

**RITE OF ELECTION OF CATECHUMENS  
AND OF CALLING THE CANDIDATES TO  
CONTINUING CONVERSION**

**RITO DE ELECCIÓN DE LOS CATECÚMENOS  
Y DE LLAMADO DE LOS CANDIDATOS  
A LA CONVERSIÓN CONTINUA**



**Bishop James V. Johnston Jr., D.D.**





# PRELUDE | PRELUDIO

The congregation is seated. | La asamblea se sienta.

## Cross Of Jesus, Cross Of Sorrow

William J.S. Simpson

John Stainer

F C7 F Dm F/C C

Cross of Je - sus, cross of sor - row,  
 Here the King of all the a - ges,  
 Ev - er - more for hu - man fail - ure  
 Cross of Je - sus, cross of sor - row,

3 F Bb F/A C7/G F F/C C

where the blood of Christ was shed,  
 throned in light ere worlds could be,  
 By His pas - sion we can plead;  
 where the blood of Christ was shed,

5 Dm Gm C7/E F Bb F/A

per - fect man on you did suf - fer,  
 robbed in mor - tal flesh is dy - ing,  
 God has borne all mor - tal an - guish,  
 per - fect man on you did suf - fer,

7 Bb C7/G A Dm F/C C7 F

per - fect God on you has bled!  
 cru - ci - fied by sin for me.  
 sure - ly He will know our need.  
 per - fect God on you has bled!

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# THE ORDER OF SERVICE | ORDEN DEL SERVICIO

## PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST, OUR SAVIOR/ TE ALABAMOS, JESUCRISTO

Bernadette Farrell



Te a - la - ba - mos, Je - su - cris - to, Ver - bo del Pa - dre,



nues-tro Cre - a - dor; Hi - jo de Dios, que nos li -



be - ras: ¡Ho - nor y glo - ria a ti, Se - ñor!



1. You are the Word who calls us out of dark - ness;
2. You are the one whom proph-ets hoped and longed for;
3. You are the Word who calls us to be ser - vants;
4. You are the Word who binds us and u - nites us;

1. Ver - bo de Dios, del mal tú nos res - ca - tas;
2. Tú e - res a - quel que a - nun - cian los pro - fe - tas;
3. Ver - bo de Dios, nos lla - mas a ser sier - vos;
4. Ver - bo de Dios, nos u - nes y nos li - gas;



1. you are the Word who leads us in - to light;
2. you are the one who speaks to us to - day;
3. you are the Word whose on - ly law is love;
4. you are the Word who calls us to be one;

1. Ver - bo de Dios, nos das tu res - plan - dor;
2. Tú e - res a - quel que ha - blas con a - mor;
3. Ver - bo de Dios, tu ley es el a - mor;
4. Ver - bo de Dios, el U - ni - fi - ca - dor;



## GREETING | SALUDO

Bishop: Peace be with you.  
All: **And with your spirit.**

## PRAYER | ORACIÓN

### LITURGY OF THE WORD | LITURGIA DE LA PALABRA

Sit | Siéntense

#### FIRST READING | PRIMERA LECTURA

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7

Proclaimed in Spanish ✕ Proclamada en Español

The LORD God formed man out of the clay of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life, and so man became a living being. Then the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and placed there the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the LORD God made various trees grow that were delightful to look at and good for food, with the tree of life in the middle of the garden and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Now the serpent was the most cunning of all the animals that the LORD God had made. The serpent asked the woman, “Did God really tell you not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?” The woman answered the serpent: “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; it is only about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden that God said, ‘You shall not eat it or even touch it, lest you die.’” But the serpent said to the woman: “You certainly will not die! No, God knows well that the moment you eat of it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods who know what is good and what is evil.” The woman saw that the tree was good for food, pleasing to the eyes, and desirable for gaining wisdom. So she took some of its fruit and ate it; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized that they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

*(Palabra de Dios) The word of the Lord*  
**(Te alabamos, Señor) Thanks be to God**



## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT / A

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6a, 12-13, 14 and 17*



Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your merciful love;  
according to your great compassion,  
blot out my transgressions.  
Wash me completely from my iniquity,  
and cleanse me from my sin. *R.*

My transgressions, truly I know them;  
my sin is always before me.  
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;  
what is evil in your sight I have  
done. *R.*

Create a pure heart for me, O God;  
renew a steadfast spirit within me.  
Do not cast me away from your presence;  
take not your holy spirit from me. *R.*

Restore in me the joy of your salvation;  
sustain in me a willing spirit.  
O Lord, open my lips  
and my mouth shall proclaim your  
praise. *R.*

Text: *The Revised Grail Psalms*, © 2010, Conception Abbey and The Grail, admin. by GIA Publications, Inc.;

Refrain, *Lectionary for Mass*, © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL

Music: Patricia Craig, © 1975, GIA Publications, Inc.

### LENTEN GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Text: ICEL, © 1969

Music: *Kyrie Orbis Factor*, acc. by David Hurd

(*Matthew 4:4b*) One does not live on bread alone,  
but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

(*Mateo 4, 4*) No sólo de pan vive el hombre,  
sino también de toda palabra que sale de la boca de Dios.



## GOSPEL | EVANGELIO

Mateo 4, 1-11

Proclaimed in English ✘ Proclamada en Inglés

**E**n aquel tiempo, Jesús fue conducido por el Espíritu al desierto, para ser tentado por el demonio. Pasó cuarenta días y cuarenta noches sin comer y, al final, tuvo hambre. Entonces se le acercó el tentador y le dijo: “Si tú eres el Hijo de Dios, manda que estas piedras se conviertan en panes”. Jesús le respondió: “Está escrito: *No sólo de pan vive el hombre, sino también de toda palabra que sale de la boca de Dios*”.

Entonces el diablo lo llevó a la ciudad santa, lo puso en la parte más alta del templo y le dijo: “Si eres el Hijo de Dios, échate para abajo, porque está escrito: *Mandaré a sus ángeles que te cuiden y ellos te tomarán en sus manos, para que no tropiece tu pie en piedra alguna*”. Jesús le contestó: “También está escrito: *No tentarás al Señor, tu Dios*”.

Luego lo llevó el diablo a un monte muy alto y desde ahí le hizo ver la grandeza de todos los reinos del mundo y le dijo: “Te daré todo esto, si te postras y me adoras”. Pero Jesús le replicó: “Retírate, Satanás, porque está escrito: *Adorarás al Señor, tu Dios, y a él sólo servirás*”.

Entonces lo dejó el diablo y se acercaron los ángeles para servirle.

*Palabra del Señor (The Gospel of the Lord)*

**Gloria a ti, Señor Jesús (Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ)**

Please remain standing until the Deacon presents the Book of the Gospels to the Bishop.

Favor de permanecer de pie, hasta que el Diácono presente el Evangeliario al Obispo.

## HOMILY | HOMILÍA



## PRESENTATION OF THE CATECHUMENS PRESENTACIÓN DE LOS CATECÚMENOS

**Deacon:** Bishop Johnston,  
as the solemn paschal celebrations approach once more,  
the catechumens present here,  
relying on divine grace  
and supported by the prayers and example of the community,  
humbly request that, after due preparation and celebration of the Scrutinies,  
they be admitted to participate  
in the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist.

**The bishop replies:** Let those who are to be chosen as the elect  
stand together with their godparents as their names are called.

**(El obispo responde:** Aquellos que van a ser elegidos, ponerse de pie junto con sus padrinos cuando se llame su nombre.)

One by one, all representatives announce their parish and the names of all their catechumens.  
Uno por uno, todos los representantes anuncian su parroquia y los nombres de todos sus catecúmenos.

**Bishop:** The holy Church of God now wishes to ascertain  
whether these catechumens are sufficiently prepared  
to be received into the order of the elect  
for the solemn paschal celebrations to come.

**He, then, turns toward the godparents:**

And so, first I ask you their godparents to testify.  
Have they faithfully listened to God's word proclaimed by the Church?

**Godparents:** **They have. (Sí, lo han hecho.)**

**Bishop:** Have they begun to walk in God's presence,  
treasuring the word they have received

**Godparents:** **They have. (Sí, lo han hecho.)**

**Bishop:** Have they persevered in fraternal communion and in these prayers?

**Godparents:** **They have. (Sí, lo han hecho.)**

**Bishop:** Now I ask you, the members of this community:

Are you willing to affirm the testimony expressed about these catechumens  
and include them in your prayer and affection as we move toward Easter?

**All:** **We are. (Sí, lo estamos.)**





### Estrofas

1. El Señor es el lote de mi heredad y mi copa,  
mi suerte está en tu mano.  
Tengo siempre presente al Señor,  
con él a mi derecha no vacilaré.
2. Por eso se me alegra el corazón,  
se gozan mis entrañas,  
y mi carne descansa serena:  
porque no me entregarás a la muerte  
ni dejarás a tu fiel conocer la corrupción.
3. Me enseñarás el sendero de la vida,  
me saciarás de gozo en tu presencia,  
de alegría perpetua a tu derecha,  
de alegría perpetua a tu derecha.

### Verses

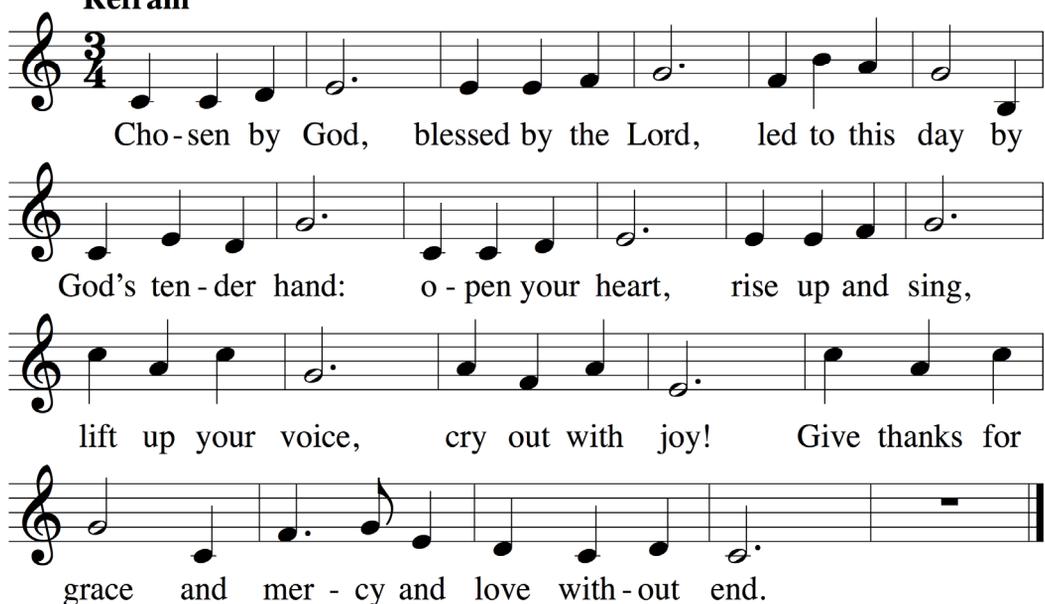
1. *O Lord, my allotted portion and my cup,  
you hold fast my destiny.  
I keep the Lord ever before me;  
with the Lord at my right hand  
I shall stand firm.*
2. *So my heart is glad and my soul rejoices,  
so my body abides in safety;  
for to Sheol you will not abandon me,  
nor let your faithful one see corruption.*
3. *You will show me the path of life,  
in your presence the fullness of joy,  
at your right hand delights forever,  
at your right hand delights forever.*

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## CHOSEN BY GOD

Paul Inwood

**Refrain**



Cho-sen by God, blessed by the Lord, led to this day by  
God's ten-der hand: o-pen your heart, rise up and sing,  
lift up your voice, cry out with joy! Give thanks for  
grace and mer-cy and love with-out end.



Deacon: Would those who signed the book and their godparents please stand?  
The Deacons raise the Book of the Elect.  
Los diáconos levantan el Libro de los Elegidos.

Bishop: My brothers and sisters, you have been chosen for Initiation  
into the sacred mysteries at the forthcoming Easter Vigil.

Elect: **Thanks be to God.**

The Bishop continues:

Now, with divine help,  
your duty, like ours, is to be faithful to God,  
who is faithful to his call,  
and to strive with generous spirit  
to reach the full truth of your Election.

Then, turning toward the godparents, the bishop addresses them in these or similar words:

Godparents, please place a hand on the shoulder of your elect.  
Godparents, you have spoken in favor of these elect;  
receive them now as chosen in the Lord  
and accompany them with your help and example,  
until they come to share in the Sacraments of divine life.

Deacon: Please be seated.

## CELEBRATION OF THE CALLING TO CONTINUING CONVERSION CELEBRACIÓN DE LLAMADO A LA CONVERSIÓN CONTINUA

Deacon: Bishop Johnston,  
as the solemn paschal celebrations approach once more,  
the candidates present here,  
relying on divine grace  
and supported by the prayers and example of the community,  
humbly request that, after due preparation,  
they be admitted to the full communion of the Catholic Church,  
and to the Sacraments of Confirmation and the Eucharist.

Bishop: Let those who desire  
to participate fully in the sacramental life of the Church  
stand together with their sponsors as their names are called.



One by one, all representatives announce their parish and the names of all their candidates.  
Uno por uno, todos los representantes anuncian su parroquia y los nombres de todos sus candidatos.

**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 the testimony of their sponsors about their readiness.

He, then, turns toward the sponsors:  
Have they faithfully listened to God's word proclaimed by the Church?

**Sponsors:** **They have. (*Sí, lo han hecho.*)**

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

**Sponsors:** **They have. (*Sí, lo han hecho.*)**

**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. (*Sí, lo han hecho.*)**

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

**Sponsors:** **They have. (*Sí, lo han hecho.*)**

**Bishop:** Now I ask you, the members of this community:  
Are you willing to affirm the testimony expressed about these candidates and include them in your prayer and affection as we move toward Easter?

**All:** **We are. (*Sí, lo estamos.*)**

**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.**



**Bishop:** Sponsors, please place a hand on the shoulder of your candidate. Sponsors, 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.

**Deacon:** Please stand.

## Blessed be God!

Mario Pearson

Bless ed be God! who calls you by  
name! Ho ly and cho sen,  
ho ly\_ and cho sen!

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**Bishop:** Dear brothers and sisters, today we begin the Lenten journey looking forward to the saving mysteries of the Passion and Resurrection. The elect and candidates, whom we are bringing to the Paschal Sacraments, look to us for an example of renewal.

Therefore let us pray to the Lord for them and for ourselves, that being encouraged by our mutual renewal, we may be made worthy of the paschal graces.



## INTERCESSIONS FOR THE ELECT AND THE CANDIDATES INTERCESIONES POR LOS ELEGIDOS Y POR LOS CANDIDATOS

All stand | Todos de pie

Deacon: *(The deacon leads the intercessions.)*  
*(After each, all say:)* **“Lord hear our prayer.”**

Bishop: Almighty, most beloved Father,  
graciously guide these elect of the Church  
and grant that, faithful to the calling they have received,  
they may be built up into the kingdom of your Son  
and be sealed with the promised Holy Spirit.

Look also upon these candidates,  
and grant that, faithful to the gifts already received in Baptism,  
they may be more fully conformed  
to the Death and Resurrection of Christ.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All: **Amen.**



## FINAL BLESSING | BENDICIÓN Y DESPEDIDA

Bishop: The Lord be with you.  
All: **And with your spirit.**

Bishop: May almighty God bless you,  
+ the Father, +and the Son, +and the Holy Spirit.  
All: **Amen.**

Deacon: Go and announce the gospel of the Lord.  
All: **Thanks be to God.** ((¡Gracias a Dios!))

### Lift High the Cross / Alcen la Cruz

Refrain



1. Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod,  
Our King victorious, Christ, the Son of God.
2. Led on their way by this triumphant sign,  
The hosts of God in conquering ranks combine.
3. Each newborn servant of the Crucified  
Bears on the brow the seal of him who died.
4. O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
Your death has bought us life eternally.



## *Special Thanks*

To the staff of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception and the Cathedral of St. Joseph

### DIOCESAN OFFICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP

*Fr. Paul Turner, (Director), Deacon Doug Warrens, (Associate Director)*  
*Dr. Mario Pearson, (Diocesan Music Coordinator)*  
*Bobbi Aschwanden, (Episcopal & Diocesan Liturgical Event Coordinator)*

### MUSIC MINISTRY

The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

Conductor: *Maria Milazzo with the Diocesan Choir*

Cantor: *Maria Barbara McAndrews*

Organist: *Dr. Mario Pearson*

The Cathedral of St. Joseph

Cantor: *Christie Ottinger*

Organist: *Bill McMurray*

### LIVESTREAMING

*Jim McGuire, Jake Heinerikson*

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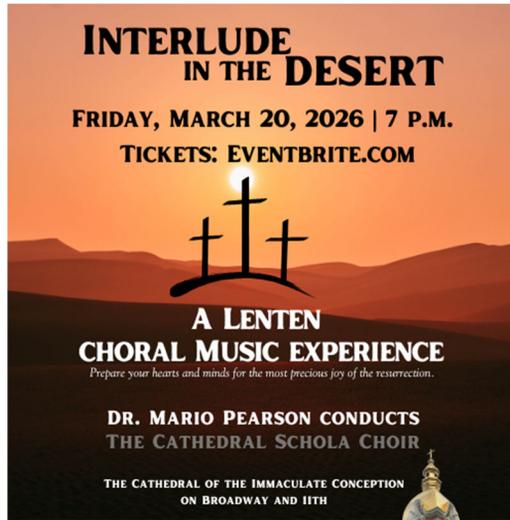
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Bishop Johnston invites the elect to participate in the **Handing on of the Creed** at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Wednesday, March 11, at 6 p.m.



The **Chrism Mass** will be celebrated at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on **Thursday, March 26, 2026, at 7 p.m.** At this Mass, Bishop Johnston will consecrate the chrism that will be used for the confirmation of all the elect and candidates from today's celebration. All are welcome.



Bishop Johnston will celebrate the **Neophyte Mass** at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on April 26, 2026 at the 11 a.m. Mass. All neophytes and newly received receive communion at Mass with the Bishop.