



Rite of Election & Call to Continuing Conversion Information and Registration Form

On the First Sunday of Lent, Bishop McManus will celebrate the Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion for the catechumens and candidates of our diocesan parishes who expect to be initiated into the Church this Easter.

The rite will be celebrated within a Liturgy of the Word on Sunday, February 26, 2023 at 3:00 pm at the Cathedral Church of Saint Paul. The Eucharist will not be celebrated.

Submit registrations ONLINE now through Monday, February 12th.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

The following have active roles in the rite:

- **Catechumens – MANDATORY! Catechumens must be elected.**
 - unbaptized persons who will be fully initiated into the Church at the Easter Vigil
- **Godparents/Sponsors**
 - persons who will support and guide catechumens and candidates through the February 26th rite and during the rest of their formation
- **Candidates – not mandatory for these previously baptized candidates**
 - baptized Catholic adults who are preparing for confirmation and eucharist
 - baptized non-catholics who will be welcomed into the full communion of the Church

ALSO

- Family, friends, parish staff members and parishioners are welcome to attend and support catechumens and candidates by their prayerful participation in the rites.
- Parish priests and other clergy are welcome to vest in alb and purple stole. Vesting will be on the lower level of the Cathedral.

N.B. Reserved seating will be provided for catechumens, candidates, godparent or sponsor and one team member. Family members and other guests may sit anywhere in the church not designated as reserved. Parishes presenting children will be seated in the front.

This rite is **NOT** for baptized children under 18 who will be just celebrating First Communion.

SPECIAL PREPARATIONS

AT THE PARISH

A parish **Rite of Sending** may be celebrated in your parish at some convenient time prior to the Cathedral rite on February 26th. If you are sending **catechumens only**, use the rite found in the RCIA ritual at paragraphs 106 through 117. If you are sending **only candidates** (previously baptized Catholics and non-catholics), use the rite found in the RCIA ritual at paragraphs 438 through 445. If you are sending a mixed group of **catechumens and candidates**, use the rite found in the RCIA ritual at paragraphs 530 through 546.

AT THE CATHEDRAL

Families -- Family members would be well advised to make arrangements for the care of their infants and small children. Unfortunately, the Cathedral lacks appropriate facilities for them.

Rest Rooms and Handicap Entrance -- Located on the lower level of the Cathedral. The handicap entrance may be accessed from Chatham St. (lower level). An elevator is located inside this side entrance to the Cathedral.

Parking

- Cathedral Parking Lot
- Federal Plaza Garage, located at 570 Main St. behind the Cathedral
- On-street parking on Chatham and High Streets is permitted
- Please **do not** park in the Center for Performing Arts' lot across from the Cathedral's main entrance or in any other lots that are restricted.

Online Registration

Website: worcesterdiocese.org/rite-of-election

CLICK on *Registraton Form*

ENTER *information for all participating catechumens and candidates*

When complete, CLICK on *SUBMIT*

1. Contact Person -- This person may be contacted before the Rite of Election for guidance on pronunciation of names. Please include phone number, email address, **as well as emergency weekend cell phone number.**
2. Please give **full legal name** as it will appear in sacramental register.
3. The diocese is frequently asked for more precise information on those celebrating this Rite e.g., how many candidates for full communion (baptized non-catholics), how many candidates who are Catholics completing their initiation, how many children, etc. This registration form is our only source of such information. Please attend to all the information requested. **Please CHECK ONLY ONE of the following options for each person: *Catechumen OR Candidate for Full Communion OR Candidate/Baptized Catholic.***

ANY QUESTIONS regarding the ceremony or registration form, call the **Office of Religious Education: (508) 929-4303** or tromeo@worcesterdiocese.org

**RITE OF ELECTION –
CALL TO CONTINUING CONVERSION – February 26, 2023**

Deadline: February 12, 2023

REGISTER ONLINE—INSTRUCTIONS BELOW:

Website: worceterdiocese.org/rite-of-election. Click on Rite of Election Registration Form. Enter information for all participating catechumens and candidates. When complete, Click on SUBMIT CITY:

PARISH:

Phone Number of Contact Person:

Email address:

Contact Person:

*****EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER:**

	FULL NAME (Include Mr., Mrs., Ms., etc.)	ADDRESS Include Zip	CATECHUMEN (Unbaptized)	CANDIDATE for Full Communion	CANDIDATE Baptized Catholic	CHILD under 14	GODPARENT/ SPONSOR
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
87							

Use this form to gather information for your candidates and **register online** as instructed above.
Do not fax or mail registrations.

***** In case of cancellations or other emergency, we need a phone number where we can reach you on the weekend.**

Diocese of Worcester--Office of Religious Education

Online Rite of Election (*February 26, 2023*) Registration Procedures

1. Go to our website: worcesterdiocese.org/rite-of-election. Click on registration form.
2. Fill out your **parish city, parish name, contact person, contact phone #, emergency/weekend phone #, contact email** and any optional comments you might want to make.
3. **Enter** the total number of catechumens and candidates you are registering.
4. **Enter** the information for each person. When completed, **click** on “SUBMIT” at the bottom of the form. **Note:** this form allows you to enter a *maximum of 20* names at one time. Example: If you have 35 names, **click** on the number 20. **Enter** information for first 20 to be registered. **Click** on “SUBMIT.” **Click** on “Registration-Rite of Election” in the left column to reload the form. You must re-enter the contact information, then **enter the number 15** for the remaining 15 to be registered. **Click** “SUBMIT” when completed. While it may be easier to enter all candidates’ names at the same time, it is not necessary to do that. You can always enter names at any time *before* the cut-off date.
5. Once you have registered candidates, we will download that information into our database. The information will be merged with a registration form which we will print and maintain in our office.
6. **A pdf of all the registration forms will be created and emailed back to you.** You can then print copies as needed. Please note---**if you register candidates and do not receive an email from us within 5 business days, please contact our office.**
7. We will proofread all forms for accuracy and will contact you if we have any questions regarding the information you have entered. If we have questions or possible corrections, we will verify the information with the person who entered it. While we review these forms for correct information, please keep in mind that the ultimate responsibility for accuracy rests with the parish contact representative.
8. If you have submitted a registration and you need to make a change, i.e., candidate name, sponsor, etc., **do not** make that correction online. Call our office or send us an email with the updated information. We will then make the changes, reprint the form, and email a copy to you.
9. **Registration deadline is *February 12th*.** If you have any last-minute additions, **do not use the online form after this date.** Please contact our office and we will assist you.
10. We will only accept registrations sent from the designated parish contact representative. Please refrain from having candidates register on their own. Registrations received from unknown individuals will not be processed.

January 10, 2023

IMPORTANT PARKING ADVISORY – Weekends and Evenings ONLY

Revised May 4, 2013

Cathedral of St. Paul, 38 High St., Worcester, MA 01609

Please know that we look forward to welcoming you to Saint Paul's Cathedral. As you prepare for the celebration, please **inform those who will be coming from your parish concerning parking in the neighborhood.**

Park only in the areas marked **P**. There are parking garages in the area. The one directly behind the Cathedral may be accessed from Main Street. There are also parking lots: behind the rectory, between Houchin Ave. and Irving St., and around the Fanning Building off High St. or Chatham St. All other lots are **privately owned and not under the control of the Cathedral**. Please advise your parishioners that those parking in the upper or lower Denholm lots directly across from the front of the Cathedral, as well as the lot on Chatham St. closest to Chestnut St., will almost certainly be **TOWED AT THE OWNER'S EXPENSE**.

Cars with government issued handicap stickers may be parked in the six spots adjacent to the Handicapped Entrance in the Chatham Street Courtyard. (An elevator is available at this entrance.) Please do not block entrances and exits.

Hopefully this information will help keep an unfortunate towing from ruining a great celebration!

