



THRIVING SMALL CHURCHES

TOOLS FOR BUILDING THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Admission of Catechumens

At an appropriate point in the service of worship, the Presider invites those to be admitted as catechumens to come forward with their sponsors.

Have the catechumens stand in the front facing the congregation, each catechumens sponsor should stand immediately behind their catechumen.

The Presider then addresses those to be admitted.

The question may be asked of everyone all at once, or to each person individually.

Presider What do you seek?

Catechumen **Life in Christ.** *(The seekers may expand on the answer in their own words)*

Presider Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." Do you accept these commandments?

Catechumen **I do.**

Presider Will you be regular in attending the public worship of God, and will you open your ears to hear the Word of God?

Catechumen **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you open your heart and mind to receive the Good News of Jesus Christ?

Catechumen **I will, with God's help.**

The Presider then addresses the sponsors

Presider Will you who sponsor these persons support them by prayer and example, and help them to grow in the knowledge and love of

Sponsors **I will.**

Those to be admitted kneel.

The sponsors remain standing and place a hand upon the shoulder of the one they are sponsoring, while the Presider extends a hand toward them and says;

Presider May Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who has put the desire into your hearts to seek the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, grant you the power of the Holy Spirit to persevere in this intention and to grow in faith and understanding.

Congregation **Amen**

Each of those to be admitted is presented by name to the Presider, who lays hands on each or marks a cross on the forehead of each, saying;

Presider N., receive our blessings and the love of Christ in your heart, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation **Amen**

The catechumens and sponsors then return to their places.