SECOND SCRUTINY
*Fourth Sunday of Lent*

HOMILY
151 After the readings and guided by them, the celebrant explains in the homily the meaning of the second scrutiny in the light of the Lenten liturgy and of the spiritual journey of the elect.

INVITATION TO SILENT PRAYER FOR ELECT
152 After the homily, the elect with their godparents come forward and stand before the celebrant.

Celebrant:
*I now invite the Elect/Candidates with their Godparents to come forward.*

The celebrant first addresses the assembly of the faithful, inviting them to pray in silence and to ask that the elect will be given a spirit of repentance, a sense of sin, and the true freedom of the children of God.

Celebrant addresses assembly:

**Today the Church calls the Elect to conversion. To deepen their resolve to hold fast to Christ and to carry out the decision to love God above all. Let us all pray at this time in silence for them to be given a spirit of repentance, a sense of sin and strength of will to live in true freedom as children of God.**

The celebrant then addresses the elect, inviting them also to pray in silence and suggesting that as a sign of their inner spirit of repentance they bow their heads or kneel; he concludes his remarks with the following or similar words:

Celebrant addresses the Elect:
**My dear Elect, I invite you to join your prayers to this community of faith, and to bow your heads and pray in silence as we intercede to God on your behalf.**

The elect *pray for some time in silence.* After the period of silent prayer, the celebrant invites the people to join in the intercessions. During the intercessions godparents should stand behind the Elect and place their right hand on the right shoulder of the Elect during the intercessions.

INTERCESSIONS FOR THE ELECT
During the intercessions godparents should stand behind the Elect and place their right hand on the right shoulder of the Elect during the intercessions.

Celebrant:

Let us pray for these elect whom God has called, that they may remain faithful to him and boldly give witness to the words of eternal life.

Deacon, Lector, or another minister:

That, trusting in the truth of Christ, they may find freedom of mind and heart and preserve it always, let us pray to the Lord: R. Lord, hear our prayer.

That, preferring the folly of the cross to the wisdom of the world, they may glory in God alone, let us pray to the Lord: R. Lord, hear our prayer.

That, freed by the power of the Spirit, they may put all fear behind them and press forward with confidence, let us pray to the Lord: R. Lord, hear our prayer.

That, transformed in the Spirit, they may seek those things that are holy and just, let us pray to the Lord: R. Lord, hear our prayer.

That all who suffer persecution for Christ’s name may find their strength in him, let us pray to the Lord: R. Lord, hear our prayer.

That those families and nations prevented from embracing the faith may be granted freedom to believe the Gospel, let us pray to the Lord: R. Lord, hear our prayer.

That we who are faced with the values of the world may remain faithful to the spirit of the Gospel, let us pray to the Lord: R. Lord, hear our prayer.

That the whole world, which the Father so loves, may attain in the Church complete spiritual freedom, let us pray to the Lord: R. Lord, hear our prayer.

EXORCISM

After the intercessions godparents lift their right hand from the shoulder of the Elect.
The Celebrant faces the elect and, with hands joined, says:

Father of mercy, you led the man born blind to the kingdom of light through the gift of faith in your Son.

Free these elect from the false values that surround and blind them. Set them firmly in your truth, children of the light for ever. We ask this through Christ our Lord. R. Amen

Here the celebrant lays hands on the head of each of the candidates in silence. Then, with hands outstretched over all of them, he continues:

Celebrant:
Lord Jesus, you are the true light that enlightens the world. Through your Spirit of truth free those who are enslaved by the father of lies. Stir up the desire for good in these elect, whom you have chosen for your sacraments. Let them rejoice in your light, that they may see, and, like the man born blind whose sight you restored, let them prove to be staunch and fearless witnesses to the faith, for you are Lord for ever and ever. R. Amen

DISMISSAL OF THE ELECT

Celebrant:

Although you cannot yet participate fully in the Lord’s Eucharist, stay with us as a sign of our hope that all God’s children will eat and drink with the Lord and work with his Spirit to re-create the face of the earth.

Return to your seats