



**Office of Catechesis, Youth
and Young Adult Ministries**

Neil Albaña – Director

520 N. Washington Street

Bismarck, ND 58502

(701) 204-7206

nalbana@bismarckdiocese.com

RITE OF ELECTION

The RCIA *Rite of Election* for catechumens is scheduled for **Sunday, February 18, 2024**, at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit in Bismarck in the side chapel beginning at **3:00pm CT. (*Brief instructions for catechumens and godparents will begin at 2:45pm.*)** Bishop Kagan will preside. Formators, godparents, and family are welcome and encouraged to attend.

“At this time the Church makes its election, that is, the choice and admission of those catechumens who have the disposition that make them fit to take part, at the next major celebration, in the sacraments of initiation” (*Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*, 119).

Remember that we are no longer celebrating the optional *Call to Continuing Conversion* for those already baptized.

If your parish has any catechumens participating in this celebration, we ask the following:

1. **RSVP by Friday, February 9**, the names of catechumens participating in this celebration to Neil at 701-204-7206 or nalbana@bismarckdiocese.com. Please let us know if anyone will be attending with the catechumen. You will also be asked for the proper pronunciation of catechumen names.
2. It would be typical for the *Rite of Sending* to be celebrated during a Mass in the home parish of the elect in the morning before the *Rite of Election*.
3. We will ask that the elect sign the *Book of the Elect* in their home parishes after returning from the celebration.

Again, we encourage parish pastors and leaders in the RCIA program to attend the Rite of Election if you have a catechumen participating. You are welcome to organize your own activity or reception after the rite has concluded.

EASTER MYSTAGOGIA

“The third step of Christian initiation, the celebration of the sacraments, is followed by the final period, the period of postbaptismal catechesis or mystagogy. This is a time for the community and the neophytes together to grow in deepening their grasp of the paschal mystery and in making it part of their lives through meditation on the Gospel, sharing in the Eucharist, and doing the works of charity.” (*Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*, n. 244)

Bishop Kagan has put together a series of online video messages for this final period of mystagogy. Parish Pastors, RCIA Coordinators, and those that have been newly received into the Church may access these videos on the [Diocesan Website](#). These videos are a great opportunity for all the faithful to continue to grow in faith and discipleship of our Lord Jesus Christ.