

Rite of Election Interview

Instruction to interviewer: In addition to this completed interview, the interviewer should express in writing his/her judgment about the catechumen's readiness for Election.

Please read or paraphrase the following information and explanation to the catechumen:

The Rite of Election (catechumens) is a diocesan liturgy presided over by the bishop or an assisting bishop. It is held on or near the first Sunday of Lent. In the Diocese of Austin, there are _____ celebrations in 2021:

TBD for 2021

The Rite of Election marks a period of more intense *spiritual* preparation for the sacraments of initiation, during which the elect will be encouraged to follow Christ with a greater generosity.

At this second step, on the basis of the testimony of godparents and catechists, as well as the catechumen's own reaffirmation of their intention, the Church judges their state of readiness and decides on their advancement toward the Easter sacraments....

Before the Rite of Election is celebrated, the catechumens are expected to have undergone a conversion in mind and in action and to have developed a sufficient acquaintance with Christian teaching as well as a spirit of faith and charity. With deliberate will and an enlightened faith they must have the intention to receive the sacraments of the Church, a resolve they will express publicly in the actual celebration of the rite.

...Before the rite of election the bishop, priests, deacons, catechists, godparents, and the entire community, in accord with their respective responsibilities and in their own way, should, after considering the matter carefully, arrive at a judgement about the catechumen's formation and progress (RCIA n.119-121).

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In these or similar words:

Catechumen's Name: _____

Sponsor's Name: _____

When did you begin the RCIA sessions? What were you hoping to gain?

How has your spiritual life have changed since you began?

Describe how your family life been affected by the process. (positively or negatively)

How have the catechumenate sessions helped you to better understand Christian teaching and the faith of the Catholic Church?

Describe ways in which God's Word has found its ways in your daily life.

What challenges has God's Word in Scripture and Church teaching presented to you during your formation?

In what ways has your sponsor helped in your growth in the Catholic faith?

Have you seriously resolved to try to follow Jesus as found in Scripture and the teachings of the Catholic Church?

How has your relationship with God through prayer changed because of your experiences in this parish community?

In what ways have you found God to be present in our community (parish and secular)?

How do you desire to contribute to the growth and support of the Church?

Is it your desire to receive the sacraments of initiation at the next Easter Vigil? Has this desire changed in any way since you began the process?

What questions do you still have regarding the Catholic Church? (reassure them there will always be questions)

Any comments which you would like to make:

Interviewed on ___/___/___ by _____.