

## PAGELLA OF FACULTIES

### I. Notes Relating to Catechumens and Candidates

- A. Catechumens are of the household of the Church, and they are entitled to Christian burial if they die before the completion of their initiation (cf. National Statutes . . ., #8-9).
- B. The marriage of catechumens should be celebrated at a liturgy of the word and never at the eucharistic liturgy (cf. National Statutes . . ., #10).
- C. The celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation with candidates for reception into full communion is to be carried out at a time prior to and distinct from the celebration of the rite of reception. As part of the formation of such candidates, they should be encouraged in the frequent celebration of this sacrament (cf. National Statutes . . ., #36, and RCIA, #408 and 482).
- D. The diocesan bishop is the proper minister of the sacraments of initiation for adults, including children of catechetical age, in accord with c. 852, 1. He usually delegates the celebration of the sacraments of initiation to the local pastor but celebrates the Rite of Election for the catechumens of the diocese and the call to continuing conversion for the candidates of the diocese on the first Sunday of Lent (cf. National Statutes . . ., #11-13).
- E. With the Rite of Election the bishop declares the Church's approval of catechumens for the reception of the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil. Careful discernment must take place prior to this celebration to decide on the readiness of catechumens and their desire for full initiation. All impediments for full initiation must be removed before participating in the Rite of Election (cf. RCIA, #118-124).
- F. In order to give the local community the opportunity to express its approval of the catechumens and/or candidates, each parish will celebrate the "Rite of Sending Catechumens" (RCIA, #106-117) or the "Rite of Sending the Candidates for Recognition by the Bishop and for the Call to Continuing Conversion" (RCIA, #438-445). For parishes with both catechumens and candidates a "Parish Celebration for Sending Catechumens for Election and Candidates for Recognition by the Bishop" is provided (RCIA, #530-546).
- G. Each parish will have its own Book of Elect which will be signed in the local parish at the Rite of Sending. The Book of Elect will be signed by the Bishop at the Rite of Election after he accepts the judgment of the godparents and questions the intentions of the catechumens (RCIA, #553).

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- H. The Book of Elect for each parish will be kept in the local church as a reminder to the assembly of their continued prayer and support for the catechumens and candidates.