

**COMPARISON CHART OF THE FORMATION PROCESS FOR:  
RCIA ADAPTED FOR CHILDREN/ CHRISTIAN NON-CATHOLIC BAPTISM/ CATHOLIC BAPTISM, UNCATECHIZED BAPTIZED CATHOLIC & UNCATECHIZED CHILDREN/YOUTH**

ACTIVITY OR TEACHING PERIOD	UNBAPTIZED CHILDREN/YOUTH	BAPTIZED NON-CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN & UNCATECHIZED CHILDREN/YOUTH	BAPTIZED CATHOLIC & UNCATECHIZED CHILDREN/YOUTH	LITURGICAL YEAR CELEBRATIONS
PRECATECHUMENATE OR EVANGELIZATION PERIOD ( <b>Kerygma</b> )  Time Estimate: 10-12 weeks. (Ex: For mid-Sept start date, plan on one semester).	Stories of Jesus (Gospels) Forms of prayer Story of salvation history Relationship of God with his people. Can they see themselves in this story? Introduce music, sacred art, tour of church, testimonies <b>For RESOURCES see approved text list under the RCIA.</b>	Stories of Jesus (Gospels) Forms of prayer Story of salvation history Relationship of God with his people. Can they see themselves in this story? Introduce music, sacred art, tour of church, testimonies <b>For RESOURCES see approved text list under the RCIA</b>	Stories of Jesus (Gospels) Forms of prayer Story of salvation history Relationship of God with his people. Can they see themselves in this story? Introduce music, sacred art, tour of church, testimonies <b>For RESOURCES see approved text list under the RCIA</b>	Feast of All Saints Feast of All Souls Season of Advent Christmas
FAMILY RETREAT (optional but recommended)	Morning of Reflection and Preparation for the Rite of Acceptance. Family Retreat  Learners ( <i>Inquirers</i> ) are ready for the <b>Rite of Acceptance</b> when they show the stirrings of conversion. Parents or a sponsor can accompany their children. The Rite of Acceptance is usually celebrated at a Sunday Mass. The <i>Inquirers</i> are now called <i>Catechumens</i> .	Morning of Reflection and Preparation for the Rite of Welcoming. Family Retreat  Learners are Christian seekers in need of evangelization & formation. They are ready for the <b>Rite of Welcoming</b> when they show/express the desire to follow Christ as a member of the Catholic Church. Parents or a sponsor can accompany the children/youth. Usually celebrated at a Sunday Mass. This <i>optional Rite</i> may be combined with the Rite of Acceptance or celebrated at a different Mass.	Morning of Reflection and Preparation for the Rite of Welcoming. Family Retreat  Learners are <b>Catholics</b> in need of evangelization & formation. They are ready for the <b>Rite of Welcoming</b> when they show the stirrings of conversion/response to their baptismal call. Parents or a sponsor can accompany the children/youth. Usually celebrated at a Sunday Mass. This <i>optional Rite</i> may be combined with the Rite of Acceptance or celebrated at a different Mass.	Feast of the Holy Family  Mary Mother of God
RITE OF ACCEPTANCE  &  RITE OF WELCOMING (optional but recommended)	Morning of Reflection and Preparation for the Rite of Acceptance. Family Retreat  Learners ( <i>Inquirers</i> ) are ready for the <b>Rite of Acceptance</b> when they show the stirrings of conversion. Parents or a sponsor can accompany their children. The Rite of Acceptance is usually celebrated at a Sunday Mass. The <i>Inquirers</i> are now called <i>Catechumens</i> .	Morning of Reflection and Preparation for the Rite of Welcoming. Family Retreat  Learners are Christian seekers in need of evangelization & formation. They are ready for the <b>Rite of Welcoming</b> when they show/express the desire to follow Christ as a member of the Catholic Church. Parents or a sponsor can accompany the children/youth. Usually celebrated at a Sunday Mass. This <i>optional Rite</i> may be combined with the Rite of Acceptance or celebrated at a different Mass.	Morning of Reflection and Preparation for the Rite of Welcoming. Family Retreat  Learners are <b>Catholics</b> in need of evangelization & formation. They are ready for the <b>Rite of Welcoming</b> when they show the stirrings of conversion/response to their baptismal call. Parents or a sponsor can accompany the children/youth. Usually celebrated at a Sunday Mass. This <i>optional Rite</i> may be combined with the Rite of Acceptance or celebrated at a different Mass.	If celebrating both the Rite of Acceptance and the Rite of Welcoming at the same mass, use the special Combined Rite (505-527 in book)



	UNBAPTIZED	BAPTIZED NON-CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN	BAPTIZED CATHOLIC / UNCATECHIZED	LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS
<p>CATECHUMENATE</p> <p>Recommendation for duration of the Catechumenate is at least one liturgical year. January through the following Lent is ideal.</p> <p>*Resources in either section under the RCIA can be used in the Catechumenate.</p>	<p>Catechumens will celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil of their second year in the RCIA.</p> <p>During the <b>catechumenate</b>, incorporate these:</p> <p><u>Core teachings</u> of the Catholic Faith – see approved texts for use with children and MS/HS in RCIA.*</p> <p>Sacramental preparation with supplemental materials: Baptism, Reconciliation, Confirmation, Eucharist</p> <p><u>Scripture</u> – include at each class</p> <p><u>Gatherings with families</u> – Involve parents in formation process. Consider replacing a weekly session once per month with a family event.</p> <p><u>Examples</u> of topics for the Spring semester: The Practices of Lent (Feb), Stations of the Cross for Families (March), Mercy &amp; the Chaplet of Divine Mercy (April), Mary &amp; the Rosary (May), Corpus Christi/Eucharist (June).</p> <p><u>Service</u> – individual or with family</p>	<p>Catechesis for this group (<u>candidates</u>) can be alongside those in the Catechumenate through the Spring, Summer, Fall and early part of the second Spring Semester. In the Diocese of Austin, children and youth over the age of 7 with valid Christian baptisms are to receive Confirmation and Communion from the pastor at the Easter Vigil or another Sunday.</p> <p>As with the unbaptized, focus on:</p> <p><u>Core teachings of the Catholic Faith</u> – see approved texts for use with children and MS/HS. Sacramental preparation with supplemental materials: Baptism, Reconciliation, Confirmation, Eucharist</p> <p><u>Scripture</u> – include at each class</p> <p><u>Gatherings with families</u> – Involve parents in formation process. Consider replacing a weekly session once per month with a family event.</p> <p><u>Examples</u> of topics for the Spring semester: The Practices of Lent (Feb), Stations of the Cross for Families (March), Mercy &amp; the Chaplet of Divine Mercy (April), Mary &amp; the Rosary (May),</p>	<p>Catechesis for this group (<u>candidates</u>) can be alongside those in the Catechumenate through the Spring, Summer, Fall and early part of the second Spring Semester. In the Diocese of Austin, baptized children and youth over the age of 7 are to receive Confirmation and Communion at a Confirmation Mass with Bishop, who may give the pastor faculties to confirm.</p> <p>As with the unbaptized, focus on:</p> <p><u>Core teachings of the Catholic Faith</u> – see approved texts for use with children and MS/HS. Sacramental preparation with supplemental materials: Baptism, Reconciliation, Confirmation, Eucharist</p> <p><u>Scripture</u> – include at each class</p> <p><u>Gatherings with families</u> – Involve parents in formation process. Consider replacing a weekly session once per month with a family event.</p> <p><u>Examples</u> of topics for the Spring semester: The Practices of Lent (Feb), Stations of the Cross for Families (March), Mercy &amp; the Chaplet of Divine Mercy (April),</p>	<p>Baptism of the Lord</p> <p>Ash Wednesday</p> <p>Lenten Sundays</p> <p>Palm Sunday</p> <p>Holy Thursday</p> <p>Good Friday</p> <p>Easter</p> <p>Divine Mercy</p> <p>Pentecost</p> <p>Trinity Sunday</p> <p>Body and Blood of Christ</p> <p>Transfiguration</p> <p>Assumption</p> <p>Guardian Angels</p> <p>Our Lady of the Rosary</p> <p>All Saints</p> <p>All Souls</p> <p>Advent</p> <p>Christmas</p> <p>Holy Family</p> <p>Epiphany</p>



	<p><u>Community</u> – invite families to participate in parish events.</p> <p><u>Worship</u> – weekly Mass or weekly Liturgy of the Word with</p> <p>dismissal. SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE FAMILIES TO LIVE THEIR FAITH AT HOME. It is important to involve <b>both</b> parents whenever possible.</p>	<p>Corpus Christi/Eucharist (June).</p> <p><u>Service</u> – Individual or with family</p> <p><u>Community</u> – invite families to participate in parish events.</p> <p><u>Worship</u> – weekly Mass as a family. SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE FAMILIES TO LIVE THEIR FAITH AT HOME. It is important to involve <b>both</b> parents whenever possible.</p>	<p>Mary &amp; the Rosary (May), Corpus Christi/Eucharist (June).</p> <p><u>Service</u> – Individual or with family</p> <p><u>Community</u> – invite families to participate in parish events.</p> <p><u>Worship</u> – weekly Mass as a family. SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE FAMILIES TO LIVE THEIR FAITH AT HOME. It is important to involve <b>both</b> parents whenever possible.</p>	
<p>FAMILY RETREAT (optional but recommended)</p>	<p>Reflection on Lent and prepare for the Rite of Sending (parish) – in the Diocese of Austin children are invited but not required to attend the Rite of Election.</p>	<p>Reflection on Lent</p>	<p>Reflection on Lent</p>	<p>Ash Wednesday Rite of Sending</p>
<p>RITE OF ELECTION</p>	<p>Catechumens and their sponsors participate in the Rite of Sending at their parish on/ near the First Sunday in Lent. They sign the Book of the Elect and older teens and adults attend the Rite of Election with the Bishop.</p>	<p>There is an optional Call to Continuing Conversion for Candidates. It is not celebrated at the Diocesan level. Parishes may include this Rite if desired.</p>	<p>There is an optional Call to Continuing Conversion for Candidates. It is not celebrated at the Diocesan level. Parishes may include this Rite if desired.</p>	<p>Rite of Election</p>
<p>PURIFICATION &amp; ENLIGHTENMENT (2<sup>ND</sup> LENT in Preparation Process)</p>	<p>During the 6 weeks prior to their Rite of Initiation, the <i>Elect</i> focus on recognizing and strengthening what is good and upright within themselves and uncovering and healing what is sinful. Stories of Saints</p>	<p>Candidates take part in the Lenten Journey with the community of Faith. Review the process of reconciliation. Celebrate Reconciliation.</p>	<p>Candidates take part in the Lenten Journey with the community of Faith. Review the process of reconciliation. Celebrate Reconciliation.</p>	<p>Lenten Sundays</p>



	provide excellent examples for them. Prayer, fasting/sacrifice, and charity are also emphasized.	Catechesis on the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation.	Catechesis on the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation.	Catechesis on the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation.
	<b>UNBAPTIZED</b>	<b>BAPTIZED NON-CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN</b>	<b>BAPTIZED CATHOLIC/UNCATECHIZED</b>	<b>LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS</b>
SCRUTINY	The Elect participate in one or more Scrutinies with the adult Elect or in a Word Service.	Candidates DO NOT participate in Scrutinies. They will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.	Candidates DO NOT participate in Scrutinies. They will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.	Scrutiny Rite
SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION	The Elect are traditionally received into the Church at the Easter Vigil. It is permissible to schedule a separate Mass during the Easter Season (most commonly for the children) at the pastor's discretion.	Candidates make a Profession of Faith in the Catholic Church, are confirmed and receive First Communion from the PASTOR. This may be at the Easter Vigil or a regular Sunday Mass.	Candidates who are baptized Catholic will receive Confirmation and First Communion from the Bishop at a Confirmation Mass (own parish, another parish, or Diocesan), or from their pastor if granted faculties to confirm.	Easter Vigil Sunday Liturgy Confirmation Liturgy
MYSTAGOGY Or Continuing Catechesis	Continue meeting to reflect on their experience of Initiation into the Catholic Church. Emphasize service, continued formation, and participation in the community. <b>DO NOT OMIT MYSTAGOGY!</b>	Continue meeting to reflect on the experience of reception into Full Communion. Emphasize service, formation, and participation in the community. <b>DO NOT OMIT MYSTAGOGY!</b>	Continue meeting to reflect on their celebration of Confirmation/First Communion. Emphasize service, formation, and participation in the community. <b>DO NOT OMIT MYSTAGOGY!</b>	Easter Season Pentecost

