



ADULT CHRISTIAN INITIATION MINISTRY

Diocese of Winona-Rochester

"...seek the living God and undertake the journey of faith and conversion"

(Order of Christian Initiation of Adults #1)



RITE OF ELECTION...

January 16, 2025

Dear Pastors, Parish Administrators, and OCIA Coordinators:

Greetings of Peace in these Winter days.

Our diocesan celebration of the **Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion** will take place on the First Sunday of Lent, **March 9th, at 3:00 pm, at Queen of Angels Church in Austin**. This rite is “**the focal point of the Church’s concern for the catechumens**” (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults, #107), and is an essential rite of the OCIA process for our catechumens and their godparents. Our (baptized) candidates and their sponsors are also invited and welcome to participate in this significant rite.

With regard to this celebration, please find attached:

- A letter of invitation from Bishop Barron
- A promotional flyer for the celebration [in both English and Spanish] which can be copied and posted/shared in your parish(es).
- A form on which to provide information about your catechumens and candidates in the OCIA process, including an indication of those who will be participating in this celebration. **Please note that this information is requested** [by mail or email to me at the addresses provided] **by Friday, February 21st.**

A few notes about the form to be completed...

- It is being attached in two formats – a printable and a "fillable" format to allow you to complete it as a hard copy or digitally.
- If you do not presently have any catechumens or candidates at your parish, please let me know so that we can make sure all parishes are accounted for.
- If you have any names of catechumens/candidates (participating in the rite) that may be difficult to pronounce, please include the phonetic spelling on the form beside the name(s).
- If you have anyone who has been received into the Church since last year's Easter Vigil, please include their names on the form. And, please let them know that they are invited to join us as well.
- If you have participants attending, you will receive additional information and details concerning the celebration as we get closer to the date.

For additional background on these rites, you may wish to consult the OCIA text [new edition], as follows... [If you do not have a copy of the OCIA text, I would be happy to send these sections to you for your review.]

- **“Rite of Sending Catechumens for Election”**: #106 - #117 [used if the parish has only (unbaptized) catechumens to send to the diocesan rite with the bishop]
- **“Rite of Sending the Candidates for the Calling to Continuing Conversion”**: #434 - #445 [used if the parish has only (baptized) candidates to send to the diocesan rite with the bishop]
- **“Rite of Sending Catechumens for Election and Candidates for the Calling to Continuing Conversion”**: #530 - #546 [used if the parish has both (unbaptized) catechumens and (baptized) candidates to send to the diocesan rite with the bishop]
- **“Rite of Election of Catechumens and of Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion”**: #547 - #560. [This is the diocesan rite which will be celebrated by Bishop Barron at Queen of Angels Parish on the First Sunday of Lent.]

If you have any questions and/or need assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me. **Thank you for your kind cooperation in this and for all you do for our Adult Christian Initiation Ministry in the diocese!**

I wish you God's grace and blessings in this new year!

Todd

Todd Graff | Coordinator of Adult Christian Initiation (OCIA)

Diocese of Winona-Rochester | www.dowr.org

The Chancery | 2907 Jeremiah Lane NW, Rochester, MN 55901

Office Phone: 507-923-2163 | Office Fax: 507-454-8106 | tgraff@dowr.org



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