

Guidelines

Following the promulgation of the general decree of February 15th 2021 for the Rite of election, please take note of the following guidelines:

1. The extraordinary faculties for the decisive call apply exclusively to parish pastors, parish administrators and priests in charge of missions, who occupy said office by virtue of an official nomination by the Archbishop.
2. These faculties may not be delegated to a curate, an assistant priest or any other priest.
3. Priests to whom these faculties are granted may receive only persons who belong to their own parish or mission community, and not anyone belonging to another parish or diocese. Exceptions are allowed for the collaboration of parishes who share catechetical programs and personnel.
4. Catechumens participating in the rite of election must be well prepared, having completed the prescribed preparations for their Christian initiation.
5. The names of the catechumens must be registered in the « Book of the Elect » in accordance with the Ritual of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA no. 119).

“The candidates give their names, either going with their godparents to the celebrant or while remaining in place, and the actual inscription of the names may be carried out in various ways. The candidates may inscribe the names themselves or they may call out their names, which are inscribed by the godparents or by the minister who presented the candidates. If there are a great many candidates, the enrollment may simply consist in the presentation of a list of the names to the celebrant, with such words as: “These are the names of the candidates.”

A *pro forma* document is provided by the Office de l'éducation à la foi (ODEF) in order to register the names. Once the celebration of the rite of election is completed, send the completed register of names to the ODEF, and it will be added to the Book of the Elect. This year, the book will be confided to the prayers of the members of the *Fraternités monastiques de Jérusalem*. Note that the Book of the Elect is an important liturgical element of the rite and is not merely an administrative document (*Guide pastoral du RICA*, p. 58 – free translation).

6. The liturgical program for the rite of election and the enrollment of the names will be provided by the ODEF along with pastoral guidelines.

All ODEF documents mentioned above are available at the following address:

<https://diocesemontreal.org/en/parish-resources/faith-education>

Please note that the present guidelines are applicable for the duration of the effective period of the general decree, between February 18th and June 24th 2021.

Questions regarding additional details should be addressed to the following people:

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