



Rite of Acceptance

January 19, 2020

RELAX



What is it?

- ▶ **41** The rite that is called the rite of acceptance into the order of catechumens is of the utmost importance. Assembling publicly for the first time, the candidates who have completed the period of the precatechumenate declare their intention to the Church and the Church in turn, carrying out its apostolic mission, accepts them as persons who intend to become its members. God showers his grace on the candidates, since the celebration manifests their desire publicly and marks their reception and first consecration by the Church.

What is it?

- ▶ **46** After the celebration of the rite of acceptance, the names of the catechumens are to be duly inscribed in the register of catechumens, along with the names of the sponsors and the minister and the date and place of the celebration.

What is it?

- ▶ **47** From this time on the Church embraces the catechumens as its own with a mother's love and concern. Joined to the Church, the catechumens are now part of the household of Christ, since the Church nourishes them with the word of God and sustains them by means of liturgical celebrations. The catechumens should be eager, then, to take part in celebrations of the word of God and to receive blessings and other sacramentals.....

How is it done?

- ▶ 1. The Rite will take place on January 19, 2020 at the 11:00 Mass.
- ▶ 2. Meet Richard at the Welcome Kiosk **no later than 10:45.**
- ▶ 3. Bring your sponsor. If your sponsor is unavailable let Richard know at least a week in advance so a proxy can be arranged.
- ▶ 4. Dress appropriately (business casual attire)
- ▶ 5. At the designated time, we will approach the steps of the altar and face the congregation. Your sponsors will stand on the first step with you standing in front of them. Your sponsor will keep their right hand on your right shoulder for the duration of the Rite.

What do you mean I have to say something?

- ▶ Those to be baptized (Becky, Bonnie and Brad) will be asked by Father Don:
- ▶ Father Don: What do you ask of God's Church?
- ▶ **Catechumens:** **Faith!**
- ▶ Father Don: What does faith offer you?
- ▶ **Catechumens:** **Eternal Life!**

What do you mean I have to say something?

- ▶ Those being confirmed (everyone except Becky, Bonnie and Brad) will be asked:
- ▶ Father Don: What do you ask of God's Church?
- ▶ **Candidates:** **Reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church.**
- ▶ Father Don: Are you prepared to reflect more deeply on the mystery of your baptism, to listen with us to the apostles instruction and and to join with us in a life of prayer and service?
- ▶ **Candidates:** **I AM!**

What do you mean I have to say something?

- ▶ Sponsors and the congregation will be asked:
- ▶ Father Don: Sponsors, you now present these candidates to us. Are you, and all who are gathered about us, ready to help these candidates complete their Christian Initiation?
- ▶ Sponsors: We are!

Signing of the Senses

- ▶ Following the Rite of Acceptance we will proceed with the Signing of the Senses. This is where the sponsors come down from the first step of the altar and face the person they are sponsoring.
- ▶ Following the prompting of Father Don, the sponsors will take both hands and make the sign of the cross on both ears, both eyes, the lips, the heart, both shoulders and both hands.
- ▶ At the conclusion of the Rite, Father Don will say, I sign you with the sign of eternal life in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, to which you respond, **AMEN!**

Presentation of the Cross Pendant

- ▶ Toward the end of the Rite, the sponsors, when prompted by Father Don, will present the person they are sponsoring with a cross pendant to wear. It will be part of a necklace which the sponsor will place over their head.

Dismissal

- ▶ From the Rite of Acceptance until Easter Vigil, those who are to be baptized (catechumens) are dismissed from the Mass prior to celebration of the Eucharist.
- ▶ At this time those to be dismissed are Bonnie, Becky and Brad.
- ▶ Prior to celebrating the Eucharist, they will be called to the altar where the celebrant will say a prayer and they will be dismissed.
- ▶ Richard or one of the team members will lead them up the main aisle and out of the Church.
- ▶ We will then proceed into the Hall for more in depth conversations about faith.
- ▶ Only those to be baptized attend these meetings, no sponsors or other family members.

What is the Purpose of Dismissal?

- ▶ Those to be baptized are part of the Order of Catechumens. The job of the Order of Catechumens is to hear the Word of God. During the dismissal session, they focus more intently on the Word, listening deeply to God's call to them. This is an essential part of their training in the Christian life.

Important note

- ▶ It is important that all catechumens attend the 11:00 Mass.
- ▶ If you cannot attend the 11:00 Mass on a particular weekend, please let Richard know as soon as possible. (Cell number 954.336.8898, E-mail ragrag@aol.com)

What Next?

- ▶ Rite of Sending and Rite of Election
- ▶ Saturday, February 29, 2020, from 4 pm – 8:30 pm
- ▶ More details to come...

QUESTIONS?

