

<p><b>Opening Prayer</b></p>	<p>Dear Heavenly Father,          We thank you for bringing us together tonight to learn more about the Catholic Faith.          Grant us the grace to open our hearts and our minds so that we may become closer to you.          Bless us as we begin these classes with a new group of people.          Guide us and help us remain flexible and compassionate, especially during these challenging times.          We ask this through our Lord, Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.          Amen.</p>
<p><b>Welcome and Introductions</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants</li> <li>• Team</li> <li>• Contact:              336-272-4681              Lindsay Kohl <a href="mailto:lkohl@stpiusxnc.com">lkohl@stpiusxnc.com</a> / ext. 108 - director              Wendy Barber <a href="mailto:wbarber@stpiusxnc.com">wbarber@stpiusxnc.com</a> / ext. 109 – admin</li> </ul>
<p><b>What is RCIA?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults              Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist</li> <li>• Inquiry</li> <li>• Catechumenate</li> <li>• Purification and Enlightenment</li> <li>• Mystagogy</li> </ul>
<p><b>Who is in RCIA?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inquirers</li> <li>• Candidates vs. Catechumens</li> <li>• Returning to the Church</li> </ul>
<p><b>Forms, Paperwork, etc.</b></p>	<p>If you have <u>never been baptized</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intake Form</li> <li>• Sponsor/Godparent Form</li> </ul> <p>If you have <u>already been baptized in a Christian denomination*</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>*With Water, Trinitarian Form</i></li> <li>• Intake Form</li> <li>• Baptismal certificate or letter</li> <li>• Sponsor/Godparent Form</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Mailing Address:              St. Pius X Catholic Church              Attn: Office of Faith Formation              2210 North Elm Street              Greensboro, NC 27408</li> </ul>

<b>Sponsors and Godparents</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What’s the difference?</li> <li>• When do they need to be here?</li> </ul>
<b>Class Structure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hybrid</li> <li>• Every-other week</li> <li>• Calendar (online, dates and topics may change)</li> <li>• Workbooks/Journaling</li> <li>• Open with Gospel</li> </ul>
<b>Curriculum</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Symbolon: The Catholic Faith Explained</i> Part 1 - Knowing the Faith (1-10) Part 2 - Living the Faith (11-20)</li> </ul>
<b>Formed</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access and free sign-up: <a href="http://stpiusxnc.formed.org">stpiusxnc.formed.org</a></li> <li>• Search for content by title/topic</li> <li>• <i>Symbolon</i> direct link: <a href="https://watch.formed.org/symbolon-the-catholic-faith-explained">https://watch.formed.org/symbolon-the-catholic-faith-explained</a></li> </ul>
<b>Zoom</b>	<a href="http://www.zoom.us">www.zoom.us</a>
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.stpiusxnc.com/rcia-virtual-learning">www.stpiusxnc.com/rcia-virtual-learning</a>
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Deacon Phil or Deacon Bob – Blessing

**Up Next**      **September 24** – ZOOM Meeting Only  
Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83563208810>  
**7:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

**October 1** – In-Person and ZOOM Option  
Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84073232196>  
**6:30 PM – 8:30 PM**

**Homework**      **By September 24:**  
Watch *Symbolon* Part 1, Session 1  
“The Journey of Faith: Trinity, Faith, and the God Who is Love”  
Complete Part 1, Session 1 in Workbook (p. 8-14)

**By October 1:**  
Watch *Symbolon* Part 1, Session 8  
“Why Do I Need the Church?: The Mystery of the Catholic Church”  
Complete Part 1, Session 8 in Workbook (p.58-62)

## Propagated Myths About the Catholic Faith

- **Myth:** Catholics aren't really Christian.
  - **False!** Christianity is an important world religion that stems from the life, teachings, and death of Jesus. Roman Catholicism is the largest of the three major branches of Christianity. Thus, all Roman Catholics are Christian, but not all Christians are Roman Catholic.
- **Myth:** Catholics don't believe in the Bible.
  - **False!** The Church believes in Divine Revelation guided by the Holy Spirit through Sacred Scripture, developed in Sacred Tradition and entirely rooted in the original Deposit of Faith or the Magisterium (the "Teaching Office") of the Church.
- **Myth:** Catholics worship idols, statues, Mary, and dead people.
  - **False!** Catholics venerate and give special respect to Mary and the Saints, and we believe in the Communion of Saints (all believers in Christ, all those of truth and love, in whom the Spirit is at work, including those on earth, those still journeying to God in the purification process Catholics call purgatory, and those who now abide in God in Heaven)
- **Myth:** Catholics have to work their way to get into Heaven.
  - **False!** The Catholic Church has never taught that faith and works alone can get one to Heaven. We also believe in Reconciliation for the forgiveness of mortal sins and regaining justification. With that said, good works do have a role in Christian life.
- **Myth:** The Catholic Church is an apostate, non-biblical, and filled with worthless rituals, empty words, and gestures.
  - **False!** The further you go back into Christian history, the closer you get to the Catholic Church. We are rooted in Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition, and we will learn about the meaning behind all of the words and gestures we use during Mass as we move through this course.

## Truths About the Catholic Faith That May Surprise You

- The New Testament canon exists solely because of the Catholic Church.
- Before the New Testament was put to paper, there was always Apostolic Tradition, which has been held consistent by the Catholic Church for over 2,000 years.
- The Catholic and Orthodox Churches trace the lineage of bishops back to the Apostles.
- The Catholic Church has read Scripture to the faithful at Mass every day for over 2,000 years.

## Fundamental Catholic Beliefs

- Catholics believe in the Most Holy Trinity – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit – one God in three persons.
- Scripture, the Holy Bible, is the inspired, error-free, and revealed Word of God.
- Baptism is necessary for salvation.
- God's Ten Commandments provide us with a moral compass to live by.
- Catholic worship focuses on the Mass, where the Sacrament of the Eucharist is celebrated.
- The Catholic Church defines its mission as spreading the Gospel (the Good News) of Jesus Christ, administering the Sacraments, and exercising charity.