



February, 2023

Special Dates:

The Presentation of the Lord (February 2)

World Day of the Sick (February 11)

Ash Wednesday (February 22)

First Sunday of Lent

Rite of Election (February 26)

Featured Special Days: Rite of Election

105. The second step in Christian initiation is the liturgical rite called both election and the enrollment of names, which closes the period of the catechumenate proper, that is, the lengthy period of formation of the catechumens' minds and hearts. The celebration of the rite of election, which usually coincides with the opening of Lent, also marks the beginning of the period of final, more intense preparation for the sacraments of initiation, during which the elect will be encouraged to follow Christ with greater generosity.

106. At this second step, on the basis of the testimony of godparents and catechists and of the catechumens' reaffirmation of their intention, the Church judges the state of readiness and decides on their advancement toward the sacraments of initiation. Thus the Church makes its "election," that is, the choice and admission of those catechumens who have the dispositions that make them fit to take part, at the next major celebration, in the sacraments of initiation.
This step is called the election because the acceptance made by the Church is founded on the election by God, in whose name the Church acts. The step is also called the enrollment of names because as a pledge of fidelity the candidates inscribe their names in the book that lists those who have been chosen for initiation.

*Taken from 'Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults' published by the CCCB



Food for Thought!

Ministry for the Sake of God's Reign "All ministry in the church exists for the sake of the reign of God. The church's mission is to carry on the proclamation of the kingdom through word, worship, witness and service. All members of the church, by reason of baptism and confirmation, are obliged to carry out this mission in their own lives. The community itself, not just individuals, needs to be forgiving, compassionate and reconciling. Just as Jesus in his humanity is the sacrament of God in the world, so too the church, as the Body of Christ, becomes the sacrament of Christ in the world. God's presence is the most visible when the community of God's people gathers together to celebrate the sacraments, especially the eucharist. Called by God's Spirit, the community gathers to give thanks and praise to the Father through the mediation of Jesus. God always hears our prayer because our prayer is made through Christ, in the Spirit. We always worship through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ. God is the primary focus of our worship – not us. Worship must always lead us to God."

(Preparing for Liturgy Series / 'Preparing the Assembly to Celebrate' by Kim Aldi-Wanner)