

Second Rite:
Rite of Enrollment in Final Preparation

Adapted from the Book of Occasional Services, pages 141–143

This rite is used at the principal service on the ninth week of the course (and so, depending on the Baptism Day during which Confirmation will be administered, this rite will take place on either the First Sunday in Lent, the Second Sunday of Easter, the Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost, or the First Sunday of Advent). If a different schedule is used in the parish, it should still be structured so that this liturgy occurs on one of the four days mentioned above. If the parish is participating in the cycle that would place this rite near the First Sunday in Lent, the rite in the Book of Occasional Services could be used.

In this rite, baptized persons who have been exploring the implications of their baptismal covenant and are preparing to reaffirm it through the rite of Confirmation, Reception, or the Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows are recognized as examples of conversion for the congregation in its journey towards a Baptismal Feast Day. During the Prayers of the people, the senior warden or other representative of the congregation presents the baptized to the celebrant with these or other words:

Sr. Warden N., we present to you N., N., who have been growing in an understanding of their call as Christians among us and now desire to undertake a more intense preparation to renew their baptismal covenant at the next Baptismal Feast day, our community's celebration of *Easter/Pentecost/All Saints'/The Baptism of our Lord.*

Celebrant Have they studied the promises made at their baptism and strived to keep them in fellowship with this community and the rest of the Church?

Sr. Warden They have.

Celebrant Have they attended worship regularly to hear God's word and to celebrate the mystery of Christ's dying and rising?

Sr. Warden They have.

Celebrant Have they participated in a life of service to those who are poor, outcast, or powerless?

Sr. Warden They have.

Celebrant Have they strived to recognize the gifts that God has given them and to discern how they are to be used in the building up of God's reign of peace and justice?

Sr. Warden They have.

The Celebrant then addresses the Candidates,

Celebrant Will you strive to set an example for us [and especially for those among us who are preparing for baptism] of that turning towards Jesus Christ which marks true conversion?

Candidates We will, with God's help.

The Celebrant addresses the Sponsors,

Celebrant Will you accompany these candidates in their journey to conversion and help them to renew their commitment to Christ?

Sponsors We will, with God's help.

In full view of the congregation, those enrolled kneel or bow their heads. Their sponsors stand behind them and place a hand on their shoulders. The Celebrant extends both hands towards the candidates,

Celebrant Blessed are you, our God, our Maker, for you faithfully call us to return to you and do not abandon us to our own selfishness. You have given N., N., to us as examples of our reliance on you. Renew your Holy Spirit in them that they may lead us in our turning back to you as they prepare to celebrate with us Christ's passage from death to life signified in Holy Baptism, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

During the remaining weeks, those enrolled are prayed for by name at the Prayers of the People, separately from any catechumens.