

# St. Justin Martyr Roman Catholic Church • Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults • 2018-2019

Weekly meetings on Thursdays from 7:00-8:30pm in the grade school's ATR Room

DATE	MEETING TOPIC	USCCA
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>		
6	RCIA, our stories, faith & conversion	Chapters 1 & 4
13	Who is Jesus?	
20	Prayer in the Catholic Tradition	Chapters 35-36
27	The Mass: Source & Summit of the Christian Life	Chapter 17
<b>OCTOBER</b>		
4	Tour of St. Justin Martyr Church	
11	In the Beginning: God the Holy Trinity & Creation	Chapters 5 & 6
18	Jesus & Salvation	Chapters 7 & 8
25	Divine Revelation: Scripture & Tradition	Chapters 2 & 3
<b>NOVEMBER</b>		
1	Blessed Virgin Mary & the Communion of Saint	Chapter 12
8	The Catholic Church & Her History	Chapters 10 & 11
15	Sacraments & Liturgy	Chapter 14
<i>No meeting on Nov. 22 — Happy Thanksgiving!</i>		
30	Liturgical Year & Advent	
<b>DECEMBER</b>		
6	Sacraments of Initiation	Chapters 15, 16, 17
13	Sacraments of Healing & of Vocation	Chapters 18- 21
20	Celebrating Christmas in the Catholic Church	
<i>No meeting on December 27th— Merry Christmas!</i>		
<b>JANUARY</b>		
<i>No meeting on January 3rd — Happy New Year!</i>		
10	Christian Moral Life	Chapters 23 & 24
17	The 1st, 2nd & 3rd Commandments	Chapters 25, 26, 27
24	The 4th & 5th Commandments	Chapters 28 & 29
31	The 6th & 9th Commandments	Chapters 30 & 33
<b>FEBRUARY</b>		
7	The 7th, 8th & 10th Commandments	Chapter 31, 32 & 34
14	Moral Scenarios	
21	Eternal Destiny: Heaven, Hell & Purgatory	Chapter 13
28	The Liturgical Season of Lent	
<b>MARCH</b>		
7	The Teachings of Jesus	
14	Conversion	
21	Catholic Spirituality	
28	Sacrament of Penance & How to Celebrate It	Chapter 18
<b>APRIL</b>		
4	The Paschal Mystery & the Sacraments of Initiation	Chapter 8

RCIA PERIOD & RITE
<p><b>Pre-Catechumenate</b> The main purpose is to give the inquirer an opportunity to question and explore many different aspects of the Catholic faith, while introducing some of the Gospel values.</p> <p><b>Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens</b> Inquirers express the interest and the Church accepts their intention to respond to God's call to follow the way of Christ.</p>
<p><b>Catechumenate</b> This is by far the longest and most formal part of the process. During this phase the catechumen is expected to participate with the whole Catholic community in their Sunday celebrations. The catechumen participates by sharing in the Liturgy of the Word. Through prayer, learning and coming to know other Catholic Christians, catechumens discover the love and power of God in their lives and in the church. This phase is meant to be one not only of intellectual and faith formation, but also one of great delight and opportunity to contribute to and benefit from the parish community. The focus clearly is on a conversion of heart, through prayer and good works, but also of conversion of the mind, in which we start to see through the eyes of God, to think, perceive and act as Christ desires. During this time, catechumens receive anointings, participate in prayers of exorcism and blessings, which assists this conversion.</p> <p><b>The Rite of Election</b> is an acknowledgment on behalf of the bishop, based on the testimony of the priest, the RCIA team, and the sponsors, that the catechumen is adequately formed and ready to receive the Sacraments of Initiation. It is a formal acceptance on behalf of the Church. The catechumen too, formally declares that he / she has believed and accepted all that was presented to them during the Catechumenate. This is a formal declaration that it is their desire to become a fully active participant within the Catholic faith community. This Rite takes place during the first Sunday of Lent and from this time, until they are baptized, the catechumens are called the elect.</p>
<p><b>Purification &amp; Enlightenment</b> This phase takes place during Lent, and is marked by 3 community celebrations known as <i>Scrutinies</i>. During this period, the elect and the parish community together focus on conversion, scrutinize their lives in light of the Gospel and celebrate the presentations of the Creed and Lord's Prayer. The Scrutinies coincide with the 3rd, 4th and 5th Sunday's of Lent, and they ask God for healing and forgiveness of the elect.</p>