Rite of Election to be celebrated

Those catechumens preparing to enter the Church at Easter through the initiation Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist will participate in the Rite of Election on the first Sunday of Lent. The rite also recognizes the candidates who seek to enter into full communion with the Church by their profession of faith. Pastors, parish catechumenate leaders, godparents, sponsors, and family members will be present to witness this next step in the final stage of preparation.

The Rite of Election will be celebrated in the Diocese of Victoria at the following time and place:

March 6, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.   The Most Reverend Brendan Cahill, presiding
The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory in Victoria, Texas

The Rite of Election, celebrated in the presence of the Bishop, acknowledges that one enters the universal faith community of the Church in addition to the particular parish faith community. All of the liturgical rites associated with the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) remind parishioners of their responsibility to assist in the preparation of those joining the Church.

Prior to the diocesan celebration, parishes will celebrate the Rite of Sending. The Rite of Sending addresses "the entire community of the faithful, so that all will be encouraged to give good example and to accompany the candidates along the path of the paschal mystery." It also serves to remind parishioners of their own continuing faith journey. The names of the elect will be inscribed in the Book of the Elect at the parish’s Rite of Sending. The Book of the Elect will then be presented to the Bishop at the diocesan ceremony.

The Rite of Election will be set within the Liturgy of the Hours; Midafternoon prayer, and include:
* Reading from Sacred Scripture
* Homily
* Presentation and reading of the names of the Catechumens, and affirmation and support by their godparents and those gathered who represent the entire church
* Presentation and reading of the names of the Candidates planning to enter into full communion with the Church, and affirmation and support by their Sponsors and Assembly
* Prayers of intercession for Catechumens and Candidates

A reception for the catechumens and candidates, and all gathered, will take place at the Chancery immediately following the Rite of Election.