

RCIA at St. Mary's Parish 2018/2019 Year

2018			
Tab	DATE	TOPIC	READING
1	Wed. Sept. 19	Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introductions ● Overview of the Course ● Scripture and Tradition ● The Apostles' Creed 	
2	Wed. Sept. 26	The Existence of God <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Is it normal to believe in God? ● Does God exist? ● What does personal experience tell us about God? ● What does our common experience tell us about God? ● What does reason tell us about God? ● Does God communicate with us? ● What is Divine Revelation? ● What is Salvation History? ● How do we learn of Salvation History? ● What is our response to God's communication? ● Where do we get faith? ● <i>Labyrinth</i> 	Pennock, ch. 1 CCCC, ss. 1-34
3	Wed. Oct. 3	God: Our Loving Creator <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What is the Old Testament? ● How does faith speak about "One" God? ● How does the Old Testament reveal God as love and truth? ● What are some qualities of God? ● What is the central truth revealed about God? ● Who is God the Creator? ● If God is good, why is there evil and suffering in the world? ● What is Original Sin? ● Does the Old Testament reveal a Saviour? ● Do angels exist? ● Does Satan exist? ● <i>Praying the Psalms</i> 	Pennock, ch. 2 CCCC, ss. 33-78

4	Wed. Oct. 10	<p>Jesus: Lord and Messiah</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Did Jesus really exist? ● What is the primary source of knowledge of Jesus? ● How were the Gospels written? ● What do we know about Jesus' early life? ● Did Jesus have brothers and sisters? ● How did Jesus' public ministry begin? ● What special qualities of the human Jesus do the Gospels reveal? ● What do the name and titles of Jesus reveal about him? ● How was the faith of the apostles preserved? ● What is a heresy? ● How was heresy dealt with? ● What did the early councils teach? ● <i>Lectio Divina</i> (individual) 	<p>Pennock, ch. 3 CCCC, ss. 79-94</p>
5	Wed. Oct. 17	<p>Jesus: Teacher and Saviour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Why is Jesus called a teacher? ● What characterized Jesus' teaching style? ● Why is Jesus' teaching important? ● What did Jesus teach? ● Why did Jesus become man? ● What is salvation? ● Why did Jesus suffer and die for us? ● Who killed Jesus? ● Did Jesus truly suffer? ● Did Jesus really die? ● What is the meaning of the resurrection of Jesus? ● What is the Paschal Mystery? ● What is the meaning of the Ascension of Jesus? ● When will Jesus come again? ● <i>The Lord's Prayer</i> 	<p>Pennock, ch. 4 CCCC, ss. 101-135</p>
6	Wed. Oct. 24	<p>The Holy Spirit: The Power of Love</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What does "Spirit" mean? ● How was the Holy Spirit Present in the early church? ● What is the significance of Pentecost? 	<p>Pennock, ch. 5 CCCC, ss. 135-146</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What was the Holy Spirit's role in Jesus' public ministry? ● How is the Spirit represented in the Old Testament? ● What are some images of the Holy Spirit? ● Is the Holy Spirit God? ● How does the Holy Spirit give us life? ● What is the Holy Spirit's role in the forgiveness of sins? ● How does the Holy Spirit help us to live like Christ? ● How does the Holy Spirit work in human history? ● How does the Holy Spirit speak to us in Scripture? ● What are other ways the Holy Spirit speaks to us today? ● <i>The Jesus Prayer</i> 	
7	Wed. Nov. 7	<p>The Blessed Trinity: Unity and Communion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Who is God? ● Who is God the Father? ● Is it also proper to refer to God as "Our Mother"? ● How is Jesus the Son of God? ● How does the Holy Spirit reveal the true mystery of the Trinity? ● What is the Blessed Trinity? ● How can we begin to understand the mystery of the Trinity? ● How do God's works reveal the Trinity? ● How are three persons in one God? ● What are the relationships within the Trinity? ● What are some images of the Blessed Trinity? 	Pennock, ch. 6
8	Wed. Nov. 14	<p>People of God: The Christian Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What is the Church? ● What are some images of the Church? ● What does it mean to call the Church a "mystery"? ● How is the Church a sacrament? ● How does the Church lead us to Christ? ● How is the Church the people of God? 	Pennock, ch. 7 CCCC, ss. 147-160

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Are the Church and the Kingdom of God the same? ● What does it mean to call the Church the “Body of Christ”? ● How is the Church the “Temple of the Holy Spirit”? ● Is the Church perfect? ● Can non-Christians be saved? ● <i>Lectio Divina</i> (group) 	
9	Wed. Nov. 21	<p>The Church: One Holy and Apostolic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Who is a member of the Church? ● How is the Church a Prophet? ● What is the role of the Church hierarchy? ● How does the Church teach? ● What is infallibility? ● What is papal infallibility? ● How does the Church share in the priesthood of Christ? ● What is the purpose of the Church’s governing structure? ● What are the marks of the Church? ● How is the Church One? ● How is the Church Holy? ● How is the Church Catholic? ● How is the Church Apostolic? 	<p>Pennock, ch. 8 Pennock, Appendix CCCC, ss. 161-168; 174-193</p>
10	Wed. Nov 28	<p>Ecumenism: The Church and Other Religions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What are the major world religions? ● What are the major Christian denominations? ● How did division among Christians come about? ● What is ecumenism? ● What is the relationship of other Christian churches to the Catholic Church? ● What is the goal of Ecumenism? ● How can we work for Christian unity? ● Who belongs to the Catholic church? ● What is the relationship between the Eastern Orthodox churches and the Catholic church? ● What is the relationship between the Catholic church and most Protestant churches? 	<p>Pennock, ch. 9 CCCC, ss. 169-173</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the Church's attitude toward Judaism? • What is the Church's attitude toward Islam? • How does the Church view other religions and people with no religion? • What special role does the Church have toward people of other faiths? 	
11	Sat. Dec. 1	Day of Reflection at St. Mary's Parish	
	Sun. Dec. 2	First Sunday of Advent: Rite of Acceptance 10:00 a.m. Mass	
12	Wed. Dec. 5	<p>The Communion of Saints and the Blessed Mother</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the meaning of the "Communion of Saints"? • Who belongs to the Communion of Saints? • Where does belief in the Communion of Saints originate? • Who is a Saint? • Why do we pray to the Saints? • What is Mary's role in the Church? • What are some of Mary's titles? • What is the "Immaculate Conception"? • What does the Church teach about Mary's virginity? • How is Mary the Mother of God and Mother of the Church? • What is the Assumption? • Why do Catholics have a special veneration for Mary? • What is the Rosary? • What are some other Marian devotions? • <i>The Holy Rosary</i> 	<p>Pennock, ch. 10 CCCC, ss. 95-100; 194-199</p>
13	Wed. Dec. 12	<p>Christian Destiny: The Last Things</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does the Church continue Jesus' ministry of forgiveness? • How are post-baptismal sins forgiven? • What does our faith teach about death? • How is it helpful to contemplate our own death? • What is the Christian belief about judgment? • What is the particular judgment? • What is the general judgment? • What is the Second Coming? 	<p>Pennock, ch. 11 CCCC, ss. 200-217</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When will Christ's Second Coming occur? • What happens to our bodies after we die? • What will the resurrected body be like? • What do Christians believe about the afterlife? • What is Heaven? • What is Purgatory? • What is Hell? • Why do we end our prayers with "Amen"? 	
14	Wed. Dec. 19	Christmas and Reflection	
No Sessions December 26 or January 2			
2019			
15	Wed. Jan. 9	<p>Celebrating the Paschal Mystery Through Liturgy and the Sacraments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the Paschal Mystery? • What is Liturgy? • What is the relationship between the Paschal Mystery and the Liturgy? • What do we celebrate in the liturgy? • What is the role of the Blessed Trinity in the liturgy? • What does the term "Sacrament" mean? • What meaning do the sacraments have for our lives? • What are the seven sacraments? • What does a sacrament do for us? • What are the Scriptural roots of the sacraments? • Who celebrates the liturgy? • How is liturgy celebrated? • When is liturgy celebrated? • Where is liturgy celebrated? • What are sacramentals? • <i>Liturgy of Hours</i> 	<p>Pennock, ch. 12 CCCC, ss. 218-249; 351-356</p>
16	Wed. Jan. 16	<p>Two Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism and Confirmation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does the word "baptism" mean? • What are the Biblical roots of baptism? • How did the early Christians prepare for initiation? 	<p>Pennock, ch. 13 CCCC, ss. 250-270</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How were the sacraments of initiation celebrated in the early Church? ● What is the RCIA? ● Why does the Church baptise infants? ● How does the Church celebrate baptism of infants? ● What are the principal symbols of baptism and what do they signify? ● Is baptism necessary for salvation? ● What are the effects of baptism? ● Who can be baptised? ● What is the sacrament of confirmation? ● What are some biblical and historical roots of confirmation? ● Who is the minister of confirmation? ● How does the Church celebrate confirmation? ● What do the signs of confirmation symbolize? ● Who should receive confirmation? 	
17	Wed. Jan. 23	<p>The Eucharist</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What are some names for the eucharist? ● What are the biblical roots of eucharist? ● How is the eucharist a ritual? ● How does the eucharist represent Christ's sacrifice on the Cross? ● What is meant by the "Real Presence" of Christ in the eucharist? ● What are the essential signs of eucharist? ● How does the Church celebrate eucharist? ● Who is the proper celebrant of the eucharist? ● How often should Catholics receive Holy Communion? ● What are some effects of receiving Holy Communion? ● Can non-Catholics receive Holy Communion? ● <i>Eucharistic Adoration</i> 	<p>Pennock, ch. 14 CCCC, ss. 271-294</p>
18	Wed. Jan. 30	<p>The Sacraments of Healing: Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What are some names for the sacrament of reconciliation? 	<p>Pennock, ch. 15 CCCC, ss. 294-320</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What does conversion involve? ● Who can forgive sin? ● How has the sacrament of reconciliation been celebrated in history? ● What is absolution? ● What acts are required of the penitent? ● Who is the minister of the sacrament of reconciliation? ● How is the sacrament of reconciliation celebrated? ● What does the sacrament of reconciliation accomplish? ● What are indulgences? ● What are the biblical roots for the sacrament of anointing of the sick? ● How did the anointing of the sick develop through history? ● How is the sacrament of anointing of the sick celebrated today? ● Who is the minister of the sacrament of anointing of the sick? ● What are the effects of anointing of the sick? 	
19	Wed. Feb. 6	<p>Sacraments of Service: Holy Orders and Marriage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What is the common vocation of all Christians? ● What is the function of ordained ministry? ● What is the sacrament of holy orders? ● What are the biblical roots of the sacrament of holy orders? ● What is the special role of Bishops? ● What is the special role of Priests? ● What is the special role of Deacons? ● How do the various roles and ministries of Bishops, Priests and Deacons compare? ● How is holy orders celebrated? ● Who may ordain and be ordained? ● Why does Church law require priestly celibacy? ● What are the effects of the sacrament of holy orders? ● What is the sacrament of matrimony? 	<p>Pennock, ch. 16 CCCC, ss. 321-350</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What does the Old Testament say about marriage? ● How does marriage mirror God's love for us? ● What does the New Testament reveal about marriage? ● How is marriage a covenant? ● How is the sacrament of matrimony celebrated? ● What are the requirements for a valid marriage? ● How does a couple prepare for marriage? ● What is an annulment? ● What are the principal effects of the sacrament of marriage? ● What are the essential qualities of Christian marriage? ● Why is Christian marriage a permanent commitment? ● What does the Church say about family living? 	
20	Wed. Feb. 13	Reflection	
21	Wed. Feb. 20	<p>Foundations of Catholic Morality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What is Christian morality? ● What does it mean to be human? ● What is the purpose of human existence? ● What are the Beatitudes? ● How can we understand the Beatitudes? ● How does human freedom relate to responsibility? ● How is the morality of human actions evaluated? ● How can emotions affect the choices we make? ● What is conscience? ● Must we always follow our consciences? ● How do we form our consciences? ● How do the virtues help us live a moral life? ● What are the cardinal virtues? ● What are the theological virtues? ● What are the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit? ● What is sin? ● What is original sin? ● What is personal sin? ● What is mortal sin? 	<p>Pennock, ch. 17 CCCC, ss. 357-400</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is venial sin? 	
22	Wed. Feb. 27	<p>Catholic Teaching on Social Justice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the relationship between the individual and society? • What is the principle of subsidiarity? • Why should we obey and respect human authority? • What is the “Common Good”? • What is “Social Justice”? • What are some central themes of Catholic social justice teaching? • What is meant by the dignity of the individual? • How are people essentially equal? • How are love and justice linked? • What are some basic human rights? • What is the meaning of “Stewardship”? • What does the Church teach about economic justice? • What is the call to human solidarity? • What are the demands of global solidarity? • What is the “Preferential Option for the Poor”? • What does the Church teach about peace? • What does the Church teach about war? • What is the morality of nuclear war and the arms race? • What is the role of personal conscience in a person’s participation in a war? 	<p>Pennock, ch. 18 CCCC, ss. 401-414</p>
	Wed. Mar. 6	Ash Wednesday - No Class (but come to Mass!)	
	Sun. Mar. 10	First Sunday of Lent: Rite of Election - Location TBA	
	Wed. Mar. 13	MARCH BREAK - NO CLASS	
23	Wed. Mar. 20	<p>The Christian Call to Holiness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the moral law? • What is the natural law? • How is moral law revealed? • What is justification? • What is grace? • How do we gain merit before God? 	<p>Pennock, ch. 19 CCCC, ss. 415-433</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Is everyone called to holiness? ● How does the Church help us to live a moral life? ● What are the precepts of the Church? ● What are the Ten Commandments? ● Why are the Ten Commandments important for moral life? ● <i>Stations of the Cross</i> 	
24	Sun. Mar. 24	3rd Sunday of Lent – First Scrutiny (Cross) 10:00 a.m. Mass and Dismissal: Breaking of the Word	
25	Wed. Mar. 27	<p>The First Three Commandments: Love of God</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What does the First Commandment require? ● What are sins against the First Commandment? ● How does religion help us develop a relationship with God? ● What practices does the First Commandment condemn? ● What is atheism? ● What is agnosticism? ● Does the First Commandment permit the veneration of images? ● What does the Second Commandment require? ● What does the Second Commandment prohibit? ● Is it sinful to take an oath? ● How are we and our individual names holy? ● What does the Third Commandment require? ● How do Catholics observe the Sabbath law? ● How is the Sunday obligation binding? ● How do we make the Lord's day holy? 	Pennock, ch. 20 CCCC, ss. 434-454
26	Sat. Mar. 30	Day long Guided Retreat at Martyr's Shrine	
27	Sun. Mar. 31	4th Sunday of Lent – Second Scrutiny (Creed) 10:00 a.m. Mass and Dismissal: Breaking of the word	
28	Wed. Apr. 3	<p>The Last Seven Commandments: Love of Neighbour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What Values are fostered by the Fourth Commandment? ● What do children owe their parents? ● What are the responsibilities of parents? ● What does the Fourth Commandment require of the civil life? 	Pennock, ch. 21 CCCC, ss. 455-533

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What does the Fifth Commandment teach? ● When is killing morally justified? ● What are some evils condemned by the Fifth Commandment? ● What is scandal? ● How does the Fifth Commandment teach us to respect life? ● What values link the Sixth and Ninth Commandments? ● What is chastity? ● What are the virtues of purity and modesty? ● What are other sins contrary to the virtue of chastity? ● What does the Church teach about sexual sharing within marriage? ● What does the Church teach about family planning? ● What does the Church teach about artificial means of contraception? ● What does the Church teach about infertility? ● What sins violate the sacredness of marriage? ● What values underlie the Seventh and Tenth Commandments? ● What else does the Seventh Commandment forbid? ● What else does the Tenth Commandment forbid? ● What is the teaching of the Eighth Commandment? ● What are sins against the Eighth Commandment? ● Do we have an absolute right to know the truth? ● What is the relationship between truth and society? 	
29	Sun. Apr. 7	5th Sunday of Lent – Third Scrutiny (Lord’s Prayer) 10:00 a.m. Mass and Dismissal: Breaking of the Word	
30	Wed. Apr. 10	Christian Prayer/Preparation for Easter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What is prayer? ● What do the Hebrew Scriptures teach about prayer? ● How does Jesus model prayer? 	Pennock, ch. 22 CCCC, 534-598

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How does Jesus teach us to pray? ● What can we learn about prayer from Mary? ● What are the basic prayer forms? ● How does the Holy Spirit teach us to pray? ● How should we pray? ● What are the expressions of prayer? ● How should we combat the obstacles to prayer? ● What is the special value of the Lord's prayer? ● What is the meaning of the Lord's prayer? ● Preparations for Easter/Questions 	
	Sun. Apr. 14	Palm Sunday	
	Wed. Apr. 17	Reflection and Rehearsal	
	Thurs. Apr. 18	Holy Thursday – Evening Mass	
	Fri. Apr. 19	Good Friday Liturgy	
	Sat. Apr. 20	Easter Vigil – (Initiation into the Church)	
	Sun. Apr. 21	Easter Sunday – Masses as Usual	
31	Wed. Apr. 24	Mystagogy Week One - Go and Make Disciples (a session on thy why and how of evangelization)	
	Wed. May 1	Mystagogy Week Two - Becoming friends with the Saints and Martyrs (introduction to some amazing saints and their sacrifices)	
	Wed. May 8	Mystagogy Week Three - Conversion - a life-long process of growth and purification.	
	Wed. May 15	Mystagogy Week Four - Struggles with spiritual 'dryness' and how to cope.	
	Wed. May 22	Mystagogy Week Five - Deeper understanding of the Mass and the Eucharist	
	Wed. May 29	Mystagogy Week Six - Next steps / potluck - open discussion about experiences of the program, bring friends and family, answer questions, pray, encourage new Catholics.	