



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON

Office of Divine Worship

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Office (703) 224-1653 • Fax (703) 524-5028

December 14, 2018

Dear Pastors,

Once again we anticipate with hope the initiation of our catechumens into the Catholic faith and the acceptance of our brothers and sisters in Christ into full communion in the Catholic Church. As a community, we celebrate the deepening faith journey of our catechumens and candidates for full communion in a special way with the Rite of Election and of the Call to Continuing Conversion.

Therefore, Bishop Burbidge joyfully invites catechumens and candidates for full communion, their pastors, catechists, sponsors, and loved ones to participate in the Rite of Election and of the Call to Continuing Conversion on one of the following Sundays:

- Sunday, March 10, 2019 at 2:30pm – Cathedral of Saint Thomas More (Arlington)
- Sunday, March 17, 2019 at 2:30pm – Saint Theresa (Ashburn)

We kindly request a response indicating the participation of your parish community by submitting the enclosed RSVP form no later than **Friday, February 1, 2019 at 5:00pm**. When completing the form, be sure to indicate the number of participants from your parish, noting that each catechumen or candidate may invite one guest in addition to his or her sponsor. Please submit the form to Karen Buentello using the email, fax, or postal address provided on the form.

For additional information about the Rite of Election and of the Call to Continuing Conversion, please see the second enclosed document or visit the diocesan website. If you have questions or concerns, I will be happy to speak with you by phone at (703) 224-1653 or via email at james.starke@arlingtondiocese.org.

Every year in Lent, we commit ourselves to reconciliation with God and accompaniment of our catechumens and candidates. In Lent 2019, be assured of Bishop Burbidge's prayers and my own prayers: that you, your parish staff, and those preparing for initiation this Easter will be blessed with an ever deeper share in Christ's Resurrection.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

James M. Starke, Ph.D.
Director, Office of Divine Worship

copied: Parochial Vicars, Permanent Deacons, Directors of Religious Education, RCIA Coordinators, Children's Catechumenate Coordinators, High School and College Chaplains

enclosed: (1) Parish RSVP Form; (2) Guidelines and Reminders