# RITE of ELECTION AND CALL to Continuing Conversion



Archdiocese of Philadelphia Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

FIRST SUNDAY of LENT, 2016

# Rite of Election of Catechumens

# Of The Call to Continuing Conversion of Candidates Who are Preparing for Confirmation and/or Eucharist or Reception Into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church

Most Reverend Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap., the Archbishop of Philadelphia, assembles all of us today in the mother church of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul. He does so as our chief shepherd and teacher of the faith with many priests, deacons and faithful of our local church. This is a celebration of the Church!

We come from so many of the parish communities throughout the Archdiocese with our godparents and sponsors to hear the holy Word of God on this First Sunday of Lent. This saving Word has formed and guided us in the Catholic Faith with its promise of divine life celebrated in the Sacraments.

Today's celebration begins a new period for the Elect, the Period of Purification and Enlightenment, with its scrutinies and presentations of the Creed and the Lord's Prayer, with its prayer and penance, to ready the Elect for full immersion into Christ's Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist at the great Easter Vigil.

Today's celebration gives fresh meaning to this Lenten season for all of the Candidates, those already baptized, looking forward to completing Christian Initiation with Easter Time. This Lent, as for all Christians indeed, inspired by the commitment and perseverance of the Elect, calls each of us to deeper communion with Christ as we turn away from sin and seek to live more fully his Gospel in the Church.

Let us enter into the mystery of this Sunday celebration of the Rite of Election and of the Call to Continuing Conversion with the joy that comes from belonging to the Church, supporting one another in prayer and penance, and awaiting the splendid gifts of the Easter Sacraments.

# THE ORDER of SERVICE / ORDEN Del SERVICIO

## Introductory Rites / Ritos Iniciales

#### Entrance Hymn / Canto de Entrada



# Liturgy of the Word / Liturgia de la Palabra

#### FIRST READING/PRIMERA LECTURA

Deuteronomy 26: 4-10 Deuteronomio 26, 4-10

En aquel tiempo, dijo Moisés al pueblo: "Cuando presentes las primicias de tus cosechas, el sacerdote tomará el cesto de tus manos y lo pondrá ante el altar del Señor, tu Dios:

'Mi padre fue un arameo errante, que bajó a Egipto, y se estableció allí, con muy pocas personas. Pero luego creció, hasta convertirse en una gran nación, potente y numerosa. Los egipcios nos maltrataron, nos oprimieron, y nos impusieron una dura esclavitud. Entonces clamamos al Señor, Dios de nuestros padres; y el Señor escuchó nuestra voz, miró nuestra humillación, nuestro trabajo y nuestra angustia. El Señor nos sacó de Egipto con mano ponderosa y brazo protector, con un terror muy grande, entre señales y portentos; nos trajo a este país y nos dio esta tierra, que mana leche y miel. Por eso ahora yo traigo aquí las primicias de la tierra, que tú, Señor, me has dado'.

Una vez que hayas dejado tus primicias ante el Señor, te postrarás ante él para adorarlo".

**Lector:** The Word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM / SALMO RESPONSORIAL



Tú que habitas al amparo del Altísimo, que vives a la sombra del Omnipotente, di al Señor: Refugio mío, alcázar mío, Dios mío, confío en ti.

No evil shall befall you, nor shall affliction come near your tent, for to his angels he has given command about you, that they guard you in all your ways.

Te llevarán en sus palmas, para que tu pie no tropiece en la piedra; caminaras sobre áspides y víboras, pisotearás leones y dragones.

Because he clings to me, I will deliver him; I will set him on high because he acknowledges my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in distress; I will deliver him and glorify him.

#### SECUNDO LECTURA/SECOND READING

Romanos 10, 8-13 Romanos 10: 8-13

Brothers and sisters:
What does Scripture say?
The word is near you,
in your mouth and in your heart
—that is, the word of faith that we preach—,
for, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord
and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead,
you will be saved.
For one believes with the heart and so is justified,
and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved.

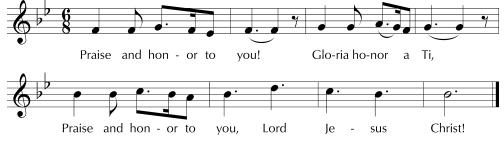
For the Scripture says, No one who believes in him will be put to shame. For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all,

enriching all who call upon him.

For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Lector: Palabra de Dios.All: Te alabamos, Señor.

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION / ACLAMACIÓN ANTES DEL EVANGELIO JAMES J. CHEPPONIS



No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

**Deacon:** The Lord be with you. All: And with your spirit.

**Deacon:** A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

All: And with your spirit.

En aquel tiempo, Jesús, lleno del Espíritu Santo, regresó del Jordán, y conducido por el mismo Espíritu, se internó en el desierto, donde permaneció durante cuarenta días y fue tentado por el demonio.

No comió nada en aquellos días, y cuando se completaron, sintió hombre. Entonces el diablo le dijo: "Si eres Hijo de Dios, dile a esta piedra que se convierta en pan". Jesús le contestó: "Está escrito: No sólo de pan vive el hombre".

Después, lo llevó el diablo a un monte elevado y en un instante le hizo ver todos los reinos de la tierra y le dijo: "A mí me ha sido entregado todo el poder y la gloria de estos reinos, y yo los doy a quien quiero. Todo esto será tuyo, si te arrodillas y me adoras". Jesús le respondió: "Está escrito: Adorarás al Señor, tu Dios, y a él sólo servirás".

Entonces lo llevó a Jerusalén, lo puso en la parte más alta del templo y le dijo: "Si eres Hijo de Dios, arrójate desde aquí, porque está escrito: Los ángeles del Señor tienen órdenes de cuidarte y de sostenerte en sus manos, para que tus pie no tropiecen con las piedras". Pero Jesús le respondió: "También está escrito: No tentarás al Señor tu Dios".

Concluidas las tentaciones, el diablo se retiró de él, hasta que llegara la hora.

**Deacon:** The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily / Homilía

ARCHBISHOP CHARLES J. CHAPUT

# Celebration of Election / Celebración de la elección

#### Presentation of Catechumens / Presentación de los Catecúmenos

The catechumens are presented to the Archbishop following the directions of the ushers.

#### Affirmation / Afirmación

The Archbishop questions the godparents three times as to the readiness of the catechumens to be elected for the Easter Sacraments.

#### Godparents respond each time: They have.

The Archbishop questions the assembly's intention to support the testimony concerning the Catechumens' readiness and to include them in prayer as Easter approaches.

Assembly responds: We are.

#### Invitation and Enrollment of Names / Invitación e Inscriptión de los nombres

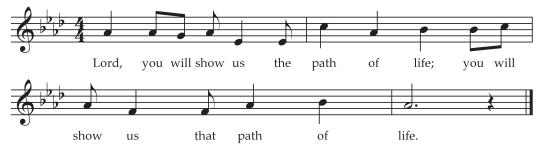
The Archbishop asks the catechumens if they wish to enter fully into the life of the Church through the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist.

### Catechumens respond: We do.

The Archbishop then invites the catechumens to offer their names for enrollment. The Books of the Elect from each parish, containing the names of the catechumens, are now carried in procession and presented to the Archbishop.

#### Processional Song / Canto Procesionales

#### JAMES J. CHEPPONIS



Music: James J. Chepponis © 1984 World Library Publications, Inc.

#### Act of Admission or Election / Acto de Admisión o Elección

Turning to the catechumens, the Archbishop declares them members of the elect.

**Archbishop**: I now declare you to be members of the elect, to be

initiated into the sacred mysteries at the next Easter Vigil.

**Elect:** Thanks be to God.

**Arzobispo:** Ahora los declaro miembros de los elegidos para ser iniciados

en los sagrados misterios durante la próxima Vigilia Pascual.

Elegidos: Demos gracias a Dios.

The Archbishop continues addressing the newly elected, and their godparents encouraging them in their fidelity to the Lord and preparation for the Sacraments.

# Celebration of the Call to Continuing Conversion / Celebración de Llamado a los Candidatos a la Conversión Continua

**Presentation of the Candidates / Presentación de los candidatos**The candidates are presented to the Archbishop following the directions of the ushers.

#### AFFIRMATION / AFIRMACIÓN

The Archbishop questions the sponsors four times concerning the readiness of the candidates.

The Sponsors respond each time: They have.

The Archbishop questions the assembly's intention to support the testimony concerning the candidates' readiness and to include them in prayer as Easter approaches.

The Assembly responds: We are.

#### Act of Recognition / Acto de Reconocimiento

The Archbishop recognizes the candidates' desire to be sealed with the Holy Spirit and participate in Eucharistic Communion. He invites them to continue their journey of conversion.

Archbishop: Candidates, the Church recognizes your desire to be

sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit and to have a place at Christ's Eucharistic table. Join with us this Lent in a spirit of

repentance. Hear the Lord's call to conversion and be

faithful to your baptismal covenant.

Candidates: Thanks be to God.

**Arzobispo**: La Iglesia reconoce el deseo de ustedes de ser sellados el

don del Espíritu Santo y de participar en la mesa eucarística de Cristo. Unanse a nosotros esta Cuaresma en un espíritu de arrepentimiento. Escuchen el llamado del Señor a la con-

versión y sean fieles a su alianza bautismal.

Candidatos: Demos gracias a Dios.

The Archbishop encourages the sponsors to continue their support of the candidates in their preparation for the Sacraments.

# Intercessions for the Elect and the Candidates / Las intercesiones para los Elegidos y los Candidato

#### MICHAEL HAY



- That together we may fruitfully employ this Lenten season to renew ourselves through self-denial and works of holiness, let us pray to the Lord:
- That our elect may always remember this day of their election and be grateful for the blessings they have received from heaven, let us pray to the Lord:
- That our candidates preparing for reception into full communion with the Catholic Church may grow daily in fidelity to their baptismal covenant, let us pray to the Lord:
- That their teachers may always convey the beauty of God's word and that their godparents and sponsors may be living examples of the Gospel, let us pray to the Lord:
- That their families may help them to follow the promptings of the Spirit and that their communities may grow in charity and be constant in prayer during this Lenten period, let us pray to the Lord:

# Prayer over Elect and Candidates / Oración sobre los Elegidos y los Candidatos

#### BLESSING AND DISMISSAL / BENDICIÓN Y DESPIDO

#### Recessional Hymn / Himno de salida



#### Cantors Jackie Dunleavy Charlene Angelini

#### Organist Philip Fillion

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# Excerpts from the February Mailing 2016

#### CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

The Office for Divine Worship has the responsibility for direction, guidance and support of pastors and those who collaborate with them in the formation of adults for Christian Initiation. Additional information on the Christian Initiation for adults can be found on the website for the Office for Divine Worship, under the heading *Christian Initiation*:

http://www.odwphiladelphia.org/sacred-liturgy/christian-initiation/

Please contact the Office for Divine Worship at 215-587-3537 or worship@archdphila.org with any questions.

#### LENTEN RETREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR THE ELECT AND CANDIDATES

An Archdiocesan Retreat for Adults in Sacramental Formation will take place at the *Malvern Retreat House*, Malvern, PA, on **March 19, 2016, 9:00 AM—1:30 PM**. Christian Initiation Coordinators are encouraged to take advantage of this retreat opportunity. Contact Gerri O'Reilly at 484-321-2517 or goreilly@MalvernRetreat.com. For more information about the *Malvern Retreat House* go to <a href="http://malvernRetreat.com">http://malvernRetreat.com</a>.

#### PLANNING FOR THE PERIOD OF PURIFICATION AND ENLIGHTENMENT

For both the elect and the local community, therefore, the Lenten season is a time for spiritual recollection in preparation for the celebration of the paschal mystery. This is a period of more intense spiritual preparation, consisting more in interior reflection than in catechetical instruction, and is intended to purify the minds and hearts of the elect as they search their own consciences and do penance. This period is intended as well to enlighten the minds and hearts of the elect with a deeper knowledge of Christ the Savior (RCLA, see nos. 138-139).

- If catechumens were unable, for one reason or another, to participate in the Rite of Election on the First Sunday of Lent, the pastor should elect them, keeping in mind numbers 127-128 of the ritual book, Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.
- 1 The scrutinies for the elect during Lent are not optional and should be carried out with a proper explanation to the elect and to the faithful. The description of the scrutinies, as found in nos. 141-143 of the ritual book, Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, can be helpful explanations for the elect and the faithful. Typically, the scrutinies are celebrated with the proper ritual Mass in the Roman Missal, For the Celebration of the Scrutinies, on the Third, Fourth and Fifth Sundays of Lent. The Year A readings are always used for the scrutinies. If the scrutinies cannot be celebrated on the proper Sunday, then a weekday celebration is possible with the same ritual Mass and the proper Year A readings.
  - The penitential rites (scrutinies) for children who have reached catechetical age, as described in numbers 291-303 of the ritual book, Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, belongs to the Lenten journey of unbaptized children to be fully initiated at the Solemn Paschal Vigil.
  - The penitential rite on the Second Sunday of Lent for baptized uncatechized adults preparing for the Sacraments of
    Confirmation and Eucharist as described in numbers 459-472 in the ritual book, Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults,
    should be seriously considered in the plan for Lent.
- The presentations are very much tied into the scrutinies and follow their schedule. The presentations of the Creed and the Our Father aid in the enlightenment of the elect. The presentation of the Creed follows the First Scrutiny. The elect are to commit the Creed to memory and they will recite it publicly on Holy Saturday morning prior to their evening Baptism. The presentation of the Our Father with the proclamation of the Gospel follows the third scrutiny. The elect recite the Our Father publicly for the first time when they are assembled among the baptized at the Eucharist of the Easter Vigil. These weekday presentations should include the participation of some of the faithful. The handing out of parchments with these living expressions of the Faith is discouraged.

- A retreat should be arranged during Lent for the Elect. Also, the candidates for Full Communion and Catholic Adult candidates for Confirmation and Communion may also be part of this retreat. The retreat should include a presentation on Lent and its relationship to the celebration of the Easter Sacraments and the Christian Life, focused prayer and guided reflection sessions. The Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation could be made available to the already baptized candidates. An archdiocesan retreat for the Elect and Candidates for the Easter Sacraments is scheduled for March 19, 2016, at the Malvern Retreat House. To register, contact Gerri O'Reilly at 484-321-2517 or goreilly@MalvernRetreat.com. For more information about the Malvern Retreat House go to http://MalvernRetreat.com.
- The preparation rites on Holy Saturday should be observed, in some part, according to numbers 185 to 204 in the ritual book, Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. Most of all, the elect should be encouraged to participate in the paschal fast (see Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, article 110) all through Holy Saturday.

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE EASTER VIGIL

In accord with the United States National Statutes for the Catechumenate (November 11, 1986) no. 33, Archbishop Chaput asks that you note:

Only the adult elect, that is, the unbaptized catechumens elected at the Rite of Election, are to be fully initiated with Baptism, Confirmation and reception of the Body and Blood of the Lord at the Solemn Paschal Vigil, according to the rites outlined in the Roman Missal. Children may also be baptized at the Easter Vigil.

Baptized non-Catholic Christians are to be received into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church on Palm Sunday or Easter Sunday or any Sunday of Easter Time. In fact, this reception can take place almost any time during the Church Year according to the rite outlined in the *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* (see RCIA, nos. 473-504). No additional permission is required for this Reception of Baptized Christians into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church.

For many parishes, this practice continues to represent an innovation that requires catechesis on the dignity of Baptism and the avoidance of any confusion between candidates for Baptism and baptized Christians.

Candidates for the Reception into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church should be encouraged to participate in the Easter Vigil, especially with a distinct place to sit among the faithful and acknowledged by the priest celebrant.

#### Time of the Easter Vigil

The Easter Vigil should not begin before nightfall. It may be helpful to know that sunset, according to the US Naval Observatory Astronomical Applications Department, occurs at 7:19 PM on March 26, 2016.

# RECEPTION OF BAPTIZED CHRISTIANS INTO THE FULL COMMUNION OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults allows for people baptized in another Church or ecclesial community, although never treated as catechumens, to benefit from the doctrinal and spiritual formation for the unbaptized. Additionally, the use of the Combined Rites for catechumens and candidates gives the candidates an important sense of the Sacred Liturgy and participation with the Church leading to Confirmation and Communion. However, many candidates do not require a full program parallel to the catechumenate. Therefore, the directives provided in the US National Statutes for the Catechumenate for reception into full communion (see nos. 30-37) should be increasingly observed.

Preparation and celebration of the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation for baptized non-Catholics are an essential element of their Reception (See RCIA, no. 482).

#### Reception of Candidates and Valid Baptism and Conditional Baptism

All non-Catholic Christians seeking full communion must be validly baptized. The following norm is to be observed in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia with regard to the reception of candidates into full communion with the Catholic Church:

Baptism is the doorway to all of the Sacraments. Therefore, the sacred minister needs moral certitude that a person was baptized with the Trinitarian formula and the triple water pouring/immersion before other Sacraments are celebrated. This moral certitude requires more than the evidence of a baptismal certificate and must be the case in each individual circumstance. Such moral certitude can often be readily obtained through inquiry with the candidate. When moral certitude is lacking, a conditional Baptism is necessary (see Canon 869 and National Statutes for the Catechumenate 37).

Additional information on valid baptism and conditional baptism can be found on the website for the Office for Divine Worship.

# CELEBRATION OF MASS WITH THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION FOR BAPTIZED CATHOLIC ADULTS

(16 years of age and older)

The ordinary minister of the Sacrament of Confirmation for baptized Roman Catholics is the Bishop. Typically, this occurs during the pastoral visit of the Bishop to the parish. Every effort should be made to prepare Catholic Adults for Confirmation to participate in the parish celebration with the Bishop.

Additionally, Archbishop Chaput will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on **Pentecost Sunday, May 15, 2016**during the 6:30 PM Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul, Philadelphia.

Confessions from 5:30 to 6:15 PM

The candidates for this sacramental celebration are baptized Roman Catholics who have been properly catechized for Confirmation (and if needed, for the reception of First Communion). Information about this celebration for pastors and those who assist with the formation and reception of the Sacraments of Initiation has been distributed by e-mail in December 2015, to all parish Liturgy Contacts, parish Christian Initiation Coordinators, and DRE's, and can also be found on the website of the Office for Divine Worship.

If for some serious reason, a school age baptized Roman Catholic is unable to be confirmed by the Bishop during his pastoral visit to the parish, then this candidate, with the permission of the pastor, may be presented for the Sacrament of Confirmation on Pentecost Sunday. The pastor's permission is to be included with the registration forms to be sent to the Office for Divine Worship.

A pastor who foresees the genuine pastoral need to confirm an adult baptized Roman Catholic can do so only with the specific delegation of the Bishop (see Canon 882 and National Statutes for the Catechumenate, nos. 28-29). Archbishop Chaput gives this faculty to all priests of the Archdiocese to confirm Roman Catholic Adults on any occasion from Palm Sunday through Pentecost Sunday. This delegation is required for the validity of the Sacrament in the case of a Roman Catholic candidate. If you have any questions about this faculty, please contact the Office for Divine Worship. There is no need for an additional letter requesting this faculty during the period specified by the Archbishop.

#### REMINDERS

- Full Initiation—Baptism, Confirmation and the first reception of Communion—apart from the Solemn Paschal Vigil, outside the immediate danger of death, requires the permission of the Archbishop (see RCIA, no. 331).
   Archbishop Chaput delegates the Office for Divine Worship to give this permission. Please contact the Office for Divine Worship for such circumstances.
- All baptized non-Catholic children over the age of seven whose parents/guardians wish for them to come into full
  communion with the Catholic Church do so with the rites for the Reception of Baptized Christians into the Full Communion of the
  Catholic Church (see RCIA, nos. 473-504). So, children, baptized as non-Catholics, receive Confirmation and Communion
  in the same celebration when they are received into the Catholic Church. The Profession of Faith within the rite and the Act
  of Reception are essential elements of this rite.
- Orthodox Christians are received into full communion of the Catholic Church with a Profession of Faith (see RCIA, no. 474). For assistance in this regard, see Admission of an Orthodox Christian into the Catholic Church in Other than their Parallel Ritual Church:

http://archphila.org/evangelization/worship/pdf/AdmissionofOrthodoxChristian.pdf

#### RECORD KEEPING

The following registers are to be maintained diligently with regard to required information and record keeping:

- Register of Catechumens, after the Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens (see RCIA, no. 46);
- Book of Elect, prior to the Rite of Election (see RCIA, no. 132);
- Register for Baptism, after the Sacraments of Christian Initiation (see Christian Initiation, General Introduction, no. 29);
- Register for Full Communion of the Catholic Church (see RCIA, no. 486).

#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Spring Workshop for Those Involved in Baptism Preparation
Wednesday, February 17, 2016
Visitation BVM, Trooper
Lower Church
7:00 pm to 9:00 pm



## Day of Reflection

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

Sponsored by Malvern Retreat House in conjunction with the Office for Divine Worship, Archdiocese of Philadelphia

# Saturday, March 19, 2016 - Feast of St. Joseph 9am-1:30pm



# A Disciple Like Saint Joseph: Conversion Through Prayer & Witness

Lenten Retreat for men and women elect and candidates, godparents, sponsors and RCIA teams

Retreat Director: Msgr. Joseph T. Marino, Rector of Malvern Retreat House

Cost: \$35, includes continental breakfast and lunch

9:00 AM Arrival/Registration/Continental Breakfast 9:30 AM Morning Prayer and Conference: Conversion through Prayer 10:15 AM Reflection Time 10:30 AM Penitential Celebration 10:45 AM Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation (For candidates only) Reflection Time for all other participants

11:45 AM Prayer and Conference:

Conversion through Witness

12:30 PM Lunch

Questions? Contact Gerri O'Reilly at 484-321-2517 or email goreilly@malvernretreat.com.

Malvern Retreat House · McShain Horstmann Family Life Center · Entrance B · 315 S. Warren Avenue, Malvern, PA 19355 · 610-644-0400 · malvernretreat.com

Please return by March 9, 2016 (Space is Limited)	
RCIA Coordinator Name:	
Parish Name/Town:	
Email Address:	
Number Attending: ElectCam MembersCa	GodparentsandidatesSponsors

