

# Gesu Roman Catholic Parish

## The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

### 2009-2010 Schedule & Syllabus

RCIA at Gesu is meant to help women and men deepen their faith through education, through integration into a parish community, and through rituals that celebrate stages of growth both in one's faith and in one's membership in the Catholic Church. RCIA for some formally concludes with Baptism, Confirmation and first Eucharist the night before Easter Sunday.

For others who are already baptized it culminates in making a statement that they are one with the Catholic Church in belief and at heart, that is to say, that they feel at home in the Catholic Church and see the Catholic Church as a way for them to further growth in a relationship with the Lord (called a Profession of Faith).

**Ordinary Meeting Times:** Mondays beginning September 14, 2009  
through May 24, 2010  
7:00 – 8:00 p.m.  
Gesu Rectory, except when announced

**Note:** We will *not* be meeting on the following dates: September 7 (Labor Day), December 21, December 28, April 5 (Easter Monday).

**Extraordinary Meeting Times:** Please note that these dates are important and include key times we'll gather as a group to celebrate with the greater-parish community or the greater-Church of Toledo at the Cathedral the rituals proper to Christian Initiation into the Catholic Church. Gatherings are at Gesu unless noted.

Sunday, November 22:	9 AM Mass with Rite of Acceptance
Sunday, February 21:	11:30 AM Mass with Rite of Sending
Sunday, February 21:	Rite of Enrollment at Rosary Cathedral, Time to be announced.
Saturday, March 6:	4 PM Mass with the First Scrutiny
Sunday, March 13:	9 AM Mass with the Second Scrutiny
Sunday, March 20:	11:30 AM Mass with the Third Scrutiny
Tuesday, March 30:	Chrism Mass at Rosary Cathedral, Time to be announced ( <i>optional</i> )
Wednesday, March 31:	7 PM Tenebrae (night prayer)
Thursday, April 1:	7 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper
Friday, April 2:	1:30 PM Commemoration of the Lord's Passion and Death
Saturday, April 3:	8 PM THE EASTER VIGIL

## **Mondays**

Each Monday that we meet will focus on a different aspect of Catholic Life.

- First Mondays: General topics on Catholic life and faith
- Second Mondays: Discussion of one of the texts
- Third Mondays: Catholic Devotional Practices and/or Catholic Culture
- Fourth Mondays: Guest Speaker (open to the whole parish)

## **Texts**

We will use at least two primary texts (provided) to guide some of our conversation and to deepen our understanding of Catholic teaching and spirituality:

- ✚ Gaillardetz, Richard R. *By What Authority: A Primer on Scripture, the Magisterium and the Sense of the Faithful*. Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 2003.
- ✚ Rolheiser, Ronald. *The Holy Longing: The Search for a Christian Spirituality*. New York: Doubleday, 1999. (Paperback edition released September, 2009)
- ✚ Other texts will be used including *The Catechism of the Catholic Church*, the Bible and other resources as needed.

## **Reflecting on Text Readings: Guidance Questions for Gaillardetz & Rolheiser**

Chapters from our texts will be assigned one month in advance. To guide your reading and our discussion of readings when we meet together, please use the following questions:

- ✚ What term(s) in the reading was/were unfamiliar to me or need clarification for the context in which they are being used?
- ✚ What did I appreciate from this reading? Why?
- ✚ What did I find challenging or what did I struggle with? Why?
- ✚ Overall, what did I learn from the reading?

## **Lectio Divina – Divine Reading: Praying with the Scriptures**

Each week we will give you a guide for reflection and meditation on the upcoming Sunday Scripture readings. We invite you to journal your reflections on the readings and share some of your reflections when we gather.

## **Journaling**

You are encouraged to journal through your experience through RCIA. At the minimum you should develop the habit of journaling responses to the questions given for the Gaillardetz and Rolheiser texts, and for the reflections on the Sunday readings. This will help us when we have group discussion.

## Schedule

A tentative schedule is provided for your guidance. Revisions can and will be made as we go through the course of our time together.

### 2009

- August 31: 6pm Cookout and informal inquiry gathering
- September 7: LABOR DAY – NO GATHERING
- September 14: Discuss *The Holy Longing*, pp. 45-70 (Christian Spirituality)
- September 21: Catholic Devotions/Culture: Angels  
Begin reading *The Holy Longing*, pp. 71-107 for Oct. 12 meeting
- September 28: Fourth Monday Lecture: Catholic Identity / Why do Catholics Do That?
- October 5: General Topic
- October 12: Discuss *The Holy Longing*, pp. 71-107 (Christ as the basis for Christian Spirituality)  
“Check-In” Conversation
- October 19: Catholic Devotions/Culture: The Rosary  
Begin reading *By What Authority*, pp. 1-27 for Nov. 9 meeting
- October 26: Fourth Monday Lecture
- November 2: General Topic: The Communion of Saints
- November 9: Discuss *By What Authority*, pp. 1-27 (Introduction/What does it mean to say the Bible is inspired?)  
Begin reading *By What Authority*, pp. 41-73 for Dec. 7 meeting
- November 16: Catholic Devotions/Culture
- November 22: Sunday, 9 AM Mass with the Rite of Acceptance  
Church explanation tour follows Mass
- November 23: Fourth Monday Lecture
- November 30: Catholic Devotions/Culture
- December 7: Discuss *By What Authority*, pp. 41-73 (What is the relationship between Scripture and Tradition?)  
Begin reading *The Holy Longing*, pp. 111-140 for Jan. 11 meeting
- December 14: Catholic Devotions/Culture

### 2010

- January 4: General Topic
- January 11: Discuss *The Holy Longing*, pp. 111-140 (A Spirituality of Ecclesiology)  
Begin reading *The Holy Longing*, pp. 141-166 for Feb. 8 meeting
- January 18: Catholic Devotions/Culture  
“Check-In” Discussion

- January 25: Fourth Monday Lecture
- January 31-Feb. 4 Parish Mission Begins*  
*You are welcome and encouraged to attend the Mission each night, but especially on Monday.*
- February 1: Parish Mission Service (church)  
 February 8: Discuss *The Holy Longing*, pp. 141-166 (Spirituality of the Paschal Mystery)  
 Begin reading *By What Authority*, pp. 90-103 for Mar. 8 meeting  
 February 15: Catholic Devotions/Culture  
 February 21: Rite of Sending (Gesu) / Rite of Enrollment (Cathedral) TBD  
 February 22: Fourth Monday Lecture
- March 1: General Topic  
*March 6: 4 PM Mass with First Scrutiny Ritual*  
 March 8: Discuss *By What Authority*, pp. 90-103 (What is Dogma and Doctrine?)  
 Begin reading *By What Authority*, pp. 107-120 for April 12 meeting  
*March 14: 9 AM Mass with Second Scrutiny Ritual*  
 March 15: Catholic Devotions/Culture  
*March 21: 11:30 AM Mass with Third Scrutiny Ritual*  
 March 22: Fourth Monday Lecture  
 March 28: Palm Sunday – Holy Week begins  
 March 29: Seder meal experience  
 March 31: 7 PM Tenebrae (night prayer)
- April 1: 7 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper  
 April 2: 1:30 PM Commemoration of the Lord's Passion and Death  
 April 3: 8 PM THE EASTER VIGIL  
 April 4: Easter Sunday  
 April 5: Easter Monday (NO MEETING)
- April 12: Discuss *By What Authority*, pp. 107-120 (What is the Sense of the Faithful?)  
 Begin reading *The Holy Longing*, pp. 165-191 for May 10 meeting  
 April 19: Catholic Devotions/Culture  
 April 26: Fourth Monday Lecture
- May 3: General Topic  
 May 10: Discuss *The Holy Longing*, pp. 165-191 (Spirituality of Justice and Peacemaking)  
 May 17: Catholic Devotions/Culture  
 Discuss Spring Cook-out date  
 May 24: Fourth Monday Lecture