ARCHDIOCESE OF WINNIPEG

RITE OF ELECTION

As we prepare for the great celebration of Easter and the initiation of new Christians into our life of faith, the time is now upon us to prepare for the Rite of Election. This year, the Rite of Election will be celebrated on Saturday, February 24, 2024, within the 5:00 pm St. Mary's Cathedral Liturgy.

As we know, this ritual is an important part of preparing the catechumens for Easter Sacraments. Gathered together from the various parish communities throughout the Archdiocese, and accompanied by their Godparents, the catechumens are presented to the Archbishop. Once their readiness for life in Christ is affirmed and they have inscribed their name in the Book of the Elect, they are chosen by the Archbishop for initiation into the sacred mysteries at the upcoming Easter Vigil.

Catechumens include adults and children who have reached the age of reason and have **NOT** been baptized as Christians.

In addition, if your parish has Candidates for Full Communion, who were baptized in another Christian tradition and are seeking to enter full communion with the Catholic Church through the sacraments of Confirmation and the Eucharist, they along with their sponsors, are also invited to attend the Rite of Election. Their presence will be recognized, as a group, by the Archbishop.

Catechumens, their Godparent/s, and members of RCIA teams are asked to gather in the Cathedral Hall by 4:15 pm. Additional instructions at that time will be provided. Candidates for Full Communion and their Sponsors should take their place in the Cathedral upon their arrival.
A reception will follow the Liturgy in the Cathedral Hall.

Name tags for each catechumen will be prepared and distributed in the Cathedral Hall before the celebration. To account for each catechumen, please complete the attached information form and return it to **Jvasquez@archwinnipeg.ca** by Thursday, February 1st, 2024.