

The Order of Service

Introductory Rites

Processional Hymn *(all stand and sing)*

HYFRYDOL



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 a - lien peo - ple, strang - ers
4. Church of God, e - lect and ho - ly, be the



na - tion, cho - sen race; called as God's own spe - cial
his most mar - v'ulous light, brought his truth to life with -
to God's heart of love; but he brought you home in
peo - ple he in - tends; strong in faith and swift to



peo - ple, roy - al priests and heirs of grace:
in you, turned your blind - ness in - to sight.
mer - cy, cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove.
an - swer each com - mand your mas - ter sends:



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



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



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

Text (based on 1 Peter 2) by J. E. Seddon (20th c.), copyright © Jubilate Hymns, Ltd. All rights reserved.
Music by Rowland H. Pritchard (19th c.). Used with permission under license #U22154, LicensingOnline.

Collect

Liturgy of the Word

please be seated

A reading from the Book of Genesis: 2:7-9; 3:1-7

Responsorial Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17



Response: Be mer - ci - ful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans: 5:12-19

Acclamation before the Gospel

(please stand)



Response: Praise to you, Lord Je - sus Christ, king of end - less glo - ry.

Response music by Owen Alstott, © 1977, 1990, OCP. All rights reserved.
Used with permission under license #U22154, LicensingOnline.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 4:1-11

Homily

Most Reverend Thomas J. Rodi,
Archbishop of Mobile

Rite of Election of Catechumens

(Those Preparing for Baptism)

Presentation of the Catechumens

Priest or Deacon: Most Reverend Father, Easter is drawing near,
and so these catechumens, whom I now present to you,
are completing their period of preparation.

They have found strength in God's grace
and support in our 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 the Eucharist.

Catechumens and their godparents are invited to stand.

Affirmation by the Godparents and the Assembly

Archbishop: 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 to you their godparents:

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

Godparents: They have.

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

Godparents: They have.

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

Godparents: They have.

All stand.

Archbishop: And now I speak to you, my brothers and sisters in this assembly:

Are you ready to support the testimony

expressed about these catechumens

and include them in your prayer and affection

as we move toward Easter?

ALL: We are.

Invitation *(All are seated except the catechumens.)*

Archbishop: And now, my dear catechumens, I address you.

Your own godparents and teachers and this entire community
have spoken in your favor.

The Church in the name of Christ accepts their judgement
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.

Catechumens are seated.

*When called, each Parish Representative presents the catechumens
and the Book of the Elect from that parish to the Archbishop and says:*

These are the names of the catechumens from _____ Parish

After greeting the Archbishop, the catechumens return to their pews and are seated.

Act of Election *(Catechumens and godparents will please stand)*

Archbishop: 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.

Archbishop: 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 up before you.

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.

Catechumens and godparents may be seated.

Celebration of the Call to Continuing Conversion

(Those Already Baptized)

Presentation of the Candidates

Priest or Deacon: Most Reverend Father, Easter is drawing near,
so these candidates, whom I now present to you,
are completing their period of preparation.

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 the full communion of the Catholic Church
and to participation in the sacraments
of Confirmation and the Eucharist.

Candidates and their sponsors are invited to stand.

Affirmation by the Sponsors and the Assembly

Archbishop: 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.

And so I speak first to you, their sponsors:

Have these candidates faithfully listened to God's Word
proclaimed by the Church?

Sponsors: They have.

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

Sponsors: They have.

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

Sponsors: They have.

Archbishop: Have they advanced in a life of love and service for neighbor?

Sponsors: They have.

All stand.

Archbishop: And now I speak to you, my brothers and sisters in this assembly:

Are you ready to support the testimony

expressed about these candidates

and include them in your prayer and affection

as we move forward toward Easter?

ALL: We are.

All except the candidates may be seated.

Invitation

Archbishop: And now, my dear candidates, I address you.
Your own sponsors and teachers and this entire community
have spoken in your favor.
The Church in the name of Christ accepts their judgment
and calls you to full communion in the Catholic Church.
Since you have already been claimed for Christ in Baptism,
and now wish full communion in the Catholic Church,
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 Confirmation and the Eucharist?

Candidates: We do.

*All candidates are seated. As each parish is announced,
the Parish Representative presents the candidates to the Archbishop:*

These are the candidates from _____ Parish.

After greeting the Archbishop, the candidates return to their pews and are seated.

Act of Recognition *(Candidates and their sponsors will please stand)*

Archbishop: 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 in a spirit of repentance and faith.
Hear the Lord's call to conversion
and be faithful to your baptismal covenant.

Candidates: Thanks be to God.

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.

Candidates and their sponsors are seated.

Prayer for Catholics to be Confirmed

Priest or Deacon: Most Reverend Father,
there are several people in our community
who are Baptized Catholics and desire to be confirmed.
They seek to be prepared more intensely
for the Sacrament of Confirmation.
They now ask for this community's prayers, support,
and example of discipleship that they may be ready
to live more deeply in the life of the Holy Spirit
into which they entered at Baptism
I present them to you now
so that this community may pray for them.

Catholic confirmandi are invited to stand.

Archbishop: My dear friends, as you continue your preparation,
know that this community will pray for you, will support you,
and will strive to be a good example of discipleship for you.
Know too that your desire for this sacrament strengthens our faith
and renews our own commitment to our baptism.

Confirmandi: Thanks be to God.

Intercessions for the Elect and the Candidates *(all stand)*

Archbishop: 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.

Archbishop: 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.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

ALL: Our Father...

Dismissal

Archbishop: My dear elect and candidates, the Church sends you forth
to enter the Period of Purification and Enlightenment
and to reflect more deeply upon the word of God
and the faith of the Church with your parish family.
Be assured of our loving support and prayers for you.
We look forward to the day
when you will share fully at the Lord's Table.

Archbishop: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And with your spirit.

Archbishop: Blessed be the name of the Lord.

ALL: Now and forever.

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

ALL: Who made heaven and earth.

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

ALL: Amen.

Recessional Hymn

AURELIA



1. The Chur-ch's one foun-da-tion is Je-sus Christ her Lord;
2. E-lect of ev-'ry na-tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
4. Yet she on earth hath un-ion with God, the Three-in-One,



She is his new cre-a-tion By wa-ter and the word;
Her char-ter of sal-va-tion, "One Lord, one faith, one birth!"
And with the saints, com-mun-ion with those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho-ly bride;
One ho-ly name she bless-es, par-takes one ho-ly food,
O hap-py ones and ho-ly! Lord, give us grace that we



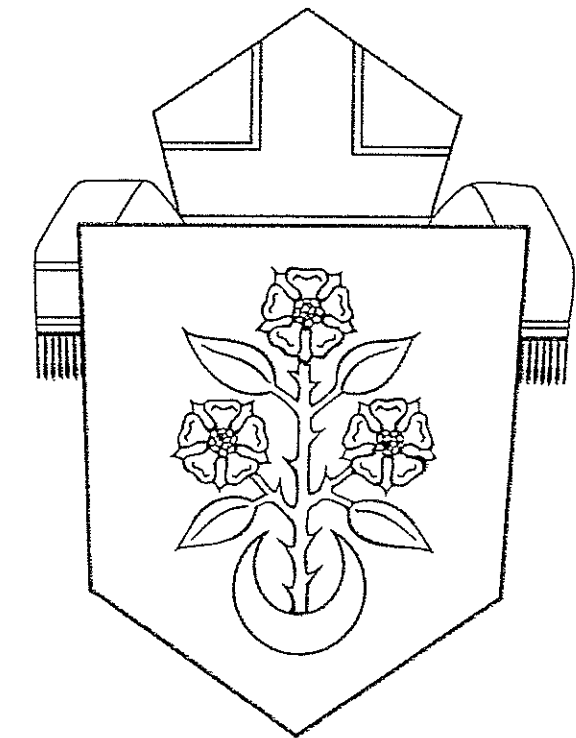
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
And to one hope she press-es with ev-'ry grace en-dued.
Like them, the meek and low-ly, on high may dwell with thee.

Text by Samuel J. Stone (19th c.). Music by Samuel S. Wesley (19th c.).

+ + + + + + + +

There is no photography—still or video—during the ceremony.
After the Archbishop has processed from the Church and the
hymn ends, please be seated for instruction about group pictures.

Archdiocese of Mobile



2017

Rite of Election of Catechumens

Call to Continuing Conversion of Candidates