



## Rites of Initiation and Commitment

*Catechesis is the primary means by which adults are prepared for Baptism, Confirmation or Reception & Reaffirmation of Faith.*

**Baptism** is the primary sacrament of Christian initiation. It takes place at the Great Vigil of Easter (Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup>).

**Confirmation** is for those making a mature commitment to the Christian faith. Those who have been confirmed in another denomination are **Received** by the Bishop.

Those who desire may **Reaffirm** their Faith. The Bishop lays on hands and affirms the good work already begun.

## Join us on the journey of faith at Trinity Cathedral

Beginning with a Saturday retreat at which we begin to learn each other's stories and backgrounds, Catechesis kicks off with a three-week arc that covers the basics of Christianity as the Anglican Church has received it: Scripture, Tradition, and Reason. Following Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Lenten season of discernment and purgation, we move into an examination of history and liturgy, including the "nuts and bolts" of Episcopal worship. Holy Week and Easter are the center of our journey, as we experience and reflect on these ancient liturgies with new eyes. In the weeks following Easter, Catechesis examines more deeply the various ministries that make up Trinity Cathedral, and explores Christian spiritual practices that bring us closer to God, our creator.

### More Questions?

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# Catechesis

*The Journey Home*

For the curious, the returning,  
and the not-so-sure



TRINITY  
EPISCOPAL  
CATHEDRAL

## Catechesis 2012 Schedule

Catechesis runs every Wednesday night from January 25<sup>th</sup> through May 25<sup>th</sup>, 7:00-8:30pm. Eucharist at 5:30 and the Common Meal at 6:00 are options to deepen community through worship and fellowship.

Two Saturday Retreats provide the bookends: January 21<sup>st</sup> and June 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9:30 to 1:00.

Ash Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00pm and The Great Three Days (*Triduum*) of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the Great Vigil of Easter (April 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>) comprise the liturgical center of the journey.

On Trinity Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, Bishop Michael Hanley will be with us for confirmation/reception and reaffirmation of faith at the 10:00 Eucharist.



*"And the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started  
and know the place for the first time."*

-T.S. Eliot, "Little Gidding" (*The Four Quartets*)

Catechesis, like so many Christian "code words," comes from a Greek word that means to sound down – to *echo* – and has come to mean the process by which those who are new to, returning to, or desire a fresh encounter with their faith are prepared for baptism, confirmation/reception, and reaffirmation of faith. We take this echo a step further in our community of those who "seek the truth." We share the truth of our own unique journeys and the path which has brought us together in this place and time. Catechesis is in many ways the invitation to a journey, as we explore the rich wisdom and deep symbolic language that makes up the Christian tradition as the Anglican Church has expressed it over the centuries. Thus the faith "sounds down" or echoes through the years, as we find new ways to bring fresh expression to ancient patterns, and old traditions are given new life in our midst.

Catechesis is about finding a home in the faith. More than an introduction to scripture, history, worship and service, the ancient rhythm at work in Catechesis invites us to bring our whole selves – heart, mind, body and soul – to the experience of exploring what it means to live as a person of faith in the Christian tradition.

Catechesis is also an introduction to our life together at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. We explore the Core Values of this particular faith community, what makes us distinctive, and how newcomers to Trinity – or those who have worshipped at the Cathedral for years – can deepen their relationships here. More than anything else, Catechesis is about the experience of finding home: the deep sense of peace and security that allows us to risk and challenge and try new things, guided and embraced by the Spirit of God echoing down through the ages.

