

RCIA Catechumenate

Winter 2019 Dates and Information

Our catechumenate runs year-round so long as there are catechumens and/or candidates in the process. This schedule includes dates of our sessions and Breaking Open the Word sessions. Themes and dates are subject to change, but if a schedule is updated, it will be emailed to candidates, catechumen, and sponsors. Please contact Ricardo Valdez (rvaldez@stfrancisholland.org), Director of Faith Formation, in the parish office with questions or concern.

Overview of Schedule

Weekly - Breaking Open the Word (BOW) at the 10:30 a.m. Mass

First Sunday - Catechetical Session (with prayer and reflection)

Second Sunday - Family Program

Third Sunday - Catechetical Session

Fourth Sunday - Experiential Learning (activities that help get candidates and catechumens out in the parish and seeing and experiencing the work of the parish)

January 2019

Sunday, January 6

- Prayer & Reflection – St. Jane Room, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- BOW at the 10:30 a.m. Mass

Sunday, January 13

- BOW at the 10:30 a.m. Mass
- Sunday Program — Corpus Christi Center, 3:00-6:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 20

- Original Sin and Human Nature and Destiny – St. Jane Room, 11:30-1:00 p.m.
- BOW at the 10:30 a.m. Mass

Sunday, January 27

- Formation of the Moral Conscience (Ch. 23) – St. Jane Room, 11:30-1:00 p.m. – Thomas G.
- BOW at the 10:30 a.m. Mass

February 2019

Sunday, February 3

- Prayer & Reflection – 6:30 to 8:00 – St. Jane Room (Changed)
- BOW at the 10:30 a.m. Mass

Sunday, February 10

- BOW at the 10:30 a.m. Mass
- Sunday Program — Corpus Christi Center, 3:00-6:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 17

- Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism (Ch. 15) – St. Jane Room, 11:30-1:00 p.m. – Benjamin C.
- BOW at the 10:30 a.m. Mass

Sunday, February 24

- Sacraments of Initiation: Confirmation (Ch. 16) – St. Jane Room, 11:30-1:00 p.m. - Jared O.
- BOW at the 10:30 a.m. Mass

March 2019

Sunday, March 3

- Prayer & Reflection – St. Jane Room, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- BOW at the 10:30 a.m. Mass

Sunday, March 10

- BOW at the 10:30 a.m. Mass
- Sunday Program — Corpus Christi Center, 3:00-6:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 17

- Sacraments of Healing: Penance and Anointing of the Sick (Ch. 18) – St. Jane Room, 11:30-1:00 p.m. – Benjamin C.
- BOW at the 10:30 a.m. Mass

Sunday, March 24

- Sacraments of Initiation: Eucharist (Ch. 17) – St. Jane Room, 11:30-1:00 p.m. - Jack M.
- BOW at the 10:30 a.m. Mass

Sunday, March 31

- Structure of the Catholic Church (Ch. 10 & 11) – St. Jane Room, 11:30-1:00 p.m. - Thomas Gallagher
- BOW at the 10:30 a.m. Mass

April 2019

Sunday, April 7

- Prayer & Reflection – St. Jane Room, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- BOW at the 10:30 a.m. Mass

Sunday, April 14 (Palm Sunday)

- BOW at the 10:30 a.m. Mass
 - Sunday Program — Corpus Christi Center, 3:00-6:00 p.m.
- HOLY WEEK (week of April 14) – Please plan on attending Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday services (see bulletin for details)

Sunday, April 21 (Easter Sunday)

- No BOW

Sunday, April 28

- Sacraments of Initiation: Eucharist (Ch. 17) – St. Jane Room, 11:30-1:00 p.m. – Benjamin C.
- BOW at the 10:30 a.m. Mass

(Summer schedule to follow)

General Information

RCIA Discipleship Essentials

It's critical that you do the following to cultivate a relationship with God and the Church during this process. If you have scheduling conflicts, please let us know.

- Daily prayer
- Prayer journaling
- Spend time with your sponsor
- Attend Breaking Open the Word during the 10:30 a.m. Mass each Sunday
- Attend sessions on the first, third, and fourth Sundays of each month
- Attend the Family Program on the second Sunday of each month

Here are some of the minimal responses to the Gospel that we as Catholics are called to live, as found in the Precepts of the Church. It is important to get started during the RCIA process. Learn more at www.stfrancisholland.org/rciaresources.

- Attend Mass on Sunday and on holy days of obligation and rest from servile labor (work and activities that get in the way of worship).
- Observe the days of fasting and abstinence from meat.
- Go to confession at least once a year and receive the Eucharist at least once during the Easter season. (Only baptized persons can celebrate these sacraments.)
- Help to provide for the needs of the Church according to your ability.

Before Being Initiated

While each person's faith journey is different, we are working together to grow in faith to know, love, and serve the Lord as His disciples. There are some final steps that we have each catechumen and candidate do before they are initiated into the Church:

- Complete an Ignatian discernment process (includes journaling with reflection questions and meeting with your sponsor and the director)

- Catechumens (those not yet baptized): at least one full liturgical year of catechumenate sessions and discernment with your sponsor, the RCIA team, and through Ignatian discernment; participate in certain liturgical rites; celebrate the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil (night before Easter) or in the fall when a celebration is scheduled.
- Candidates (those already baptized): length of discernment depends on previous catechesis and personal faith journey; celebrate the sacrament of Confession prior to celebrating the Rite of Full Reception (where one is initiated into the Catholic Church), which is offered roughly four times a year.

Contact

Parish Office: (616) 392-6700

Parish Website: www.stfrancisholland.org

Parish Facebook: www.facebook.com/sfdsholland

TBD

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