

Saint Raphael Parish

Adult Faith Formation

RCIA Schedule 2021-2022

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process of inquiry and a process of initiation into the Catholic Church. It is a journey of faith, designed specifically for those who have not yet been baptized. The RCIA has four periods and throughout each period, participants discern God’s call in their lives and readiness to move forward to the next period. Participants are welcome to stay in the RCIA for as long as they wish with no pressure to move forward when they are not ready.

The Calendar for the 2021-2022 year is offered below

Period of Inquiry

Inquiry is the first period in the RCIA process and begins first with an initial meeting. Because everyone who comes into the RCIA has a different background, this first period has no official start or end date; however, our formal introduction to the RCIA is a 7-week journey designed to help inquirers break open questions around life and faith.

Introductory Meeting:	“The Search”
Schedule by contacting Kate at kate.mcgrath@st-raphael-parish.org 603-623-2604	A video-series that explores some of life’s significant questions.
	Wednesday evenings: 6:30pm – 8:00pm <i>October 6th – November 17th</i>

**When the inquirer is ready to make the next step,
the RCIA process continues as follows.**

Preparation for the Rite of Acceptance & Rite of Welcome

The Rite of Acceptance is the first of the “threshold rites” of the RCIA and is the first public ritual. In the Rite of Acceptance, a change of identity takes place: those previously known as inquirers become catechumens and are officially welcomed by the Church as disciples.

December 1 st , 2021 6:30pm – 8:00pm	The Church Review of the Rite of Acceptance
December 5 th , 2021 9:30am Mass	Rite of Acceptance and Rite of Welcome Celebrated during 9:30am Mass

Period of the Catechumenate

When the Inquirer is ready to make the next step in their RCIA journey, they enter the Period of Catechumenate. At this point, the individual is expressing a deeper interest and desire to join the Catholic Church and the parish community.

During this period, catechumens attend the 9:30am Mass. They are dismissed following the homily to “Break Open the Word,” and reflect on the scripture readings for the day. In addition, classes continue to be held Wednesday evenings from 6:30pm – 8:00pm.

Resource used during this period: [United States Catholic Catechism for Adults](#).

The Catechumenate ends with the Rite of Election.

December 8 th 6:30pm – 8:00pm	Lesson 1: The Celebration of the Paschal Mystery of Christ
December 12 th 9:30am Mass w/Dismissal – 11:00am	Breaking Open the Word: <i>Third Sunday of Advent & The Liturgical Year: Advent</i>
December 15 th 6:30pm – 8:00pm	Lesson 2: Baptism: Becoming a Christian
December 19 th 9:30am Mass w/Dismissal – 11:00am	Breaking Open the Word: <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>
December 22 nd 6:30pm – 8:00pm	Lesson 3: Confirmation: Consecrated for Mission
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!	
January 2 nd 9:30am Mass w/Dismissal – 11:00am	Breaking Open the Word: <i>Epiphany of the Lord</i>
January 5 th 6:30pm – 8:00pm	Lesson 4: The Eucharist: Source and Summit of Christian Life
January 9 th 9:30am Mass w/Dismissal – 11:00am	Breaking Open the Word: <i>The Baptism of the Lord & The Liturgical Year: Ordinary Time</i>
January 12 th 6:30pm – 8:00pm	Lesson 5: Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation
January 16 th 9:30am Mass w/Dismissal – 11:00am	Breaking Open the Word: <i>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
January 19 th 6:30pm – 8:00pm	Lesson 6: Anointing of the Sick and the Dying
January 23 rd 9:30am Mass w/Dismissal – 11:00am	Breaking Open the Word: <i>Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
January 26 th 6:30pm – 8:00pm	Lesson 7: Holy Orders

Period of the Catechumenate Cont.

January 30 th 9:30am Mass w/Dismissal – 11:00am	Breaking Open the Word: <i>Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
February 2 nd 6:30pm – 8:00pm	Lesson 8: The Sacrament of Marriage
February 6 th 9:30am Mass w/Dismissal – 11:00am	Breaking Open the Word: <i>Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
February 9 th 6:30pm – 8:00pm	Lesson 9: Sacramentals and Popular Devotions
February 13 th 9:30am Mass w/Dismissal – 11:00am	Breaking Open the Word: <i>Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
February 16 th 6:30pm – 8:00pm	Lesson 10: God Calls us to Pray
February 20 th 9:30am Mass w/Dismissal – 11:00am	Breaking Open the Word: <i>Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
February 23 rd 6:30pm – 8:00pm	Lesson 11: Jesus Taught us to Pray
February 27 th	Rite of Sending
March 2 nd	Ash Wednesday
TBD	Rite of Election

Purification and Enlightenment

Purification and Enlightenment is the third period of the RCIA. Those who are ready will be invited to take the final step before entering into communion with the Church. These weeks leading up to Easter serve as a period of reflection, repentance, and prayer. During this period, we continue our weekly meetings on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. *Resource used during this period:* [Journey of Faith, Liguori Press \(Period of Purification and Enlightenment\)](#)

March 6 th 9:30am Mass w/Dismissal – 11:00am	Breaking Open the Word: <i>First Sunday of Lent & The Liturgical Year: Lent</i>
March 9 th 6:30pm – 8:00pm	Lesson 12: Election: Saying Yes to God
March 13 th 9:30am Mass w/Dismissal – 11:00am <i>Penitential Rite for Candidates</i>	Breaking Open the Word: <i>Second Sunday of Lent</i>
March 16 th 6:30pm – 8:00pm	Lesson 13: Living Lent and the Scrutinies

Purification and Enlightenment Cont.

March 20 th 9:30am Mass w/Dismissal – 11:00am First Scrutiny	Breaking Open the Word: Third Sunday of Lent
March 23 rd 6:30pm – 8:00pm	Lesson 14: The Creed
March 27 th 9:30am Mass w/Dismissal – 11:00am Second Scrutiny	Breaking Open the Word: Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 30 th 6:30pm – 8:00pm	Lesson 15: The Way of the Cross and The Lord’s Prayer
April 3 rd 9:30am Mass w/Dismissal – 11:00am Third Scrutiny	Breaking Open the Word: Fifth Sunday of Lent
April 9 th	Reconciliation First Reconciliation for Candidates Time TBD
April 10 th Palm Sunday	Holy Week and Triduum
April 14 th	Holy Thursday
April 15 th	Good Friday
April 16 th Saturday Morning	Vigil Rehearsal Time TBD
April 16 th Saturday Evening	Easter Vigil Time TBD
April 17 th	Happy Easter!

Mystagogy

Mystagogy is the final period of the RCIA. This is a period of prayer and reflection for the neophytes (newly baptized). During this period, we continue our weekly meetings on Wednesday evenings. Resource used during this period: [Journey of Faith, Liguori Press \(Mystagogy\)](#)

April 27 th 6:30pm – 8:00pm	Conversion: A Lifelong Process
May 4 th 6:30pm – 8:00pm	The Role of the Laity
May 11 th 6:30pm – 8:00pm	Your Spiritual Gifts and Discernment
May 18 th 6:30pm – 8:00pm	Our Call to Holiness & Living the Virtues