

WITH HUMBLE SPIRIT

FEBRUARY 2025

CALENDAR NOTES

FEB 2

The Presentation of the Lord

This “Feast of the Lord” is celebrated instead of the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, both on Saturday evening and during the day on Sunday.

NB: This Mass requires planning for the proper execution of the entrance options, which cannot be licitly omitted.

- **ENTRANCE OPTIONS, BLESSING:** Note the two options provided for the entrance: 1) “The Procession.” 2) “The Solemn Entrance.” Omitting an entrance and the blessing of candles is NOT an option.
- **GLORIA, NO PENITENTIAL ACT, CREED:** The procession takes the place of the Penitential Act, the Gloria and Creed are said.
- **WORLD DAY OF CONSECRATED LIFE**

FEB 3

St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr

- **BLESSING OF THROATS:** Read the PN in the Ordo for the options for the Blessing of Throats. (cf. Book of Blessings, Ch. 51, par. 1622 ff.)

FEB 8

- **A DAY OF PRAYER AND AWARENESS AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

FEB 9

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- **WORLD MARRIAGE DAY**

FEB 11

13th Anniversary of the Installation of Archbishop Paul S. Coakley, Metropolitan

ARS CELEBRANDI

OCIA: THE RITE OF ELECTION OR ENROLLMENT OF NAMES

We continue a series on the revised *Order of Christian Initiation of Adults*, which must be used beginning Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2025.

The period of the catechumenate ends with the Rite of Election or Enrollment of Names. Normally, this happens in a singular celebration for the local Church in a liturgy presided by the bishop on the First Sunday of Lent. Individual communities (usually parish communities) can celebrate the Rite of Sending Catechumens for Election in the parish church before the Rite of Election. The parallel rite for those who are already baptized but who are preparing to be received into full communion and/or confirmation is the “Rite of Calling to Continuing Conversion.” We will examine each of these rites.

The optional Rite of Sending only occurs when the Rite of Election happens somewhere other than the parish church. The rite begins with a dialogue between the celebrant and the one in charge of the catechumens’ initiation. Then the godparents affirm the catechumens’ readiness by way of a dialogue with the celebrant. Following the celebrant’s affirmation of their readiness, the catechumens may sign the book of the elect as part of the rite. In the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, the signing of the book of the Elect does not happen during the Rite of Election, therefore it should happen at this point or at another time before the rite of Election. The Rite of Sending concludes with intercessions and a prayer.

The Second Step of the OCIA is the Rite of Election or Enrollment of Names. This rite begins the Period of Purification and Enlightenment that serves as immediate preparation for the celebration of the sacraments of initiation. The act of “election” of catechumens belongs to the local bishop; therefore, he is normally the celebrant. However, he can delegate this to another bishop, priest, or deacon. The Rite should be celebrated within the Mass of the First Sunday of Lent, after the Homily. However, in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, we celebrate it in the afternoon of the First Sunday of Lent outside of Mass. The Rite includes the presentation of the Candidates by the catechists or pastors, an affirmation by the godparents, and a petitioning of the catechumens. Then the catechumens are enrolled in the book of the elect, unless this has already happened, and the bishop carries out the act of reception or election. The community prays on behalf of the catechumens, now the “elect,” and after a prayer over the elect, they are dismissed.

The optional parallel Rite of Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion follows a similar pattern to the rite of election with some notable differences. There is no questioning of the candidates and there is no act of enrollment or election. Instead, there is simply a recognition on the part of the celebrant of the desire to continue to complete their initiation.

When the rites are combined, there should remain a distinction between the catechumens and the candidates.

Zachary M. Boazman

CALENDAR NOTES, CONT'D

■ WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

FEB 22

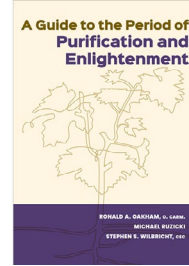
Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

- **GLORIA:** The Gloria is said.

LOOKING AHEAD

- **ASH WEDNESDAY (MAR 5)**
The Revised OCIA must be used after this date.
- **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (MAR 9)**
Rite of Election: 3:30 p.m. at the Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine.
- **ST. JOSEPH (MAR 19)**
St. Joseph is our Principal Patron.
- **THE SCRUTINIES**
Integral to the OCIA, the Scrutinies are celebrated with the catechumens on the Third (Mar 23), Fourth (Mar 30), and Fifth (Apr 6) Sundays in Lent. Prepare accordingly.
- **EASTER VIGIL (APR 19)**
According to the Roman Missal, the Easter Vigil must begin in the dark. The norm for the beginning of the Easter Vigil is 8:30pm. It is prohibited to start before 8:00pm without the explicit permission of Archbishop Coakley.

RESOURCES FROM OUR OFFICE

**A Guide to the Period of Purification and Enlightenment**

Ronald A. Oakham, O. Carm., Michael Ruzicki, Stephen S. Wilbricht, csc

The period of purification and enlightenment is one of intense spiritual preparation for the elect, who have been chosen by God to receive the Easter sacraments. This guide provides practical and liturgically sound ideas for celebrating the rites of this period and for integrating these rites as the primary source of the elect's formation and preparation for initiation.

This resource includes:

An overview of six foundational principles of initiation ministry and how they are applied to the period of the purification and enlightenment

Background on the rites

Suggestions for celebrating the rites

Ideas for reflecting on the rites in a retreat-like way

Guided meditations on the scrutiny Gospel accounts

Seven fully prepared formation sessions on the Rite of Election, the three scrutinies, the handing on of the creed and the Lord's Prayer, and the Rites of Immediate Preparation

A newly composed hymn for use during formation sessions

**In Communion with Christ**

Joys and Hopes for All

En Comunción con Cristo

Gozos y esperanzas para todos

63rd Study Week
February 5–8, 2025
Victoria, Texas



Southwest
LITURGICAL
Conference

CONTACT US

VERY REV. STEPHEN BIRD, DIRECTOR

sbird@archokc.org

REV. ZACHARY BOAZMAN, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

zachary.boazman@archokc.org

MR. MICHAEL SCOTT, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

mscott@archokc.org



Go Make Disciples

DIVINE WORSHIP

ARCHDIOCESE OF OKLAHOMA CITY