



Becoming Catholic! What to Expect

You will encounter Jesus Christ and learn the Faith in weekly sessions . . .

- *Encounter Christ in Scripture:* You will dive into the Sunday Mass Readings and explore the literal and spiritual meaning of the texts. You will learn how the Old Testament Readings foreshadow the New and how the New Testament fulfills the Old. You will encounter Christ as the Word of God in Scripture.
- *Learn the Faith:* You will be inspired, led, and taught the fundamental truths of the Faith (next page) through a variety of trusted print and video resources including the **U.S. Catholic Catechism for Adults** by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, **Catholicism** by Bishop Robert Barron, and **Symbolon: The Catholic Faith Explained** by Dr. Edward Sri.
- *Deepen Your Relationship with Jesus Christ:* You will learn and experience how to pray and develop spiritual habits to deepen your relationship with God.

Beyond the weekly sessions, you will explore the Faith with a variety of activities . . .

- Church Walking Tour at St. Stephen the Martyr in the Fall
- Eucharistic Adoration at St. Stephen the Martyr in the Winter
- Morning of Reflection at Holy Family Shrine in the Spring

You will also participate in several beautiful liturgies . . .

- The Rite for Entrance Into the Catechumenate and of Welcoming the Candidates in the Fall at St. Stephen the Martyr
- The Rites of Sending and Rites of Election and Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion in Lent at the Cathedral
- The Celebration at the Easter Vigil of the Sacraments of Initiation and the Rite of Reception at St. Stephen the Martyr



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Over the course of the sessions, you will dive deep into the Faith . . .

What We Believe:

- Possessions, Pleasure, Power, Prestige: Why do we still feel like something is missing in our lives?
- God's Plan for His People: How did God reveal Himself to us?
- Receiving God's Revelation: How do we know what we have received is true?
- We Believe: What does it mean to have faith?
- Our Loving Father: Why did God create the world and us?
- The Word Became Flesh: Why did God become one of us in the person of Jesus Christ?
- The Lamb of God: Why did Jesus Christ suffer and die for us?
- Our Advocate: How does the Holy Spirit work in our lives today?
- Sharing in the Divine Communion: How is Jesus Christ present to His People today in His Church?
- The One Closest to Jesus Christ: What is Our Blessed Mother's role in our lives?
- The End: What do we believe about death and the end times?
- Prayer and Spirituality: How do we grow in relationship with God?
- The Good News!: What is our response to the simple message of God's love and mercy for each of us?

How We Celebrate:

- Outpouring of God's Grace: What are the seven sacraments and the liturgy?
- Received and Sealed: How do Baptism and Confirmation initiate us into the Church?
- Food for the Journey: How does the Eucharist nourish us?
- Worshipping Together: What is happening at Mass?
- God's Healing: How does God offer His healing mercy through Confession and Anointing of the Sick?
- Unique Relationships: How do Marriage and Holy Orders reflect a total gift of self to other(s)?

How We Should Live:

- Living in Response to Christ: What are the basics of Catholic Christian moral teachings?
- Right Relationship with God: First, Second, and Third Commandments
- God's Plan for the Family and Life: Fourth and Fifth Commandments
- God's Gift of Human Sexuality: Sixth and Ninth Commandments
- Right Relationship with Created Things: Seventh and Tenth Commandments
- What is Truth? Eighth Commandment