**RITE OF ELECTION - 2023\***

**General Information for RCIA Coordinators**

1. There are only two sites but still 3 celebrations for Rite of Election in 2023:

Sunday, February 19, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. at St. Leo Catholic Church, Murray

Sunday, February 26, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. at St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

Sunday, February 26, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

2. The ceremony will not be accompanied by Eucharist.

3. All Catechumens, Candidates, and sponsors from a parish will be seated together. (Please ask them to be seated together with their sponsor so that the groups will not need to climb over one another when they are called forward.)

4. Only the Catechumens will sign the book during the ceremony. The Bishop will greet the Catechumens after they have signed the Book of the Elect.

5. The Candidates from each parish will be called forward as a group by parish, and each Candidate will be introduced to the Bishop by their sponsor.

6. Testimony will be requested of sponsors and godparents if any would like to give it. Please encourage it. Also, please remind them as to what they are testifying. They should refrain from bringing up private details from the Catechumens’/Candidates’ personal lives and should focus on what the Rite calls for: conversion of mind and conduct; a sense of Christian faith and charity; sufficient acquaintance with Christian teaching; and a deliberate intention of receiving the sacraments of the Church. It would be very helpful if RCIA Coordinators would review with the sponsors and godparents the enclosed form regarding the giving of testimony. We strongly encourage you to provide the opportunity for them to offer testimony at an RCIA session prior to the Rite of Election and again at the Rite of Sending. This will help them to clarify their thoughts and perhaps make them more willing to give testimony at the Rite of Election.

7. RCIA COORDINATORS:

A. Will introduce the Catechumens to the Bishop by calling out their names. This will be immediately after the homily. Please have a list of Catechumens prepared *(a form has been enclosed for your convenience).* Coordinators should come to the microphone to do this. There will not be any particular order of parishes followed.

B. Will accompany Candidates and sponsors when the group from your parish comes up to meet the Bishop. Be there to facilitate the process of introductions by the sponsors.

8. All are asked to be at the church 30 minutes before the ceremony. Ministers of Hospitality will be available to direct people to their places.

9. **There will be a reception at Saint Leo in Murray following the Rite of Election**

10. **More information to follow concerning a reception in Owensboro.**