

Return this completed and signed form to
Esther Garcia, Associate Director of the Office of Worship esgarcia@cathdal.org

no later than November 6, 2026.

While the number of catechumens attending the 2027 Rite of Election from your parish might go down after readiness interviews, it should not go up from the numbers on this completed form.

CHRISTIAN INITIATION LEADERSHIP IN YOUR PARISH

Parish Name _____

Parish City _____

Director(s)/Coordinator(s) of Christian Initiation of Adults Information:

All persons who have passed their seventh birthday are Adults for sacramental purposes; however, the Church recognizes the unique formation needs for various age groups.

Who is responsible for Christian Initiation of Adults in your parish? If only one person is responsible for all age levels, please note this.

Director / Coordinator for Children of Catechetical Age (ages 7 – 17)

Full Name _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Notes: _____

Director / Coordinator for Adults (ages 18+)

Full Name _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Notes: _____

CHRISTIAN INITIATION CATECHISTS / VOLUNTEERS IN YOUR PARISH

How many people from the parish assist the Leader(s) for Christian Initiation of Adults in your parish?

Volunteers for Children (ages 7 – 17) _____

Volunteers for Adults (ages 18+) _____

Notes: _____

CHRISTIAN INITIATION PARTICIPANTS IN YOUR PARISH

How many persons are participating in the Christian Initiation of Adults process in your parish?

Child Catechumens (7-17)	
Child Catholic Completing Initiation	
Child Candidate for Full Communion	
Total Children	

Adult Catechumens (18+)	
Adult Catholic Completing Initiation	
Adult Candidate for Full Communion	
Total Adults	

DEFINITIONS

Catechumen: An unbaptized person who is preparing for full initiation into the Roman Catholic Church.

Catholic Completing Initiation: an uncatechized baptized Catholic who is preparing to receive Confirmation and Eucharist

Candidate for Full Communion:
a person baptized in another Christian faith who is preparing to be received into full communion with the Catholic Church

RITE OF ELECTION 2027

The second step in the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults is the liturgical rite called both *election* and the *enrollment of names*. At the celebration of the Rite of Election the catechumenate itself comes to an end, and with it a long period of formation of heart and mind. Therefore, in order that a person may be enrolled among the "elect," an enlightened faith and a considered intention to receive the Sacraments of the Church is required before the Rite of Election is celebrated.

At the Rite of Election, having heard the testimony of godparents and catechists, with the catechumens confirming their intention, the Church discerns their state of preparation and decides whether they may proceed to the Paschal Sacraments – Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.

Before they are Elected, the catechumens are questioned regarding their conversion of mind and morals, a sufficient knowledge of Christian doctrine, and their sense of faith and charity; deliberation is especially required regarding their preparation to live the Christian life. Interviews within the parish should discern a catechumens' readiness to celebrate the Rite of Election.

Then, during the actual celebration of the Rite, the manifestation of the will of the catechumens to become Catholic and the judgment of the Bishop are made in the presence of the community. Therefore, it is clear that the Rite of Election is the hinge of the whole catechumenate.

The Catholic Diocese of Dallas celebrates the Rite of Election only for **Catechumens** (non-baptized persons) both Adults and Children. The Rite of Election in the Catholic Diocese of Dallas is not celebrated during Mass, but rather during a Liturgy of the Word. Before the Rite of Election, the Rite of Sending may be celebrated at a parish Mass. (C.f. OCIA nos. 118-121).

The Rite of Election is celebrated in four liturgies on the First and Second Saturdays of Lent at the **National Shrine Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe, 2215 Ross Ave., Dallas 75201.**

RITE OF ELECTION PARTICIPANTS FROM YOUR PARISH

Rite of Election Dates 2027 ***(****reserve BOTH dates on your parish calendar****)***

- Saturday, February 13, 9:00 a.m.
- Saturday, February 13, 11:00 a.m.
- Saturday, February 20, 9:00 a.m.
- Saturday, February 20, 11:00 a.m.

On which date / time will my parish celebrate the Rite of Election?
The Office of Worship will assign dates / times based on numbers of catechumens and godparents who will be attending (see below).
Please reserve BOTH Saturday mornings on your parish and catechumens' calendars.

How many catechumens will celebrate the Rite of Election from your parish in 2027?

Adult Catechumens	
Godparents / Sponsors for Adult Catechumens	
Total Adults Attending the Rite of Election 2027	

Child Catechumens	
Godparents / Sponsors for Child Catechumens	
Total Children Attending the Rite of Election 2027	

While the number of catechumens attending the 2027 Rite of Election from your parish might go down after readiness interviews, it should not go up from the numbers on this completed form.

Please note that parents, friends and family are welcome to attend but will not be seated in the Cathedral worship space; we will have limited seating for guests of the catechumens in the Grand Salon.

Who is the parish Christian Initiation Leader who will present your catechumens to the Bishop?

Leader's Full Name _____

Pastor's Full Name _____

Pastor's Signature _____