

First Scrutiny

3rd Sunday of Lent

Gospel Reading – Cycle A

Homily

Invitation to Silent Prayer

After the homily, the celebrant invites all the Elect with their godparents to come forward.

They stand before the celebrant.

He addresses the Elect with these words:

Elect of god, bow your heads and pray.

The celebrant invites the faithful to pray in silence for these elect for a few minutes.

Intercessions for the Elect

The celebrant says:

Let us pray for these Elect whom God has confidently chosen. May they successfully complete their long preparation and at the paschal feast find Christ in his sacraments.

The cantor may chant the Intercessions.....see RCIA # 153

The response of the people may be sung or said. Lord, hear our prayer.

Exorcism Prayer

The celebrant prays over the Elect:

God of power;
You sent your Son to be our Savior:
grant that these catechumens, who, like the woman of Samaria,
thirst for living water, may turn to the Lord as they hear his word
and acknowledge the sins and weaknesses that weigh them down.

Protect them from vain reliance on self and defend them from the power of Satan.
Free them from the spirit of deceit,
so that, admitting the wrong they have done,
they may attain purity of heart and advance on the way to salvation.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

The celebrant, then, lays hands on each of the Elect in silence.

(Laying On of Hands on each Elect – individually)

The celebrant, then, prays over the Elect with outstretched hands:

Lord Jesus,
You are the fountain for which they thirst, you are the Master whom they seek.
In your presence they dare not claim to be without sin,
for you alone are the Holy One of God.

They open their hearts to you in faith, they confess their faults
and lay bare their hidden wounds.
In your love free them from their infirmities, heal their sickness,
quench their thirst, and give them peace.

In the power of your name, which we call upon in faith,
stand by them now and heal them.
Rule over that spirit of evil, conquered by your rising from the dead.

Show your elect the way of salvation in the Holy Spirit,
that they may come to worship the Father in truth,
for you are Lord for ever and ever.

R. Amén.

Dismissal of the Elect

The celebrant gives the lectionary to the catechist.

Then, the celebrant addresses the Elect:

My dear friends, this community now sends you forth to reflect more deeply upon the word of God which you have shared with us today.
Be assured of our loving support and prayers for you. Go in peace.

The Elect, along with their catechist, process out of the church.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist begins.