, 1324-1327, 1328-1332, 1342-1355, 1356-1372, 1378-1381, 1382-1390, 1391-1405	208-223	Chapter 17
Reconciliation	1127-1128, 1420-1421, 1422-1484	224-239	Chapter 18

TOPICS (OPTION 2)	CCC	YOUCAT	USCCA
Matrimony	1601-1605, 1644-1654, 1664, 1605, 1612-1617, 1661, 1606-1608, 1618-1620, 1621-1624, 1663, 1633-1637, 1629, 1649, 1665, 2384, 1655-1657	260-271	Chapter 21
Mercy and Justice	210-211, 268-2701, 545, 1422, 1730-1742, 1749, 1828-1829, 1846-1848, 1994, 2401-2442, 2443-2449, 2840	89, 283, 300, 302, 314, 337, 450-451, 524	Chapter 24
Salvation and Redemption	410-412, 488, 539, 557, 560, 599-617, 1168	70, 80, 88, 94, 98, 186	Chapter 2
Social Teachings	909, 1877-1889, 1897-1917, 1928-1948, 2207-2213, 2401-2418, 2419-2449	438-449	Chapter 31
The Ten Commandments (1-3)	345-349, 1166-1167, 577-582, 708-710, 1159-1162, 1949-1953, 2042, 2052-2074, 2083-2132, 2142-2159, 2168-2188	349-366	Chapters: 25-27
The Ten Commandments (4-10)	2196-2246, 2258-2317, 2331-2391, 2401-2449, 2464-2503, 2514-2527, 2534-2550	367-468	Chapters 28-34
The Lord's Prayer	2664, 2759-2772, 2777-2796, 2803-2854	511-527	Chapter 36

TOPICS (OPTION 3)	CCC	YOUCAT	USCCA
Creation	279,285, 286-289, 290, 296-297, 293-295, 299, 339-341, 385, 306-307, 1604, 2501, 337-342, 344	41-50	Chapter 5
Sacred Scripture	96, 101, 102, 108, 103, 104 105-107, 109-119, 120, 121-126, 128-130, 131, 133	11-19	Chapter 3
Mystical Body of Christ	776, 787-796, 797-801, 872, 1267, 1396, 1469, 1508, 1548, 1616-1617, 2045	123-128	Chapter 10
The Story of the People of God	53-67, 238, 388, 758-762, 776, 781-786, 831, 839-840, 1080, 1611-1612, 2058-2061, 2810	8, 116, 194, 210, 334-336	Chapter 2
The Second Coming	668-679, 988-1001, 1038-1041, 1042-1050	111-112, 157	Chapter 13
Liturgical Prayer	1069-1073, 1136-1144, 1145-1162, 1163-1173, 1174-1178, 2586-2589	167-212	Chapter 35
The Eucharist (Part 2 of 2)	1322, 1324-1327, 1328-1332, 1342-1355, 1356-1372, 1378-1381, 1382-1390, 1391-1405	208-223	Chapter 17
Vocations: God's Call	543, 863, 873, 898-900, 914-933, 1547-1553, 1603-1605, 1616-1617, 1618-1620, 1721	73, 138, 139, 144-145, 205, 250, 255, 265, 340	Chapter 11

TOPICS (OPTION 3)	CCC	YOUCAT	USCCA
Mercy and Justice	210-211, 268-2701, 545, 1422, 1730-1742, 1749, 1828-1829, 1846-1848, 1994, 2401-2442, 2443-2449, 2840	337, 338, 341	Chapter 24
Virtue of Faith	26,35, 142-143,144-165, 166-175, 185-197, 1266, 1812, 1813-1816, 2087-2089	306-307	
Virtue of Hope	1266, 1812, 1817-1821, 2086, 2090-2092, 2657	306, 308	
Virtue of Love	826, 1266, 1812, 1822-1829, 1832, 1889,	306, 309	
Cardinal Virtues	1804-1811, 2031, 2337-2359, 2517-2527, 2544-2547	299-304	
The Two Great Commandments	459, 577-582, 1965-1972, 2056, 2196	321, 329, 352, 367	

The Second Liturgical Step: Election or Enrollment of Name

The second step in Christian initiation is the liturgical rite called both election and the enrollment of names, which closes the period of the catechumenate proper, that is, the lengthy period of formation of the catechumens’ minds and hearts. The celebration of the rite of election, which usually coincides with the opening of Lent, also marks the beginning of the period of final, more intense preparation for the sacraments of initiation, during which the elect will be encouraged to follow Christ with greater generosity (RCIA, 118).

PERIOD 3: PURIFICATION & ENLIGHTENMENT

This final period of preparation is one of intense, spiritual recollection that usually coincides with Lent. It is a period of purification and enlightenment. It is a time for deeper reflection and prayer. The catechumens, now called the elect, purify their minds and hearts by celebrating several rituals. The three purifying rituals, known as the Scrutinies, strengthen the elect and help them to complete their

conversion. The Presentation of the Creed and the Lord’s Prayer enlighten the minds of the elect in the final weeks of their preparation for the sacraments.

TOPIC	CCC	YOUCAT	USCCA
The Eucharist as Christ Revealed (Transfiguration)	Mark: 9:2-10		Chapter 5-7
Sin and the Challenge of Purity (Samaritan Woman)	John: 4:4-42	404-406, 463	Chapter 20
Spiritual Blindness and Pride (Blind Man)	Luke 18:35-43		Chapter 23
The Dignity of Life in Christ (Lazarus)	Luke 16:19-31		Chapter 23
Teaching on Holy Week	1163-1172	186, 187, 212, 217,	Chapter 14
The Way of the Cross	1674-1679	274, 277-278	Chapter 22
Reconciliation as a Sacrament of Healing	1420-1424, 1140-1460, 1468-1470	224-239	Chapter 18
Traditions of Prayer	971, 1028, 1174-1178, 1674-1676, 2564-2565, 2586-2589, 2653-2654, 2673-2679, 2684, 2697-2699, 2705-2719	472, 500, 502	Chapter 35
The Battle of Prayer	357, 2559, 2725-2745	469-527	Chapter 35
Adoration/Rosary & other Devotions	2626-2628, 2678, 2708,	469-527	Chapter 22
Eucharistic Meditation and Chaplet of Divine Mercy	2700-2724	499-510	Chapter 35

TOPIC	CCC	YOUCAT	USCCA
<i>The Scrutinies (3rd, 4th, and 5th Sundays of Lent)</i>	RCIA Book: article numbers (141-146)	RCIA Book: article numbers (141-146)	Chapter 15

Third Liturgical Step: Celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation

The third step in the Christian initiation of adults is the celebration of the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. Through this final step the elect, receiving pardon for their sins, are admitted into the people of God. They are graced with adoption as children of God and are led by the Holy Spirit into the promised fullness of time begun in Christ and, as they share in the Eucharistic sacrifice and meal, even to a foretaste of the kingdom of God (RCIA, 206).

PERIOD 4: BAPTISMAL CATECHESIS OR MYSTAGOGY

This is the time, usually the Easter season, following the celebration of initiation, during which the newly initiated experience being fully a part of the Christian community by means of pertinent catechesis and particularly by participation with all the faithful in the Sunday Eucharistic celebration (RCIA, p. 16). Topics that should be covered in this period include:

TOPIC	CCC	YOUCAT	USCCA
Sacramental Living in the Apostolic Church	1691-1695	279, 172-178	Chapter 11
The Mass as the Way of Life	1389		Chapter 25
Evangelization and the Call of the Good Shepherd	848-856, 905, 2225,	321-336	Chapter 11
Personal Devotion to Jesus	456-460		

TOPIC	CCC	YOUCAT	USCCA
Becoming a Saint	941		
The Eucharist as a Call to Virtue	1391-1397		Chapter 17
God's Plan for You	459, 825-826, 828, 1716-1729, 2013-2015, 2030		Chapter 15, 17
The Story of the Road to Emmaus: A paradigm for Mass	Luke 24:13-35		
Who is Jesus to You Now?			
Who is the Father to You Now?			
Who is the Holy Spirit to You Now?			
The Catholic Worldview			