

Celebration of the
RITE OF ELECTION OF CATECHUMENS
and of the
CALL TO CONTINUING CONVERSION
OF CANDIDATES

for Reception into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church



**Celebraci3n del Rito de Elecci3n para los Catec3menos y de
El Llamado a la Conversi3n Continua de los Candidatos**
para la recepci3n a la comuni3n plena de la Iglesia Cat3lica

The Most Reverend David L. Ricken, DD, JCL

St. Francis Xavier Cathedral | Green Bay, Wisconsin
February 18, 2018

Prayer for the Catechumens and Candidates

*Lord God,
you created the human race
and are the author of its renewal.
Bless all your adopted children
and add these chosen ones
to the harvest of your new covenant.*

*As true children of the promise,
may they rejoice in eternal life,
won, not by the power of nature,
but through the mystery of your grace.*

*Be with them through this season, Lord,
And all their earthly days,
That when the final Easter dawns,
They join in heaven's praise.*

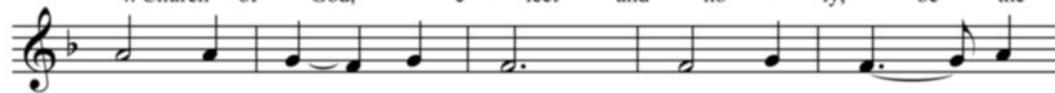
ENTRANCE RITES - RITOS INICIALES

Entrance Procession - Procesiñ de Entrada

Church of God, Elect & Glorious



1. Church of God, e - lect and glo - rious, ho - ly
2. God has called you out of dark - ness in - to
3. Once you were an al - ien peo - ple, strang - ers
4. Church of God, e - lect and ho - ly, be the



1. na - tion, cho - sen race; called as God's own
2. God's most mar - v'lous light, brought his truth to
3. to God's heart of love; but God brought you
4. peo - ple God in - tends; strong in faith and



1. spe - cial peo - ple, roy - al priests and heirs of grace:
2. life with - in you, turned your blind - ness in - to sight.
3. home in mer - cy, cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove.
4. swift to an - swer each com - mand your mas - ter sends:



1. know the pur - pose of your call - ing, show to
2. Let your light so shine a - round you that God's
3. Let God's love flow out to oth - ers, let them
4. roy - al priests ful - fill your call - ing through your



1. all God's might - y deeds; tell of love which knows no
2. name be glo - ri - fied; and all find fresh hope and
3. feel a Fa - ther's care; that they too may know his
4. sac - ri - fice and prayer; give your lives in joy - ful



1. lim - its, grace which meets all hu - man needs.
2. pur - pose in Christ Je - sus cru - ci - fied.
3. wel - come and his count - less bless - ings share.
4. ser - vice, sing his praise, God's love de - clare.

Greeting - Saludo

Bishop Ricken: Peace be with you.

All/Todos: **And with your spirit.**

Opening Prayer - Oraci3n Colecta

LITURGY OF THE WORD - LITURGIA DE LA PALABRA

First Reading - Primera Lectura: *Isaiah 43:1-3a, 4a (Proclamation in English)*

Lectura de libro de Isaias

*Pero ahora, Israel, pueblo de Jacob,
el Se3or que te cre3te dice:*

*“No temas, que yo te he libertado;
yo te llam3 por tu nombre, 3eres mio.*

si tienes que pasar por el agua.

yo estar3 contigo,

Si tienes que cruzar r3os, no te ahogar3;

si tienes que pasar por el fuego,

no te quemar3, las llamas no arder3n en ti.

Pues yo soy tu Se3or, tu salvador,

el Dios Santo de Israel.

Yo te he adquirido;

porque te aprecio, eres de gran valor y yo te amo.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All/Todos: **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm - Salmo Responsorial

Psalm 25

Second Reading - Segunda Lectura

Ephesians 2:18-22 (Proclamation in Spanish)

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians:

*He came and “announced the good news of peace to you who were far off,
and to those who were near;”*

through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

This means that you are strangers and aliens no longer.

No, you are fellow citizens of the saints and members of the household of God.

*You form a building which rises on the foundation of the apostles and prophets,
with Christ Jesus himself as the capstone.*

*Through him the whole structure is fitted together and takes shape as a holy temple in the
Lord;*

in him you are being built into this temple, to become a dwelling place for God in the Spirit.

Reader: Palabra de Dios.

*All/Todos: **Te alabamos, Señor.***

(All please stand; de pie)

Gospel Acclamation - Aclamación del Evangelio

Cantor, all repeat

Gospel - Evangelio

John 15:12-17 (Proclamation in English)

Deacon: The Lord be with you.

All/Todos: **And with your spirit**

Deacon: A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to John.

All/Todos: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Ahora les doy mi mandamiento:

¡Mense unos a otros,

como yo los amo a ustedes.

No hay amor más grande que éste:

dar la vida por sus amigos.

Ustedes son mis amigos

si cumplen lo que les mando.

Ya no les diré servidores,

porque un servidor no sabe lo que hace su patrón.

Les digo amigos,

porque les he dado a conocer todo lo que aprendí de mi Padre.

Ustedes no me escogieron a mí

Soy yo quien los escogió a ustedes y los he puesto para que

produzcan fruto,

y ese fruto permanezca.

Entonces todo lo que pidan al Padre en mi nombre,

se les dará

Yo les ordeno esto:

que se amen unos a otros.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord

All/Todos: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

All please remain standing after the Gospel Reading for the Bishop to reverence the Book of the Gospels.

Todos se quedan de pie mientras el Obispo hace reverencia al Libro de los Evangelios.

(All please sit; sentados)

Homily - Homilía

Celebration of Election - Celebraci3n de la Elecci3n

Presentation of the Catechumens - Presentaci3n de la Catec3menos

Deacon: Most Reverend Father, Easter is drawing near, and so these catechumens, who will now be presented to you, are completing their period of preparation. They have found strength in God's grace and support in their community's prayers and example. Now they ask that after the celebration of the scrutinies, they be allowed to participate in the sacraments of baptism, confirmation, and eucharist.

Bishop: Those who are to be chosen in Christ, please stand when your name is called by your catechist, together with your godparents.

(One by one, parish catechists/representatives approach the microphone and read the list of their Catechumens from their Parish's Book of the Elect, signed by the Catechumens at the Rite of Sending.)

Catechists: The catechumens from (Parish Name) in (City Name)... (Names of Catechumens).

(As their names are called, the catechumens along with their godparents stand and remain standing. After presenting their catechumens, catechists leave the Book of the Elect before the Bishop.)

Affirmation by the Godparents - Afirmaci3n por los padrinos

Bishop: God's holy Church wishes to know whether these catechumens are sufficiently prepared to be enrolled among the elect for the coming celebration of Easter. And so I speak first of all to you their godparents.

Have they faithfully listened to God's word proclaimed by the Church?

Godparents: **They have.**

Bishop: Have they responded to that word and begun to walk in God's presence?

Godparents: **They have.**

Bishop: Have they shared the company of their Christian brothers and sisters and joined with them in prayer?

Godparents: **They have.**

Deacon: Godparents, please be seated. Catechumens, please remain standing.

Act of Election - Acto de Elección

Bishop: And now, my dear catechumens, I address you. Your own godparents and teachers have spoken in your favor. The Church in the name of Christ accepts their judgment and calls you to the Easter sacraments.

Since you have already heard the call of Christ, you must now express your response to that call clearly and in the presence of the whole Church.

Therefore, do you wish to enter fully into the life of the Church through the sacraments of baptism, confirmation, and the eucharist?

Catechumens: **We do.**

Bishop: I now declare you to be members of the elect, to be initiated into the sacred mysteries at the next Easter Vigil.

Catechumens: **Thanks be to God.**

Bishop: God is always faithful to those he calls: now it is your duty, as it is ours, both to be faithful to him in return and to strive courageously to reach the fullness of truth, which your election opens before you.

(to Godparents) Godparents, you have spoken in favor of these catechumens: accept them now as chosen in the Lord and continue to sustain them through your loving care and example, until they come to share in the sacraments of God's life.

Deacon: Catechumens, please be seated.

Celebration of the Call to Continuing Conversion - Celebración del Llamado a la Conversión Continua

Presentation of the Candidates - Presentación de los Candidatos

Deacon: Most Reverend Father, I now present to you the candidates who are preparing to be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church. They too have found strength in God's grace and support in our community's prayers and example. Now they ask that after this Lenten season, they be admitted to full eucharistic sharing.

Bishop: Those who desire to participate fully in the sacramental life of the Church, please stand when your name is called by your catechist, together with your sponsor.

(One by one, parish catechists representatives approach the microphone and read the list of their Candidates.)

Catechists: The candidates from *(Parish Name)* in *(City Name)*... *(Names of Candidates)*.

(As their names are called, the candidates along with their sponsors stand and remain standing.)

Affirmation by the Sponsors and the Assembly - Afirmación por los padrinos y la asamblea

Bishop: The Christian life and the demands that flow from the sacraments cannot be taken lightly. Therefore, before granting these candidates their request to share fully in the Church's sacraments, it is important that the Church hear the testimony of their sponsors about their readiness.

Sponsors, have these candidates listened to the apostles' instruction proclaimed by the Church?

Sponsors: **They have.**

Bishop: Have they come to a deeper appreciation of their baptism, in which they were joined to Christ and his Church?

Sponsors: **They have.**

Bishop: Have they reflected sufficiently on the tradition of the Church, which is their heritage, and joined their brothers and sisters in prayer?

Sponsors: **They have.**

Bishop: Have they advanced in a life of love and service to others?

Sponsors: **They have.**

Deacon: Sponsors, please be seated. Candidates, please remain standing.

Act of Recognition - Acto de reconocimiento

Bishop: Candidates, having reflected upon the mystery of your baptism and endeavoring to follow Christ's commands more perfectly, do you wish to continue to journey towards full communion with the Catholic Church?

Candidates: **We do.**

Bishop: 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.**

Bishop: (to *Sponsors*) Sponsors, continue to support these candidates with your guidance and concern. May they see in you a love for the Church and a sincere desire for doing good. Lead them this Lent to the joys of the Easter mysteries.

Deacon: Sponsors, please be seated.

Intercessions for the Elect and the Candidates - Intercesión para los elegidos y los candidatos

Bishop: My brothers and sisters, in beginning this period of Lent, we look forward to celebrating at Easter the life-giving mysteries of our Lord's suffering, death, and resurrection. These elect and candidates, whom we bring with us to the Easter sacraments, will look to us for an example of Christian renewal. Let us pray to the Lord for them and for ourselves, that we may be renewed by one another's efforts and together come to share the joys of Easter.

Deacon: We pray to the Lord.

All/Todos:



Mike Hay, 1953-1999

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Prayer over the Elect and Candidates -
Oración sobre los elegidos y los candidatos

The Concluding Rites - Ritos de Conclusión

Greeting - Saludo

Bishop: The Lord be with you.

All/Todos: And with your spirit.

Blessing - Bendición

Bishop: Blessed be the name of the Lord.

All/Todos: **Now and forever.**

Bishop: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

All/Todos: **Who made heaven and earth.**

Bishop: May almighty God bless you, the Father, + and the Son, + and the Holy + Spirit.

All/Todos: **Amen.**

Dismissal - Despedida

Deacon: Go in peace.

All/Todos: **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Song - Canto Final

Led by the Spirit (Bob Hurd)

Led by the Spir-it of our God, we go to fast and pray with
Led by the Spir-it, we con-front temp - ta - tion face to face, and
Led by the Spir-it, now draw near the wa-ters of re - birth with
Led by the Spir-it, now sing praise to God the Trin - i - ty: The
Christ in - to the wil - der - ness; we join his pas - chal way. "Rend
know full well we must re - ly on God's re-deem - ing grace. On
hearts that long to wor-ship God in spir - it and in truth. "Who -
Source of Life, the liv - ing Word made flesh to set us free, The
not your gar - ments, rend your hearts. Turn back your lives to me." Thus
bread a - lone we can - not live, but nour-ished by the Word, We
ev - er drinks the drink I give shall nev - er thirst a - gain." Thus
Spir - it blow - ing where it will to make us friends of God: This
says our kind and gra - cious God, whose reign is lib - er - ty.
seek the will of God to do: this is our drink and food.
says the Lord who died for us, our Sav - ior, kin and friend.
mys-try far be - yond our reach, yet near in heal - ing love.

Text: CMD; based on Joel 2:12-13; Matthew 1:12-15; John 4:5-42, © 1996, Bob Hurd.
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