

‘Our Catholic Faith’
(including the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults – RCIA)
St Joseph’s Upminster: 2023-24

A. Catechesis

The following sessions all take place on Thursday evenings, 7.45-9pm in the parish social centre or church (venue tbc). You can preview or re-watch the video element of the session at sycamore.fm

19 Oct	WELCOME EVENING / (1) THE SEARCH FOR HAPPINESS
9 Nov	(2) THE EXISTENCE OF GOD
15 Nov	Tour of the Church – meet in Church (nb Wednesday not Thursday)
23 Nov	(3) A GOD WHO SPEAKS?
30 Nov	(4) WHO IS JESUS?
7 Dec	(5) THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE CHURCH
14 Dec	(6) THE BIBLE
21 Dec	(7) THE GIFT OF FAITH
28 Dec	<i>No meeting (Christmas break)</i>
4 Jan	<i>No meeting (Christmas break)</i>
11 Jan	(8) THE POWER OF PRAYER
18 Jan	(9) FINDING TRUE FREEDOM
25 Jan	(10) THE MEANING OF LOVE
1 Feb	(11) THE LIGHT OF CHRIST
8 Feb	(12) CREATION, FALL, SALVATION
15 Feb	(13) THE COMMUNITY OF THE CHURCH
22 Feb	<i>No meeting (Half Term)</i>
29 Feb	(14) THE SACRAMENTS OF BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION
7 Mar	(15) THE HOLY EUCHARIST
14 Mar	(17) THE CHRISTIAN VOCATIONS
21 Mar	(20) MARY AND THE HOPE OF HEAVEN

Sessions 16, 18, 19, covering the sacraments of reconciliation and anointing, Christian mission, the social teaching of the church, and prayer, will take place after Easter in a stage known anciently as ‘mystagogy’.

B. Liturgical Rites

The following ‘rites’ (i.e. ceremonies) are an integral part of the journey for those to be baptised at Easter

18 th February	1 st Sunday of Lent – Rite of Election (afternoon, Brentwood Cathedral)
3 rd March	3 rd Sunday of Lent – First Scrutiny*
10 th March	4 th Sunday of Lent – Second Scrutiny*
17 th March	5 th Sunday of Lent – Third Scrutiny*
30 th March	Holy Saturday Morning: Rehearsal and Preparation Rites Late evening: Celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation during the Easter Vigil

*The Scrutinies on three consecutive Sundays in Lent mark the journey of conversion, with laying on of hands and prayer. Each weekend you are asked to attend a different time of Mass.