



January, 2023

Dear Pastors & Christian Initiation Coordinators,

On the first Sunday of Lent, **February 26, 2023 at 4:00pm**, the Rite of Election will be celebrated at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Prince Albert, by Bishop Stephen Hero.

Please pass on this invitation to your Catechumens and Candidates of your community who are to be baptized or received into full communion in the Catholic Church to the Rite of Election, as well as their godparents, sponsors and any family who would like to celebrate with them.

At **3 o'clock** that same afternoon a **guided tour** will begin at the Cathedral, again invite those from your parishes who would like to participate along with the Catechumens and Candidates.

Following the ceremony, **there will be a meal for the people attending this event** in Salon Pascal on the lower level of Sacred Heart Cathedral.

This year we continue to encourage being 'Called by Name' and so we ask that each pastor is there to call up individually those participating from their parish(s).

Please invite persons of the catechumens and candidates families. As well, encourage participation from your community and members as a support to those who will be joining our Church this coming Easter time.

This is also a great opportunity for us as a Diocesan Family to pray for all those going through this journey and we encourage that one of the following intercessions be added during the Prayer of the Faithful during your Eucharistic Celebration for the weekend of the Rite of Election.

For those preparing for their Christian Initiation at the Easter Vigil,
may the witness of their parish family sustain them in their faith.

For those preparing to receive the Easter Sacraments,
may they encounter Christ in every member of their Christian community.



For those who have used the rite of sending in the past (from the parish before the Rite of Election), we would like to re-focus our parish attention on simply praying for our Catechumens and Candidates through the universal prayer. Please recycle your copy of the previous ritual.

During this time and with Lent fast approaching, I hope you will experience the power of God's love revealed in the exhaustible mystery to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We hope to see many of you on **Sunday February 26, at 4:00 pm** for our Diocesan Celebration of the Rite of Election.

We would appreciate that you pre-register your Catechumens and Candidates, please use the attached document for registration.

To allow opportunity to prepare well for this event, we would appreciate if you could return the registration form and number of attendants for supper to: ***Heidi Epp by Wednesday, February 15, 2023.***

Please be aware that this Celebration of the Rite of Election *is not a Mass*, but rather in the context of a *Liturgy of the Word*.

God Bless,

Heidi Epp
Liturgy Office Coordinator