



Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

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Office for Divine Worship and the Catechumenate E-MAIL worship@dio.org

The Memorial of Saint Marianne Cope
23 January 2020

Dear Catechumenate Primary Contacts,

May the Lord give you peace!

Enclosed with this letter you will find various materials to help you prepare for the Rite of Sending and the Rite Election and the Call to Continuing Conversion, which will be celebrated the weekend of the First Sunday of Lent. If you are no longer the catechumenate/RCIA coordinator, please forward this information to the proper person and let Teresa Gray know of the change.

The information in the enclosed two packets will help you in your preparation of Catechumens and Candidates for the Rite of Election and the Call to Continuing Conversion. If, as you carefully read through the two packets, you something could be phrased or laid out differently to make the packets more “user friendly,” please let me know might be done to better assist you. Before responding to this request, please give both packets an attentiveread, particularly as some of the language has been reduced and some of the information has been rearranged.

After reviewing the enclosed materials, please share with those on your team those pieces of information that will be useful or necessary for them. The enclosed forms and packets will be included in the 26 January 2020 issue of Parish Link and will be available at <http://www.dio.org/communications/parishlink.html> and at <http://www.dio.org/worship>.

Before you begin to peruse the enclosed materials, please allow me to make a few brief notes about them:

- When completing **Form A: NAMES for the RITE OF ELECTION AND CALL** [the ivory paper], please include *both* children of catechetical age and adults on this one form and be sure to place the names in the proper categories at the top of pages 2, 3, and 4. *Please mail in this hard copy of Form A; do not send by fax or e-mail.* If no one will celebrate initiation this Easter, please check the “no” box on the front page and return the form.
- Should you have a baptized Catholic seeking the Sacrament of Confirmation *and* who has not yet received the Eucharist, please complete **Form B:** (the yellow paper) to request Confirmation from the Bishop *or* to request the faculty to confirm to be granted to a priest. One form is needed for each person listed on page 3 of Form A; please make copies of Form B as needed. When returning the completed form, please attach a copy of a recent and official baptismal certificate (front and back, with notations) to each form, making certain to keep the original with your records.

- If a candidate was received into the full communion of the Catholic Church in the past year outside of the Easter Vigil or if you received permission to administer the Sacraments of Initiation to a Catechumen outside of the Easter Vigil within the last year, please complete **Form C: NEW CATHOLICS WHO CELEBRATED CHRISTIAN INITIATION...OUTSIDE THE USUAL TIMES** (the green form). If you have no one in either of these categories, please check the "no" box and return the form.
- Because godparents and sponsors have an especially essential role in the discernment process, as do members of the R.C.I.A. team, **Form D: Letter of Testimony** (the white form), should be distributed to them to complete; please make copies of this form as needed. When they are completed, they may be mailed apart from the other forms.

If, after giving a careful read to the enclosed packets and forms, you need assistance in completing the forms, please contact Teresa Gray at (217) 698-8500 ext. 153 or tgray@dio.org; you may also contact me at (217) 698-8500 ext. 109 or dzehnle@dio.org. Please return the completed forms not later than **Wednesday, 26 February 2020**. For your convenience, a return envelope is also enclosed.

In order to highlight the dignity of this important celebration in the lives of the Catechumens, the Candidates, and for the entire local Church, those in attendance are kindly asked to dress in *at least* "business casual;" one's "Sunday best" is especially encouraged; upper arms, thighs, and mid-sections should be covered on all. Please be certain to share this request with your catechumens and candidates.

Lastly, many thanks to you for your good work in this important and life-changing ministry, which I hope you find rewarding and fulfilling!

Gratefully,

Reverend Daren J. Zehnle, J.C.L., K.C.H.S.
Director

Enclosures:

Flowchart
Catechumen Guide for Preparing for the Rite of Election and Call
Candidate Guide for Preparing for the Rite of Election and Call
Forms A, B, C, and D
Return envelope