**RITE OF ELECTION - 2024\***

**General Information for RCIA Coordinators**

1. There are only two sites, but still three celebrations for the Rite of Election in 2024:

Sunday, February 11, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. at St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church, Paducah

Sunday, February 18, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. at St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

Sunday, February 18, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

2. The Eucharist will not accompany the ceremony.

3. All Catechumens, Candidates, and sponsors from a parish will be seated together. (Please ask them to be seated with their sponsor so 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 from sponsors and godparents. Testimony is not required, but please encourage it. Also, please remind them as to what they are testifying. They should avoid mentioning private details from the Catechumens’/Candidates’ personal lives. They 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 helpful if RCIA Coordinators would review the enclosed form regarding the giving of testimony with the sponsors and godparents. We strongly encourage you to provide them the opportunity to offer testimony at an RCIA session before 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 prepare a list of Catechumens *(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 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 Francis de Sales in Paducah following the Rite of Election.**