

**Celebration of the
Rite of Election of Catechumens
and the
Call to Continuing Conversion of Candidates
for Reception into Full Communion
into the Catholic Church**



Most Reverend Robert P. Deeley, J.C.D.
Bishop of Portland

Sunday, February 26, 2023
Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Portland

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Processional Hymn

Forty Days and Forty Nights

#466



1. For - ty days and for - ty nights You were fast - ing
2. Shall not we your sor - row share And from world - ly
3. Then, if Sa - tan on us press, Flesh or spir - it
4. So shall we have peace di - vine; Ho - lier glad - ness
5. Keep, O keep us, Sav - ior dear, Ev - er con - stant



in the wild; For - ty days and for - ty nights
joys ab - stain, Fast - ing with un - ceas - ing prayer,
to as - sail, Vic - tor in the wil - der - ness,
ours shall be. 'Round us, too, shall an - gels shine,
by your side, That with you we may ap - pear



Tempt - ed, and yet un - de - filed.
Strong with you to suf - fer pain?
Grant we may not faint nor fail!
Such as served you faith - ful - ly.
At the e - ter - nal East - er - tide.

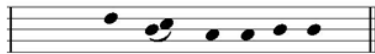
Text: George H. Smyttan, 1822–1870, alt.
Tune: HEINLEIN, 7 7 7 7; attr. to Martin Herbst, 1654–1681, *Nürnbergisches Gesangbuch*, 1676

Greeting

Penitential Rite



R. Ký-ri - e, e-lé-i-son.

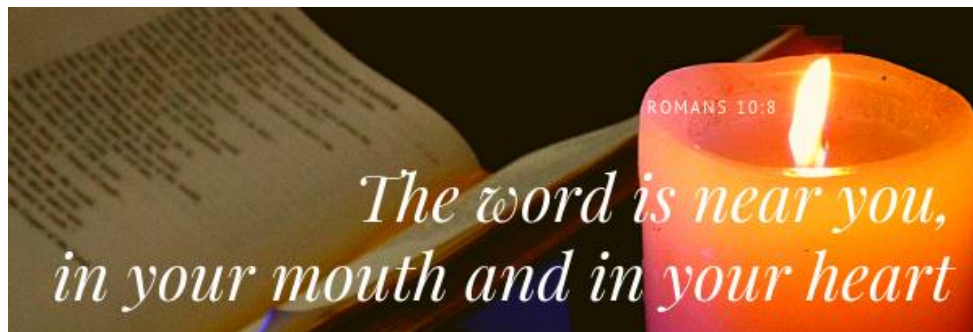


R. Chri-ste, e-lé-i-son.



R. Ký-ri - e, e-lé-i-son.

Opening Prayer



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading I – Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7

Responsorial Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17



Reading II – Romans 5:12-19

Gospel Acclamation



Kyrie Orbis Factor © 1979, GIA Publications, Inc.

Gospel – Matthew 4:1-11

Homily – Most Rev. Robert P. Deeley

CELEBRATION OF ELECTION

Presentation of the Catechumens

Diocesan Rep: Will the parish representatives who are to present the catechumens please come forward.

Bishop Deeley: Easter is drawing near, and so these catechumens, whom we now present to you, are completing their period of preparation. They have found strength in God's grace and support in our community's prayer and example. Now they ask that after the celebration of the scrutinies, they be allowed to participate in the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.

Those who will be baptized at Easter, whether you are physically in this church today or joining virtually from elsewhere, please stand momentarily with your godparents when your name is called.

Affirmation by Godparents and the Assembly

After all parishes have called the names of their catechumens, the diocesan representative says:

Diocesan Rep: Would all the catechumens to be baptized, along with your godparents, please stand for examination by the Bishop.

All Catechumens and Godparents stand.

Bishop: God's Holy Church wishes to know whether these catechumens are sufficiently prepared to be enrolled among the Elect for the coming celebration of Easter. And so I speak first of all to you, godparents.

Have they faithfully listened to God's Word proclaimed by the Church?

Godparents: THEY HAVE.

Bishop: Have they responded to that Word and begun to walk in God's presence?

Godparents: THEY HAVE.

Bishop: Have they shared in the company of their Christian brothers and sisters and joined them in prayer?

Godparents: THEY HAVE.

Bishop: And now I speak to you, my brothers and sisters in this assembly. Are you ready to support the testimony expressed about these catechumens and include them in your prayer and affection as we move toward Easter?

All: WE ARE.

Address to Catechumens

Bishop: And now, my dear catechumens, I address you. Your own godparents and teachers have spoken in your favor. The Church in the name of Christ accepts their judgment and calls you to the Easter sacraments. Since you have already heard the call of Christ, you must now express your response to that call clearly in the presence of the whole Church. Therefore, do you wish to enter fully into the life of the Church through the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist?

Catechumens: WE DO.

Act of Election

Bishop: I now declare you to be members of the Elect, to be initiated into the sacred mysteries at the next Easter Vigil.

Catechumens: THANKS BE TO GOD! *Applause – Elect/Godparents remain standing.*

Bishop: God is always faithful to those he calls. Now it is your duty as it is ours, both to be faithful to him in return and to strive courageously to reach the fullness of truth, which your election opens up before you.

The Bishop examines and then signs the Book of the Elect of each parish.

Address to Godparents

Bishop: Godparents, please place your hand on the shoulder of the catechumen you are receiving into your care. You have spoken in favor of these catechumens: accept them now as chosen in the Lord and continue to sustain them through your loving care and example, until they come to share in the sacraments of God's life.

Godparents: AMEN.

Deacon/Priest: Please be seated.



CELEBRATION OF THE CALL TO CONTINUING CONVERSION

Presentation of the Candidates for Full Communion

Diocesan Rep: Will the parish representatives who are to present the candidates please come forward.

Bishop Deeley: I now present to you the candidates who seek to complete their Christian initiation and be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church. They too have found strength in God's grace and support in our community's prayers and example. Now they ask that after this Lenten season, they be admitted to Confirmation and the Eucharist.

Those who will complete your initiation through Confirmation and the Eucharist at Easter, whether you are physically in this church today or joining virtually from elsewhere, please stand momentarily with your sponsors, when your name is called.

After all the names are called, the diocesan representative says:

Diocesan Rep: Would the candidates for Confirmation and the Eucharist, along with your sponsors, please stand for examination by the Bishop.

Affirmation by the Sponsors and the Assembly

All Candidates and Sponsors stand.

Bishop: The Christian life and the demands that flow from the sacraments cannot be taken lightly. Therefore, before granting these candidates their request to share fully in the Church's sacraments, it is important that the Church hear testimony of their sponsors about their readiness.

Have they faithfully listened to the apostles' instruction proclaimed by the Church?

Sponsors: THEY HAVE.

Bishop: Have they come to a deeper appreciation of their baptism in which they were joined to Christ and his Church?

Sponsors: THEY HAVE.

Bishop: Have they reflected sufficiently on the tradition of the Church, which is their heritage, and joined their brothers and sisters in prayer?

Sponsors: THEY HAVE.

Bishop: Have they advanced in a life of love and service of others?

Sponsors: THEY HAVE.

Bishop: And now I speak to you, my brothers and sisters in this assembly. Are you ready to support the testimony expressed about these candidates and include them in your prayer and affection as we move toward Easter?

All: WE ARE.

Act of Recognition

Bishop: Dear Candidates, the Church recognizes your desire to be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit and to have a place at Christ's Eucharistic table. Join with us this Lent in a spirit of repentance. Hear the Lord's call to conversion and be faithful to your baptismal covenant.

Candidates: THANKS BE TO GOD! *Applause – Candidates/Sponsors remain standing.*

Address to Sponsors

Bishop: Sponsors, please place your hand on the shoulder of the candidate you are receiving into your care. Continue to support these candidates with your guidance and concern. May they see in you a love for the Church and a sincere desire for doing good. Lead them this Lent to the joys of the Easter mysteries.

Sponsors: AMEN.



UNIVERSAL PRAYER FOR THE ELECT AND CANDIDATES

Deacon/MC: Please stand for the Universal Prayer.

Introduction to the Universal Prayer

Bishop: My sisters and brothers, in beginning this period of Lent, we look forward to celebrating at Easter the life-giving mysteries of our Lord's suffering, death and resurrection. These elect and candidates, whom we bring with us to the Easter sacraments, will look to us for an example of Christian renewal. Let us pray to the Lord for them and for ourselves, that we may be renewed by each other's efforts and together come to share the joys of Easter.

Universal Prayer

Deacon/Reader: Please respond: Lord, hear our pray.

Prayer over the Elect and Candidates

Bishop: Father of love and power, it is your will to establish everything in Christ and to draw us into his all-embracing love. Guide these chosen ones: strengthen them in their vocation, build them into the kingdom of your Son, and seal them with the Spirit of your promise.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: AMEN.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

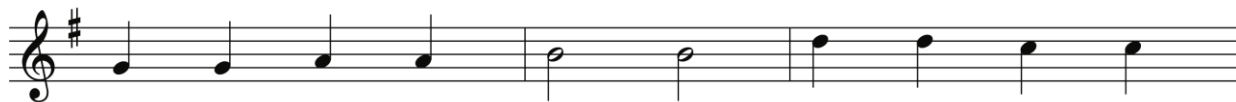
Presentation of the Gifts

Have Mercy, Lord, on Us

#966



1. Have mer - cy, Lord, on us, For
2. Lord, wash a - way our guilt, And
3. A - gainst you, Lord, a - lone, And
4. Blot out our man - y sins, Re -
5. The joy your grace can give Let



you are ev - er kind; Though we have sinned be -
cleanse us from our sin; For we con - fess our
on - ly in your sight Have we trans-gressed; we
move them from your view; Clean hearts cre - ate for
us a - gain ob - tain, And may your Spir - it's



fore you, Lord, Your mer - cy let us find.
wrongs, and see How great our guilt has been.
stand con-demned: Your word is just and right.
us, O God; Our spir - its now re - new.
strong sup - port Our con - trite hearts sus - tain.

Text: Psalm 51; Nahum Tate, 1652–1715, and Nicholas Brady, 1659–1726, alt.
Tune: SOUTHWELL, SM; William Daman, *The Psalmes of David*, 1579, alt.

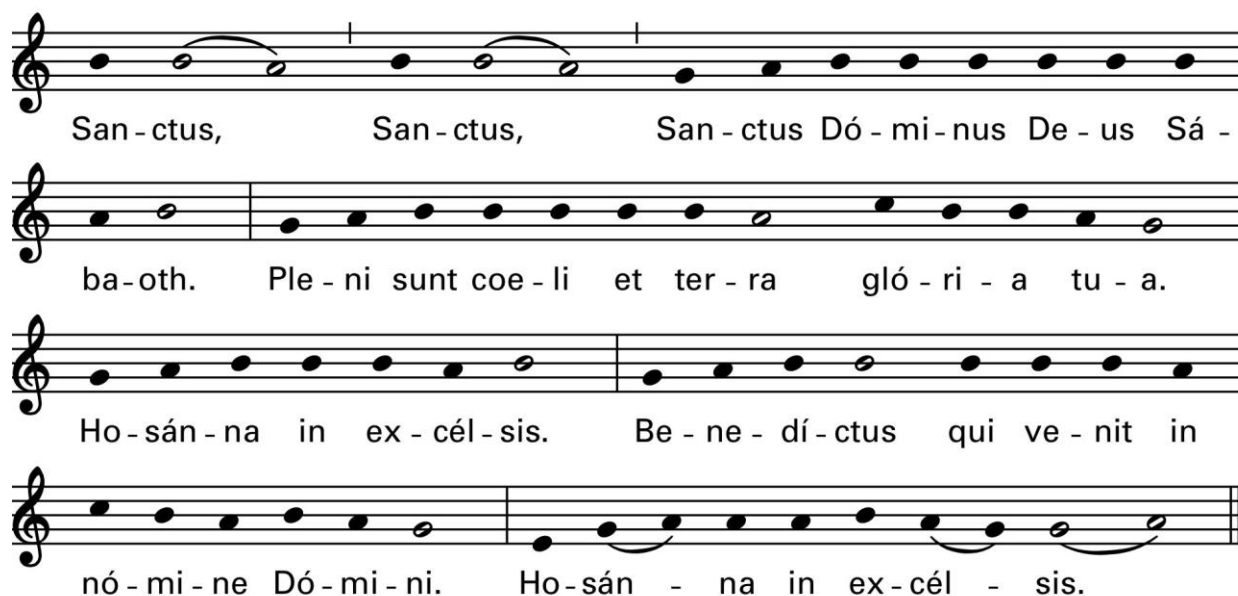
Prayer over the Offerings

Eucharistic Prayer

Preface Prayer

Sanctus

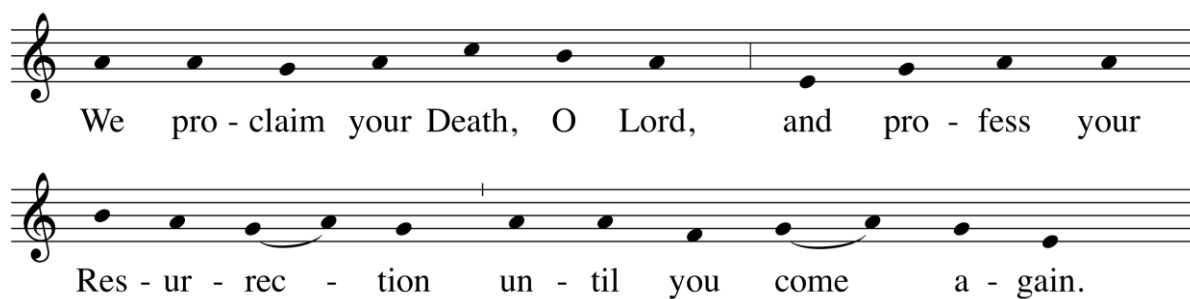
Mass XVIII, Chant



San - ctus, San - ctus, San - ctus Dó - mi - nus De - us Sá -
ba - oth. Ple - ni sunt coe - li et ter - ra gló - ri - a tu - a.
Ho - sán - na in ex - cél - sis. Be - ne - dí - ctus qui ve - nit in
nó - mi - ne Dó - mi - ni. Ho - sán - na in ex - cél - sis.

Text and music: Chant; *Graduale Romanum*, 1974.

Memorial Acclamation



We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your
Res - ur - rec - tion un - til you come a - gain.

Text: *The Roman Missal*; Music: *The Roman Missal* © 2010, ICEL

Great Amen



A - men.

Text: *The Roman Missal*;
Music: *The Roman Missal* © 2010, ICEL

The Communion Rite

The Lord's Prayer

Agnus Dei



A musical score for the Agnus Dei chant, consisting of four staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The music is in a simple, melodic style with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are: A-gnus De - i, qui tol - lis pec - cá - ta mun-di: mi - se - ré - re no - bis. A-gnus De - i, qui tol - lis pec - cá - ta mun-di: mi - se - ré - re no - bis. A-gnus De - i, qui tol - lis pec - cá - ta mun-di: do - na no - bis pa - cem.

Text and music: Chant; *Graduale Romanum*, 1974.

Invitation to Holy Communion





1. Lord, who at your first Eu - cha - rist did pray
 2. For all your Church, O Lord, we in - ter - cede;
 3. We pray for those who wan - der from your fold;
 4. So, Lord, at length when sac - ra - ments shall cease,



That all your Church might be for - ev - er one,
 O make our lack of char - i - ty to cease.
 O bring them back, Good Shep - herd of the sheep,
 May we be one with all your Church a - bove,



Help us at ev - 'ry Eu - cha - rist to say
 Draw us the near - er each to each, we plead,
 Back to the faith which saints be - lieved of old,
 One with your saints in one un - bro - ken peace,



With long - ing heart and soul, "Your will be done."
 By draw - ing all to you, O Prince of Peace.
 Back to the Church which still that faith does keep.
 One with your saints in one un - bound - ed love.



Thus may we all one Bread, one Bod - y be,
 Thus may we all one Bread, one Bod - y be,
 Thus may we all one Bread, one Bod - y be,
 More bless - ed still, in peace and love to be



Through this blest Sac - ra - ment of U - ni - ty.
 Through this blest Sac - ra - ment of U - ni - ty.
 Through this blest Sac - ra - ment of U - ni - ty.
 One with the Trin - i - ty in u - ni - ty.

Text: William H. Turton, 1859–1938, alt.
 Tune: UNDE ET MEMORES, 10 10 10 10 10 10; William H. Monk, 1823–1889, alt.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

Prayer over the People

Bishop: The Lord be with you.
All: AND WITH YOUR SPIRIT.

Deacon/MC: Bow down for the blessing.

Bishop: May bountiful blessing, O Lord, we pray,
come down upon your people,
that hope may grow in tribulation,
virtue be strengthened in temptation,
and eternal redemption be assured.
Through Christ our Lord.
All: AMEN.

Final Blessing and Dismissal

Bishop: And may the blessing of Almighty God,
the Father, + and the Son, + and the Holy + Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever.
All: AMEN.

Deacon: Go in peace.
All: THANKS BE TO GOD.





1. The glo - ry of these for - ty days We
 2. A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw The
 3. So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, De -
 4. Then grant, O God, that we may, too, Re -



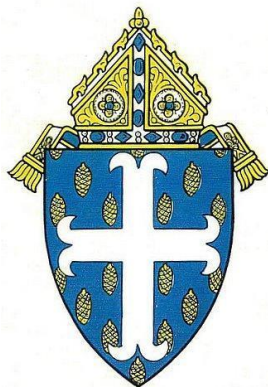
cel - e - brate with songs of praise; For Christ, through whom all
 lov - ing God who gave the law; And to E - li - jah,
 liv - ered from the li - ons' might; And John, the Bride-groom's
 turn in fast and prayer to you. Our spir - its strength - en



things were made, Him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
 fast - ing, came The steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
 friend, be - came The her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.
 with your grace, And give us joy to see your face.

Text: *Clarum decus jejunii*; ascr. to Gregory the Great, c.540–604; tr. by Maurice F. Bell, 1862–1947, alt.
 Tune: ERHALT UNS HERR, LM; Klug's *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543; harm. by J. S. Bach, 1685–1750

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Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland

THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION

An individual's passage into the life of Christ through the Christian community takes place over an extended period of time. Many share in this journey in faith and discernment: members of the parish family, catechists, sponsors, godparents, clergy, and the local bishop.

What begins as an initial inquiry by an unbaptized person—a catechumen—intensifies through the catechumenate period and culminates in full initiation through the reception of the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil. The period of mystagogy follows—a time during which the newly baptized—the neophytes—can embrace their life in Christ. Also making a journey in faith are candidates, that is, other already-baptized Christians who desire full communion with the Catholic Church. All who undertake this journey of faith are supported through, inspired by, and take part in the faith community's example of prayer, reflection on the Scriptures, fasting, and practice of charity.

Each year as Lent begins, the bishop, with and on behalf of the Christian community, “elects” those catechumens who are deemed ready to continue preparing for full initiation at the Easter Vigil. These catechumens become members of the “Elect,” the chosen. Similarly, candidates for full reception come forward to make a public commitment by answering the call to continuing conversion, thus readying themselves with the community for full reception into the Church.

We, as the Church, continue to accompany the elect and the candidates on their journey through our prayerful support. In gratitude, we acknowledge everyone, especially our host parishes, who have made this celebration so special. Thank you.

INVITATION TO THE NEOPHYTE MASS

A neophyte is a newly initiated person who is going through the final period of Christian Initiation, the post-baptismal catechesis. The *Rite of Christian Initiation* requires that the bishop meet again after the celebration of the Easter Vigil with those whose names were called at the Rite of Election. To celebrate this, the neophytes and newly received along with their families and friends are invited to attend a Mass with the Bishop to rejoice in their initiation as the newest members of the Church.



This year, Bishop Deeley is pleased to announce that a Neophyte Mass will take place

**Sunday, June 18, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

Cathedral, Portland

*If you are unable to attend in Portland,
we encourage you to visit with Bishop Deeley
when he is in your local area.*