**13. Rite of election and AMEN**

* **Rite of election**

On the First Sunday of Lent, the people of the Diocese of Evansville gather with those seeking either Baptism or full Communion with the Church to celebrate another step on the journey. **In the Rite of Election “the Church makes its ‘election**,’ that is, the choice and admission of those catechumens who have the dispositions that make them fit to take part...in the sacraments of initiation” (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults [RCIA], 119**). At the Call to Continuing Conversion**, those baptized Christians who seek to “complete their Christian formation and become fully integrated into the community…” (RCIA, 410) come before the bishop who, on behalf of the Church, officially recognizes their “desire to have a place at Christ’s Eucharistic table” (RCIA, 454).

**Some people guarantee for you:**

**Catechists:** Reverend Monsignor/Father, Easter is drawing near, and so these catechumens, whom I now present to you, are completing their period of preparation. They have found strength in God’s grace and support in our community’s prayers and example. Now they ask that after the celebration of the Scrutinies, they be allowed to participate in the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist.

**GODPARENTS:**

**Celebrant:** Have they faithfully listened to God’s word proclaimed by the Church?

**Godparents:** They have.

**Celebrant:** Have they responded to that word and begun to walk in God’s presence?

**Godparents:** They have.

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

**Godparents:** They have.

**Addressing the assembly.**

**Celebrant:** 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.

**INVITATION AND ENROLLMENT OF NAMES**

Addressing the catechumens in the following or similar words, advices them of their acceptance and asks them to declare their own intention.

**Celebrant**: And now, my dear catechumens, I address you. Your own godparents and teachers, and this entire community have spoken in your favor. The Church in the name of Christ accepts their judgement 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 and 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 an the eucharist?

**Catechumens**: We do.

**Celebrant**: **Then offer your names for enrolment.**

• Why do you want to be baptized and confirmed, and to make your First Holy Communion?

• How has being a part of the RCIA process changed your life?

• Thinking about your RCIA journey from when you started to today, who is Jesus for you?

**Isaia 43,1-12**

But now, this is what the Lord says—  
    he who created you, Jacob,  
    he who formed you, Israel:  
“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
    I have summoned you by name; you are mine.  
**2**When you pass through the waters,  
    I will be with you;  
and when you pass through the rivers,  
    they will not sweep over you.  
When you walk through the fire,  
    you will not be burned;  
    the flames will not set you ablaze.  
**3**For I am the Lord your God,  
    the Holy One of Israel, your Savior;  
I give Egypt for your ransom,  
    Cush[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah%2043&version=NIV#fen-NIV-18509a)] and Seba in your stead.  
**4**Since you are precious and honored in my sight,  
    and because I love you,  
I will give people in exchange for you,  
    nations in exchange for your life.  
**5**Do not be afraid, for I am with you;  
    I will bring your children from the east  
    and gather you from the west.  
**6**I will say to the north, ‘Give them up!’  
    and to the south, ‘Do not hold them back.’  
Bring my sons from afar  
    and my daughters from the ends of the earth—  
**7**everyone who is called by my name,  
    whom I created for my glory,  
    whom I formed and made.”

**8**Lead out those who have eyes but are blind,  
    who have ears but are deaf.  
**9**All the nations gather together  
    and the peoples assemble.  
Which of their gods foretold this  
    and proclaimed to us the former things?  
Let them bring in their witnesses to prove they were right,  
    so that others may hear and say, “It is true.”  
**10**“You are my witnesses,” declares the Lord,  
    “and my servant whom I have chosen,  
so that you may know and believe me  
    and understand that I am he.  
Before me no god was formed,  
    nor will there be one after me.  
**11**I, even I, am the Lord,  
    and apart from me there is no savior.  
**12**I have revealed and saved and proclaimed—  
    I, and not some foreign god among you.  
You are my witnesses,” declares the Lord, “that I am God.

* AMEN

“Amen – a liturgical word of acclamation= LET IT BE AS YOU SAID. = APPROVAL.

Amen = AMAN=The basic meaning of the Semitic root from which it is derived is “firm,” “fixed,” or “sure,” and the related Hebrew verb also means “to be reliable” and “to be trusted.”

In Egyptian mythology, Amen, or Amon, was a deity represented by a ram, the god of life and reproduction.

Amin for muslims

**The word *amen* include "verily", "truly", "it is true", and "let it be so".**[**[4]**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amen#cite_note-4)[**[5]**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amen#cite_note-:0-5)**It is also used colloquially, to express strong agreement.**[**[2]**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amen#cite_note-ety-2)

Meanings of the **root in Hebrew include *to be firm or confirmed,*** *to be reliable or dependable, to be faithful, to have faith, to believe.*

In [Revelation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Book_of_Revelation) 3:14, Jesus is referred to as, "the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God's creation." The whole passage reads as "And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God".

JESUS IS THE AMEN

THE TRUSTFUL/FAITHFUL

THE WITNESS