

Tentative Schedule for 2023-2024 Exploring Catholicism
and the Order of Christian Initiation at Saint Michael, Hastings

Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. beginning in early September and continuing through mid- April. Lessons will last no more than 1½ hours. There will be ceremonies in which catechumens/candidates may participate in anticipation to being received into the Church.

Resources – either in preparation for or in response to the weekly presentation:

- We will use *Foundations for Discipleship* to begin most every class. This resource is to help us to not only “know about Jesus”, but to “know Jesus”. <Section #>
- Weekly video {Episode #} to watch on your own from *Symbolon*, Parts I & II (Available on FORMED.org for free – Search for Saint Michael, Hastings)
- Weekly reading [*Paragraph #s*] from *Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church* – While there will be no quiz, you are encouraged to keep up with the reading.
- “CCC” stands for Catechism of the Catholic Church. Instead of pages, the numbers listed are paragraph numbers. You can find the Catechism online at: www.scborromeo.org/ccc.htm.
- A highly recommended resources is *The Action Bible*. It gives the basic story of salvation from Genesis to Revelation in a way that is understandable.
- Question box – Please place your questions about the faith in the provide box, and Father Hazuka will try to answer your questions on a weekly basis (depending upon how many questions he gets.)

September 7 – **Introductions and God’s Plan and our plan** < 1.0 > {I Symbolon 1: The Journey of Faith} [**I-5, 25-32**]

September 14 – **God’s Existence and the Mystery of the Trinity** < 1.1 > [**33-58**]

September 21 – **Divine Revelation and its two wellsprings** < 2.0 > {I Symbolon 2: Divine Revelation} [**6-17**]

September 28 – **Sacred Scripture** < 3.0 > {I Symbolon 3: The Bible} [**18-24**]

October 5 – **The Old Testament and the Covenant** < 3.1 > {I Symbolon 4: The Story of Salvation} [**59-78**]

October 12 – **The New Testament and the Life of Jesus** < 3.2 > {I Symbolon 5: Who Is Jesus?} [**79-109**]

October 19 – **The Paschal Mystery** < 3.3 > {I Symbolon 6: The Paschal Mystery} [**110-135**]

October 26 – **The Holy Spirit – Gifts, Charisms, Fruits** < 3.4 > {I Symbolon 7: The Holy Spirit and the Life of Grace} [**136-146**]

November 2 – **The Church – The People of God, the Body of Christ, the Temple of the Holy Spirit** < 3.5 > {I Symbolon 8: Why Do I Need a Church?} [**147-193**]

November 9 – **The Church – Mary and the Saints** (and choosing a patron saint for Confirmation) < 4.0 > {I Symbolon 9: Mary and the Saints} [**194-199**]

November 16 – **Excursus: Prayer #1** < 4.1 > (What is Prayer and Prayer in Revelation & Prayer in the Christian Life) [**534-566**; also see CCC 2558-2643; CCC 2650-2691]

November 23 – **NO LESSON (Thanksgiving)**

Rite of Acceptance at the beginning of Advent

November 30 – **Liturgy and the Sacraments** (The Liturgical Year, Liturgical Prayer, Saints and Seasons) < 4.2 > [**218-250**]

December 7 – **Baptism and Confirmation** < 5.0 > {II Symbolon 1. The Sacraments: Baptism & Confirmation} [**251-270**]

December 14 – **The Eucharist** < 5.1 > {II Symbolon 2. The Eucharist: Source & Summit of the Christian Life} [**271-294**]

December 21 – **NO LESSON (Christmas Break)**

December 28 – **NO LESSON (Christmas Break)**

January 4 – **The Mass** < 5.2 > {II Symbolon 3. Walk Through the Mass: Exploring the Liturgy} [**351-356**]

January 11 – **Confession and Anointing of the Sick** < 5.3 > {II Symbolon 4. Penance & Anointing of the Sick: God’s Mercy Revealed} [**200-201; 295-320**]

January 18 – **Matrimony and Holy Orders** < 5.4 > {II Symbolon 5. Matrimony & Holy Orders: The Sacraments of Service & Communion} [**321-350**]

January 25 – **Morality, Virtue and the first three Commandments** < 5.5 > {II Symbolon 6. A Catholic Moral Vision: Virtue, Grace & the Path to Happiness} [357-454]

February 1 – **Commandments 4 and 5** [455-486] < 6.0 >

February 8 – **Excursus: Lent, the Easter Triduum, and the Celebration of the Paschal Mystery**

February 14 – Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent: Throughout Lent will be the Scrutinies and Presentations

February 15 – **Commandments 6 and 9** < 6.1 > {II Symbolon 7 & 8. A Love that Lasts: Discovering Authentic Love/A Love that Lasts: God's Plan for Sexuality} [487-502; 527-530]

February 22 – **Commandments 7, 8 and 10** < 6.2 > {II Symbolon 9 & 10: Catholic Social Teaching: Building a Civilization of Love/Protecting the Dignity of the Human Person} [503-526; 531-533]

February 29 – **The Last Things** < 6.3 > {I Symbolon 10. The Last Things} [202-217]

March 7 – **Excursus: Prayer #2** (The Life of Prayer and The Lord's Prayer and Questions about Prayer) < 6.4 > [567-598; Also see CCC 2697-2751; CCC 2759-2856]

March 14 – **Snow Day Make-up or "Are You Smarter than a 5th Grader?"** – Question and Answer Session

March 21 – **Snow Day Make-up or Catholic Potpourri (or, if necessary, a Snow Day Make-up)**

- The Precepts of the Church
- How to go to Confession
- "Catholic Calisthenics"
- "Church Speak"

March 28 – **NO LESSON** (*Holy Thursday*)

Saturday Night, March 31 – Easter Vigil (Preparation and Practice for Reception into the Church in the morning)

April 4 – "Mystagogy – Where do we go from here?"

- "Stewardship" and "Discipleship"
- **Recommended individual meetings on a monthly basis for next six months (more informal).**

NOTES for those interested in becoming Catholic:

1. You will need a practicing Catholic to be your sponsor. That person should attend the classes with you, if possible. If you do not have someone in mind, we can find a sponsor for you.

2. If you were baptized in another faith, either as a child or adult, we will need a copy of the certificate which was issued at your baptism or a new one. This can be obtained by contacting the church of your baptism and asking them for a copy of your baptismal certificate or a letter verifying that you had been baptized. This should include your name, the date of your birth, the names of your parents and godparents, the date of your baptism and the name of the minister who baptized you.

3. We will expect you to attend every class unless, of course, illness or some other unavoidable circumstance prevents your attendance. Classes missed can be made up on an individual basis with Father Hazuka.

4. Feel free to ask questions and use the weekly "question box". This is the best way to learn. If we don't have the answers immediately, we know where we can find them.

5. There are some prayers which we encourage you to gradually memorize. You will find them in the back of the *Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church*. Among them are the Sign of the Cross, the Lord's Prayer, the Hail Mary, Glory to the Father, the Apostles' Creed, Act of Contrition, and Grace before and after Meals. (You may want to learn the Prayer to Saint Michael too.)