

RCIA SESSIONS PROGRAMME

30th Oct	Session 7 Windows on God's World	Bringing the reality of God into our lives. What is a "Sacrament"? Why are Sacraments special? How do they differ from other forms of prayer and worship?
6th Nov	Session 8 Prayer -- just being with God	The need for prayer. Different ways of praying. Praying for the Christian is like petrol for the car. Without it we cannot make any progress in our Christian journey.
13th Nov	Session 9 Mary, the Mother of God	Who was Mary? Why do we still honour and pray to her? Mary in Scripture. Doctrines about Mary developed within Church Tradition. The Rosary
20th Nov	Session 10 Advent, & the Liturgical Year	Advent is the beginning of the Liturgical Year. What is this and why do we have such a formal pattern?
27th Nov	Session 9 Making a Commitment	The full RCIA process Explaining The Rite of Welcome for those who wish to make the commitment to join the Catholic Church. The role of a Sponsor
4th Dec	Session 12 Christmas	In Christmas we celebrate the beginning of Jesus' earthly life – the Incarnation. What happened and why is it important?
		BREAK FOR CHRISTMAS

2019 8th Jan	Session 13 Baptism and Confirmation	A new beginning. Why have sacraments of Initiation? Adult and infant baptism. Confirmation and the gifts of the Holy Spirit.. The liturgies of baptism and confirmation.
15th Jan	Session 14 Eucharist	The centre of our lives. Celebrating the Lord's Supper. The bread and wine become his Body and Blood. We become one with Christ and with one another in Communion.
22nd Jan	Session 15 Sacrament of Anointing	Holy oils that heal and strengthen. Anointing of the Sick. Anointing of the Catechumens if needed. What do we believe about "life after death"?
29th Jan	Session 16 Marriage and Holy Orders	Our life choices. Marriage is a covenant between man and woman. A sacrament of life and love. Priesthood. Ordination consecrates a man to minister to God's people.
5th Feb	Session 17 Forgiveness and Reconciliation	Finding pardon and peace. Christ came to forgive us our sins and left us with the sacrament of reconciliation. The inevitability of failure and fear and using these experiences to bring us closer to God
12th Feb	Session 18 Faith and Conversion	Faith as a loving response to God. Discovering how one comes to faith and to believe more deeply is a lifetime cycle of growth (changing) that brings us closer to God. Rite of Signing the Book of the Elect
19th Feb	<i>no meeting</i>	
26th Feb	Session 19 Lent -- a time of preparation	Lent is the preparation of the believer for the celebration of Easter through prayer, penance, repentance, almsgiving, and self-denial. Why? How does this work in practice?
5th March	Session 20 Shrove Tuesday	Pancake Party. Review of Catechumenate. Preparation for the Rite of Election.
6th March	ASH WEDNESDAY	attend the Mass that marks the beginning of Lent
Sunday	<i>at Brentwood</i>	RITE OF ELECTION

10th March	Cathedral	<i>sponsor needed</i>
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RCIA STAGE 3 -- PURIFICATION AND ENLIGHTENMENT

12th March	Session 21 The Way of the Cross	Looking at the popular devotion called the Stations of the Cross which is particular suitable for Lent.
19th March	Session 22 Christ's Passion 1	Christ's journey from the Last Supper to the Garden of Gethsemane, to his Trial by the authorities.
Sunday	24th March	Sunday Mass -- 1st Scrutiny
26th March	Session 23 We Believe	The Presentation of the Creed An examination of this statement of our belief and the responsibility of passing this on. <i>sponsor helpful</i>
Sunday	31st March	Sunday Mass -- 2nd Scrutiny
2nd April	Session 24 Christ's Passion 2	The Crucifixion, Death and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. The meaning of Easter
8th - 12th April	First Reconciliation	Please note that during this week arrangements will be made for candidates to make their First Reconciliation with Fr James.
Sunday	7th April	Sunday Mass -- 3rd Scrutiny
9th April	Session 26 The Lord's Prayer	The Presentation of the Lord's Prayer Jesus taught us to pray. He taught us how to live. <i>sponsor helpful</i>
14th April		Sunday Mass -- Palm Sunday
16th April	Session 27 The Easter Triduum	A look at the Triduum service that begins on Thursday evening and ends with the Saturday Easter Vigil. This will include a brief rehearsal for those becoming full Catholics at this time.
18th April	Holy Thursday	The Mass of the Last Supper 8pm English Martyrs
19th April	Good Friday	Passion of the Lord 3pm Holy Trinity
Saturday 20th April	EASTER VIGIL	including the rites of initiation into the Catholic Church <i>sponsor needed</i>
Sunday 21st April	EASTER SUNDAY	

STAGE 4 -- MYSTAGOGIA

23rd April	<i>no meeting</i>	
30th April	Session 28 Let us Remember	Looking back at the journey. Sharing our Easter experiences. How did the first disciples react to the realisation of Christ's resurrection? A life changing event.
7th May	Session 29 Living in our Parish	Stewardship -- the obligation to use our time, gifts and talents in God's service. Presentations by parish members on various activities, services and support available in our Parish.
14th May	Session 30 Justice and Social Responsibility	Our responsibility to the wider world; our local community, our country, our world. Talks by those involved in practical action in our parish.
21st May	Session 31 Closing Mass and Party	at Rudley House
9th June		PENTECOST

All meetings are on a Tuesday in the Holy Trinity meeting room in South Woodham Ferrers from 8pm to 9:45pm.