



Diocese of Fall River

Southeastern MA • Cape Cod • The Islands

Sample 2026-2027 O.C.I.A. Calendar

September 2026

Date	Session Title	Resources / Notes
Sun. Sept. 20, 2026	Session 1: God Is Love - The Trinity and the Virtue of Faith Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <u><i>Opening the Word to start all sessions</i></u> ● 6:30-8:00pm ● US Cat, Ch. 1-2 and 4-5 ● ACM Cat, p. 50, 84, 74 and 154 ● CF Handbook, Ch. 1 and Ch. 3 ● Love Unveiled, Ch. 1 ● Open Wide the Doors, Ch. 1 ● Formed.org – <i>Symbolon</i>: Part 1 – Session 1 (20 minutes) ● Ascension Press: <i>Invited</i> – Lesson 4
Sun. Sept. 27, 2026	Session 2: Prayer Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● US Cat, Ch. 35-36 ● ACM Cat, p. 94, 48 and 148 ● CF Handbook, Ch. 3-34 ● Love Unveiled, Ch. 16 ● Open Wide the Doors, Ch. 27 ● Ascension Press: <i>Invited</i> – Lesson 10
Sun. Sept. 27, 2026	<i>Rite of Entrance / Welcoming</i>	



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October 2026

Date	Session Title	Resources / Notes
Sun. Oct.4, 2026	Session 3: Divine Revelation Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Rite of Entrance / Welcoming</i> ● US Cat, Ch. 3 ● ACM Cat, p. 66, 132 ● CF Handbook, Ch. 2 ● Love Unveiled – Ch. 2 ● Open Wide the Doors to Christ, Ch. 2 ● Formed.org – <i>Symbolon</i>: Part 1 – Session 2 (32 minutes) ● Ascension Press: <i>Invited</i> – Lesson 3
Sun. Oct.18, 2026	Session 4: The Bible and the Story of Salvation Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● US Cat, 6 ● ACM Cat, p. 134, 144, 62, 118 and 156 ● CF Handbook, Ch. 3 and 5 ● Love Unveiled, Ch. 3 ● Open Wide the Doors, Ch. 3-4 ● Formed.org – <i>Symbolon</i>: Part 1 – Session 3 (33 minutes) and 4 (34 minutes) ● Ascension Press: <i>Invited</i> – Lesson 6
Sun. Oct.25, 2026	Session 5: Who is Jesus? Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● US Cat, Ch. 7 ● ACM Cat, p. 142, 92, 136 and 98 ● CF Handbook, Ch. 7 and 8 ● Love Unveiled, Ch. 4 ● Open Wide the Doors, Ch. 5 and 6 ● Formed.org – <i>Symbolon</i>: Part 1 – Session 5 (33 minutes) ● Ascension Press: <i>Invited</i> – Lesson 7



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November 2025

Date	Session Title	Resources / Notes
Sun. Nov. 1, 2026	Session 6: The Paschal Mystery Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● US Cat, Ch. 8 ● ACM Cat, p. 120 and 136 ● CF Handbook, Ch. 9 ● Love Unveiled, Ch. 5 ● Open Wide the Doors, Ch. 7 ● Formed.org – <i>Symbolon</i>: Part 1 – Session 6 (33 minutes) ● Ascension Press: <i>Invited</i> – Lesson 8
Sun. Nov. 8, 2026	Session 7: The Holy Spirit and the Church Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● US Cat, Ch. 9-11 ● ACM Cat, p. 56, 80, 90 and 114 ● CF Handbook, Ch. 10-12 ● Love Unveiled, Ch. 6-7 ● Open Wide the Doors, Ch. 8-9 ● Formed.org – <i>Symbolon</i>: Part 1 – Session 7 (37 minutes) and Session 8 (44 minutes) ● Ascension Press: <i>Invited</i> – Lesson 9
Sun. Nov. 15, 2026	Session 8: Mary and the Saints Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● US Cat, Ch. 12 ● ACM Cat, p. 52 and 58 ● Love Unveiled, Ch. 8 ● Open Wide the Doors, Ch.10 and 11 ● Formed.org – <i>Symbolon</i>: Part 1 – Session 9 (36 minutes) ● Ascension Press: <i>Invited</i> – Lesson 13



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December 2025

Date	Session Title	Resources / Notes
Sun. Dec. 6, 2026	Session 9: The Last Things Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● US Cat, Ch. 13 ● ACM Cat, p. 78 ● CF Handbook, Ch. 13 ● Love Unveiled, Ch. 9 ● Open Wide the Doors, Ch. 12 ● Formed.org – <i>Symbolon</i>: Part 1 – Session 10 (40 minutes) ● Ascension Press: <i>Invited</i> – Lesson 14
Sun. Dec. 13, 2026	Session 10: Introduction to the Sacraments, the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● US Cat, Ch. 14-16 ● ACM Cat, p. 128, 46, 60, 102 and 130 ● CF Handbook, Ch. 14-17 ● Love Unveiled, Ch. 10 ● Open Wide the Doors, Ch. 13-15 ● Symbolon: Part 2 – Session 1 (41 minutes) ● Ascension Press: <i>Invited</i> – Lessons 15, 16 and 17
Sun. Dec. 20, 2026	Session 11: The Eucharist – The Source and Summit of the Christian Life Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● US Cat, Ch. 17 ● ACM Cat, p. 70, 72, 104 and 108 ● CF Handbook, Ch. 18 ● Love Unveiled, Ch. 11 ● Open Wide the Doors, Ch. 16 ● Formed.org – <i>Symbolon</i>: Part 2 – Session 2 (38 minutes) ● Ascension Press: <i>Invited</i> – Lessons 18 and 19



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January 2026

Date	Session Title	Resources / Notes
Sun. Jan. 10, 2027	Session 12: The Sacraments of Healing Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● US Cat, Ch. 18-19 ● ACM Cat, p. 126, 44 and 112 ● CF Handbook, Ch. 19 ● Love Unveiled, Ch. 13 ● Open Wide the Doors, Ch. 19-20 ● Formed.org – <i>Symbolon</i>: Part 2 – Session 4 (45 minutes) ● Ascension Press: <i>Invited</i> – Lessons 20 and 21
Sun. Jan. 24, 2027	Session 13: The Sacraments of Service Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Approx. one month to the Rite of Election. Meet with Catechumens individually, assess desire and readiness to move forward.</i> ● US Cat, Ch. 20-22 ● ACM Cat, p. 110, 88 and 160 ● CF Handbook, Ch. 20 ● Open Wide the Doors, Ch. 21-22 ● Formed.org – <i>Symbolon</i>: Part 2 – Session 5 (42 minutes) ● Ascension Press: <i>Invited</i> – Lessons 22 and 23
Sun. Jan. 31, 2027	Session 14: A Catholic Moral Worldview (Morality Session 1) Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● US Cat, Ch. 23-27 and 32 ● ACM Cat, p. 54, 82, 76, 116, 86, 146 and 159 ● CF Handbook, Ch. 21 and 30 ● Love Unveiled, Ch. 14 ● Open Wide the Doors, Ch. 18 ● Formed.org – <i>Symbolon</i>: Part 2 – Session 6 (47 minutes) ● Ascension Press: <i>Invited</i> – Lesson 25



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February 2026

Date	Session Title	Resources / Notes
Sun. Feb. 7, 2027	Session 15: Authentic Love (Morality Session 2) Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● US Cat, Ch. 28, 30 and 33 ● ACM Cat, p. 100, 158 ● CF Handbook, Ch. 27 ● Love Unveiled, Ch. 15 ● Open Wide the Doors, Ch. 23 ● Formed.org – <i>Symbolon</i>: Part 2 – Session 7 (20 minutes) and Session 8 (37 minutes) ● Introduce the Period of Purification and Enlightenment: The disciplines of Lent, Rites of Sending and Election and the Scrutinies
Wed. Feb. 10, 2027	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>	
Sun. Feb. 14, 2027	Purification and Enlightenment: Session 1 Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lectio Divina (ie. Extended Opening the Word) ● Topic: Temptation in the Desert ● Themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Deceptions of the Devil ○ Protection from Temptation ○ Strength in Christ
Sun. Feb. 14, 2027 1st Sunday of Lent	<i>Rite of Sending</i> <i>Rite of Election and the Calling to Continuing Conversion</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Rite of Sending takes place in the <i>parish</i> during Sunday Mass ● The Rite of Election / Calling to Continuing Conversion takes place at the <i>Cathedral</i>
Thur. Feb. 21, 2027	Purification and Enlightenment: Session 2 Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prep Candidates for the Sacrament of Reconciliation ● Review the Scrutinies ● Lectio Divina ● Topic: The Transfiguration of the Lord



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Conversion ○ Transformation in Christ ○ Life in Christ ○ Virtue/Beatitudes
Sat. Feb. 27, 2027	<i>OCIA Retreat</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● St. John Neumann, E. Freetown ● 9:00am-2:00pm
Sun. Feb. 28, 2027	Purification and Enlightenment: Session 3 Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lectio Divina ● Topic: The Woman at the Well ● Themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Reality of Our Sin ○ The Desire for Salvation ● The Healing Effects of Grace
Sun. Feb. 28, 2027	<i>1st Scrutiny</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 3rd Sunday of Lent

March 2026

Date	Session Title	Resources / Notes
Sun. March 7, 2027	Purification and Enlightenment: Session 4 Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Rite of Handing on the Creed</i> ● Lectio Divina ● Topic: The Man Born Blind ● Themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Perseverance in Faith ○ Reliance on Christ ○ The Light of Faith vs. the Darkness of Sin
Sun. March 7, 2027	<i>2nd Scrutiny</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 4th Sunday of Lent



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Sun. March 14, 2027	Purification and Enlightenment: Session 5 Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lectio Divina ● Topic: The Raising of Lazarus ● Themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reliance on God's Providence ○ The Triumph of Christ's Mercy ○ Preparation for the Sacrament of Penance
Sun. March 14, 2027	<i>3rd Scrutiny</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 5th Sunday of Lent
Sun. March 21, 2027	Purification and Enlightenment: Session 6 Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Review for the Easter Vigil ● <i>Rite of Handing on the Lord's Prayer</i> ● Lectio Divina ● Topic: Palm Sunday ● Themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Passion of Christ ○ Dying to Self ○ Accepting the Will of God
Sun. March 21, 2027	<i>Palm Sunday</i>	
Tues. March 23, 2027	<i>Chrism Mass (4:00pm)</i>	
Thur. March 25, 2027	<i>Holy Thursday</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mass of the Lord's Supper
Fri. March 26, 2027	<i>Good Friday</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Service of the Lord's Passion</i>
Sat. March 27, 2027	<i>Holy Saturday</i> <i>Rehearsal for the Easter Vigil and Rites of Immediate Preparation (Morning)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Easter Vigil</i>



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April 2026

Date	Session Title	Resources / Notes
Sun. April 4, 2027	Mystagogy: Session 1 Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Opening the Word● Easter Celebration● Vigil Debrief● The Wild Goose: Episode 1
Sun. April 11, 2027	Mystagogy: Session 2 Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Opening the Word● The Wild Goose: Episode 2
Sun. April 18, 2027	Mystagogy: Session 3 Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Opening the Word● The Wild Goose: Episode 4
Sun. April 25, 2027	Mystagogy: Session 4 Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Opening the Word● The Wild Goose: Episode 5



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May 2026

Date	Session Title	Resources / Notes
Sun. May 2, 2027	Mystagogy: Session 5 Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Opening the Word ● The Wild Goose: Episode 6 ●
Sun. May 9, 2027	Mystagogy: Session 6 Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Opening the Word ● The Wild Goose: Episode 8
Sun. May 16, 2027	Mystagogy: Session 7 Catechist: Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Opening the Word ● The Wild Goose: Episode 9 ● Final Weekly Session ● Sessions move to once per month moving forward (4th Sunday of the Month)
Sun. May 16, 2027	<u>Pentecost</u>	

OCIA Resources and Abbreviations

US Cat = U.S. Catholic Catechism for Adults (USCCB)

ACM Cat = Association of Catechumenal Ministry: Catechist's Manual

Open Wide the Doors = Open Wide the Doors to Christ by Lucas Pollice (Book and Catechist's Manual)

CF Handbook = The Catholic Faith Handbook for Youth by St. Mary's Press

Love Unveiled = Love Unveiled: The Catholic Faith Explained by Dr. Edward Sri

Symbolon = Symbolon: The Catholic Faith Explained (on Formed.Org)



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Alternate Calendar Using the “Invited” Program from Ascension Press

Pre-Catechumenate

1. Lesson One: What Do You Seek?
2. Lesson Two: How Can We Know That God Exists?
3. Lesson Three: God Reveals Himself to Us
4. Lesson Four: The Holy Trinity: God Is Love in Relationship
5. Lesson Ten: Christian Prayer: God Invites Us into Relationship

Catechumenate

1. Lesson Six: Salvation History: God's Promise to Free Us
2. Lesson Seven: Jesus Christ: God Becomes Man
3. Lesson Eight: The Paschal Mystery: Jesus Delivers Us from Evil
4. Lesson Nine: The Holy Spirit: God Dwells in Us
5. Lesson Eleven: The Old Law and the New: Learning Freedom
6. Lesson Twelve: The Church: God's Family
7. Lesson Fourteen: The Last Things: God Will Set All Things Right
8. Lesson Fifteen: The Liturgy and the Sacraments: Christ with Us
9. Lesson Sixteen: The Sacrament of Baptism: Christ Welcomes Us
10. Lesson Seventeen: The Sacrament of Confirmation: The Holy Spirit Seals Us
11. Lesson Eighteen: The Holy Eucharist: Christ Feeds Us
12. Lesson Nineteen: The Mass: We Worship God
13. Lesson Twenty: The Sacrament of Reconciliation: Christ Forgives Us
14. Lesson Twenty-Three: The Sacrament of Matrimony: The Domestic Church
15. Lesson Twenty-Five: The Christian Moral Life: Knowing Right from Wrong

Mystagogy

1. Lesson Thirteen: The Blessed Virgin Mary and the Saints: Our Extended Family
2. Lesson Twenty-One: The Anointing of the Sick: Christ Accompanies Us in Our Weakness
3. Lesson Twenty-Two: The Sacrament of Holy Orders: Christ Acts Through the Clergy
4. Lesson Twenty-Four: Liturgical Prayer and Popular Devotions
5. Lesson Twenty-Six: The Social Doctrine of the Church and the Works of Mercy
6. Lesson Twenty-Seven: The Culture of Life: Protecting the Most Vulnerable
7. Lesson Twenty-Eight: Discipleship and Evangelization: Sharing the Joy