



In your journey towards becoming Catholic, please plan to participate in these important church and diocesan events. Please mark your calendar for the following events:

2026-2027 OCIA Check-in Meetings:

OCIA students will meet virtually and/or in person monthly with the CRE while they are enrolled in the OCIA program to answer questions, discuss concepts addressed in the lessons/videos, and ensure all program requirements are met. Unless otherwise noted, the meetings will take place between the 9:00 and 11:00 Masses at St. Louis. If you are not able to attend every meeting, that is OK, but please plan to attend a few of these meetings.

Rite of Sending & Rite of Election/Recognition - February 14, 2027 (First Sunday of Lent)

For Catechumen & Candidates

(1) Rite of Sending- 11 a.m. - *Catechumen for election and candidates for recognition will be announced at the Rite of Sending Mass. Please plan to attend this Mass with your sponsor. You and your sponsor will be called to come to the altar during the Mass.*

(2) Rite of Election/Recognition- 3 p.m. at St. Joseph's Cathedral (downtown). *The Rite of Election/Recognition is a ceremony of recognition by the Buffalo Diocese of individuals planning on full initiation into the Catholic Church.*

Holy Week: Thursday, March 25, 2027 – Foot Washing Ceremony

For Catechumen & Candidates

Foot Washing Ceremony- *Evening ceremony beginning at 7 p.m. (please arrive by 6:45). Volunteers are needed to help with this ceremony. We do this to remember how Jesus washed the feet of his disciples.*

Easter Vigil - Saturday, March 27, 2027

For Catechumen

(1) Rehearsal- 5:00 p.m. - *Catechumen and sponsors attend a 30- to 45- minute rehearsal at St. Louis before the ceremony.*

(2) Easter Vigil Mass- *Catechumen and sponsors attend this Mass at St. Louis before. The catechumen will receive all three sacraments (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation) at this Mass.*

Pentecost - Sunday, May 16, 2027

For Candidates

Confirmation Mass/Ceremony – 3:00 p.m. *(plan at least to arrive at least 30 minutes early) at St. Joseph's Cathedral (downtown). This 2-hour Mass Confirmation ceremony is for candidates who only need to make their Confirmation.*

Questions? - contact the CRE, Ashlee Campbell, via phone or email
(443-744-0354 / religioused@stlouisrcchurch.org)