

# The Election (or Enrollment of Names) with Scrutiny

(to be celebrated on any day, in small groups outside Mass)

(For use in 2020 while the pandemic eases)

*This Rite is to take place three weeks or more before baptism, so as to facilitate spiritual preparation for baptism, including the Presentation of the Creed and the Lord's Prayer. Catechumens, godparents, catechists or teachers, representatives of the faithful, and the pastor(s) are to take part in this Rite.*

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (Cf. Ps 25(24):15-16)

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare.  
Turn to me and have mercy on me.

Priest: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

Priest: The Lord be with you.

R. And with you spirit.

## RITE OF ELECTION OR ENROLLMENT OF NAMES

Priest: Dear catechumens and representatives of the faithful, thanks to the help of God that, through the effort of many, the pandemic eases. Now we may prepare for the celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation.

## PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES

Catechist/teacher: Reverend Father: These catechumens, whom I now present to you, had been admitted into the order of catechumenate in (year     ). Since then they have been following faithfully to the Christian faith and Christian way of living. During the difficult times of the pandemic, they keep their trust in God. Now they ask for receiving the sacraments of baptism, confirmation, and the eucharist.



## AFFIRMATION BY THE GODPARENTS [AND THE ASSEMBLY]

Priest: Dear catechumens, today the Church listens to the recommendation of the teachers (catechists). Now on behalf of our community I would like to call you to the sacraments. Therefore, I ask your godparents to give their opinion.

*(The priest turns to the godparents)*

Priest: As God is your witness, do you consider these candidates worthy to be admitted to the sacraments of Christian initiation?

Godparent: I do.

*[If desired, the celebrant asks the entire assembly for its assent.]*

## INVITATION AND ENROLLMENT OF NAMES

*(The celebrant addresses the candidates:)*

Priest: And now, my dear catechumens, I address you. Your own godparents and teachers (and the entire community) have spoken in your favor. The Church in the name of Christ accepts their judgment and calls you to the Sacraments of Initiation.

Do you wish to enter fully into the life of the Church through the sacraments of baptism, confirmation, and the eucharist?

Candidate: I do.

Priest: Then offer your names for enrollment.

*(Going with their godparents to the celebrant, the candidates give their names or letters of application for the Sacraments of Initiation.)*

## PRAYER OVER THE ELECT

*(The celebrant extends his hands over the elect.)*

Priest: Father of love and power, it is your will to establish everything in Christ and to draw us into his all-embracing love. Guide the elect of your Church: strengthen them in their vocation, build them into the kingdom of your Son, and seal them with the Spirit of your promise. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.



## LITURGY OF THE WORD

READING (*Arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light.*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians (5:8-14)

Brothers and sisters: You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth. Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the fruitless works of darkness; rather expose them, for it is shameful even to mention the things done by them in secret; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore, it says: “Awake, O sleeper, and rise from the dead, and Christ will give you light.” —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Jn 8:12*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life. (R)

GOSPEL (*The man who was blind went off and washed himself and came back able to see.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (9:1,6-9, 13-17, 34-38)

As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind from birth. He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, “Go wash in the Pool of Siloam”—which means Sent. So he went and washed, and came back able to see. His neighbors and those who had seen him earlier as a beggar said, “Isn’t this the one who used to sit and beg?” Some said, “It is,” but others said, “No, he just looks like him.” He said, “I am.”

They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees. Now Jesus had made clay and opened his eyes on a sabbath. So then the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see. He said to them, “He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see.” So some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, because he does not keep the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a sinful man do such signs?” And there was a division among them. So they said to the blind man again, “What do you have to say about him, since he opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.”



They answered and said to him, “You were born totally in sin, and are you trying to teach us?” Then they threw him out.

When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” He answered and said, “Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” He said, “I do believe, Lord,” and he worshiped him. —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

## HOMILY

### SCRUTINY

#### INVITATION TO SILENT PRAYER

*(The celebrant first addresses the assembly of the faithful, inviting them to pray in silence.)*

*(The celebrant invites the elect to pray.)*

Priest: Elect of God, bow your heads (*or* kneel down) in prayer.

*(All pray for some time in silence. Then the community stand for the intercessions while the elect bow their heads or kneel.)*

#### INTERCESSIONS FOR THE ELECT

*(The godparents place their right hand on the shoulder of the one they are sponsoring.)*

Priest: Let us pray for these elect whom God has called, that they may remain faithful to him and boldly give witness to the words of eternal life.

Reader: That, trusting in the truth of Christ, they may find freedom of mind and heart and preserve it always, let us pray to the Lord:

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That, preferring the folly of the cross to the wisdom of the world, they may glory in God alone, let us pray to the Lord:

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That, freed by the power of the Spirit, they may put all fear behind them and press forward with confidence, let us pray to the Lord:

R. Lord, hear our prayer.



Reader: That, transformed in the Spirit, they may seek those things that are holy and just, let us pray to the Lord:

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all who suffer persecution for Christ's name may find their strength in him, let us pray to the Lord:

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those families and nations prevented from embracing the faith may be granted freedom to believe the Gospel, let us pray to the Lord:

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That we who are faced with the values of the world may remain faithful to the spirit of the Gospel, let us pray to the Lord:

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That the whole world, which the Father so loves, may attain in the Church complete spiritual freedom, let us pray to the Lord:

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

*(The usual petition for the needs of the Church and the whole world may be added.)*

## EXORCISM

*(The celebrant turns to the elect and with hands joined says:)*

Priest: Let us pray.

Father of mercy, you led the man born blind to the kingdom of light through the gift of faith in your Son. Free these elect from the false values that surround and blind them. Set them firmly in your truth, children of the light for ever. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

## ANOINTING WITH THE OIL OF CATECHUMENS

*(The celebrant may anoint each catechumen with the oil of catechumens, says:)*

Priest: We anoint you with the oil of salvation in the name of Christ our Savior. May he strengthen you with his power, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

R. Amen.



*(The celebrant may lay his hand in silence on each one of the elect, then he extends his hand over the elect and continues:)*

Priest: Lord Jesus, you are the true light that enlightens the world. Through your Spirit of truth, free those who are enslaved by the father of lies. Stir up the desire for good in these elect whom you have chosen for your sacraments. Let them rejoice in your light, that they may see, and, like the man born blind whose sight you restored, let them prove to be staunch and fearless witnesses to the faith, for you are Lord for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

#### LORD'S PRAYER

Priest: Let us pray to God as our Lord Jesus Christ taught us.

R. Our Father .....

#### PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Priest: The Lord be with you.

R. And with you spirit.

Deacon/Priest: Bow down for the blessing.

*(The celebrant, with hands extended over the people, says the blessing.)*

Priest: Look upon those who call to you, O Lord, and sustain the weak; give life by your unfailing light to those who walk in the shadow of death, and bring those rescued by your mercy from every evil to reach the highest good. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

Priest: And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever.

R. Amen.

Deacon/Priest: Go in peace.

R. Thanks be to God.



Released by the Hong Kong Diocesan Liturgy Commission

Imprimatur: Cardinal John Tong, Apostolic Administrator of Hong Kong, 27 May 2020