

RCIA 2017-18

SYLLABUS

Updates and notes: www.stjohnoxford.org

Easter Vigil is March 31, 2018

Precatechumenate

- September 10 Welcome, Intro to RCIA (Certificates of Baptism, Marriage)
- September 17 Tour of the Church
- September 24 The Church: One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic
One: The unbroken tradition and the breakaways
The Council of Nicea
The East and West Issue
The schism and the Protestant movement
- October 1 The Church:
Apostolic: The extra-biblical Christian Church
The Papacy
Infallibility: Doctrine and Dogma
- October 8 The Church:
Catholic: the Universal Church
Homework: Lord Teach Us To Pray: pp 118-123
- October 15 **Discussion on “How to Pray”**
The Church:
Holy: Mary and the Saints, Sacramentals
Homework: pp 9-14 Reflection questions:
Which Baptismal promises do I find “easy” to keep?
Which Baptismal promises are challenging to me? Why?
- October 22 **Discussion, pp 9-14**
Team Witness talks
Conversion and Christianity/ Pauline and Petrine model (Fr. Joe)
Homework: pp 17-20 Questions for reflection:
What is an “intimate, self-revealing” relationship?
What are some similar relationships you may have with others?
“None of us offers our lives to a fantasy” (p20):
Do you agree? What do you regard as “realities” that you put efforts toward in your life?

October 29 **Discussion, pp 17-20**
Team Witness talk: “Why the Church is Real for Me”
Attributes of God: Good, Beautiful, True
Attributes of Christ: Bishop Barron
Homework: pp 24-29 Questions for reflection:
What is meant by being “little Christs” in the world?
Who are some “little Christs” you are inspired by? Why?

November 5 **Discussion, pp 24-29**
Team Witness talk: “The ‘little Christ’ I know”
Atheism and the Catholic Church
Presenter: **Buddy Arrington**
Homework: pp 29-31 Questions for reflection:
How does God “enlighten, teach and form” me?
What does the concept of “trinity” mean to me?

November 11 **Discussion p 29-31**
Team Witness talk: “How I see God work in my life”
Catholic Writers and Resources
Presenter: **Buddy Arrington**
Homework: pp 32-34 Questions for reflection:
What is ‘salvation history’?
How is Jesus a “mediator” for us?
Does Jesus understand you and your humanity?

November 26 **Discussion pp 32-34**
Team Witness talk: “Jesus as Man who Understands Me”
Catholic Social Teaching
Presenter: **Buddy Arrington**
Homework Chapter 6 “Rule of Life”

December 3 Spirituality and Advent
“Lord, Teach Us To Pray”: *Spiritual Exercises*
Creating your Rule of Life

BREAK FOR CHRISTMAS

January 7 **Discussion: Sharing the Rules of Life**
The Seven Sacraments: Eucharist Center of our Faith
Homework pp 39-41
What are some ways the Church defines “the Eucharist”?
What do believers believe about the Eucharist?
What do I expect from my first Communion (from Communion?)

- January 14 **Discussion pp 39-41**
Team Witness talk “I came to believe in the Eucharist”
Eucharist in Scripture and Liturgy
Homework: pp 50-57 Questions for Reflection:
What is the “purgative way”?
The “first conversion” is brought about by crisis, difficulty or a sense of being lost. Give some examples of this.
What does “grace” have to do with Conversion?
- January 21 **Discussion pp 50-57**
Team Witness talk: “My conversion to Christ”
Baptism and Confirmation
Homework pp 60-64 Questions for reflection:
Distinguish between “flesh” and the “body”.
What is virtue? What virtues do you have? What virtues do you admire?
- January 28 **Discussion pp 60-64**
Team Witness talk: “A virtuous person(s)”
Catholic Morality (Abbreviated Version)
Homework pp 65-71 Questions for reflection:
What is the difference between being “good” and becoming a “saint”?
Define faith, hope, and love.
- February 11 **Discussion pp 99-110**
Team Witness talk: “How I practice the ‘presence of Christ?’”
Lent
Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving
12 Labors of Lent
- February 14 *ASH WEDNESDAY (LENT STARTS)*
Interviews Begin: Baptismal Certificates, Sponsors Names Required
- February 18 **Discussion pp 65-71**
Team witness talk: “Faith, Hope, Love”
Seven Deadly Sins
Presenter: **Buddy Arrington**
Homework 99-110 Questions for reflection:
Of the examples, how is Jesus most present to me? Least applicable to me.
- February 25 **Team Witness talk: “My experience of Confession”**
Penance-Anointing: Fake Confessions

March 4 Matrimony
Presenter: **The Learys**

SPRING BREAK

March 18 **Fr Joe: Witness talk “Why I am (still) A Priest”**
Holy Orders

March 25 (Palm Sunday) Witness Talks

March 29 HOLY THURSDAY

March 30 GOOD FRIDAY

March 31 HOLY SATURDAY
EASTER VIGIL /RITE OF INITIATION