

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**SENDING OF THE CATECHUMENS FOR ELECTION** and/or  
**SENDING THE CANDIDATES FOR RECOGNITION BY THE BISHOP....**  
*See R.C.I.A., No. 114 ff., No. 441 ff., No. 543 ff.*

**Priest Celebrant** Brothers and Sisters,  
whoever calls on the name of the Lord will be saved!

*An alternate response is offered for Lent, in which the assembly repeats "Lord (Christ), have mercy" after the deacon/cantor/reader. The petitions can, of course, conclude with the more usual "let us pray to the Lord:" "Lord, hear our prayer."*

**Deacon/Cantor/Reader**

For [ ] and]  
the catechumens of our diocese and of the Church universal,  
as their bishops elect them to the Easter Sacraments of Initiation,  
we pray, **Lord, have mercy:**

For their perseverance to be reborn in Jesus Christ, slain and risen;  
for their enlightenment and purification in Him this Lent,  
we pray, **Christ, have mercy:**

For their sponsors, godparents, families, and teachers,  
we pray, **Lord, have mercy:**

For [ ] and all]  
Candidates to Full Communion with the Catholic Church;  
for candidates to Confirmation, Eucharist, Matrimony, Holy Orders,  
we pray, **Christ, have mercy:**

For the renewal of one another in prayer, penance, alms-giving this Lent,  
we pray, **Lord, have mercy:**

For the armed forces; for peace at home and abroad,  
we pray, **Christ, have mercy:**

For [ ] and all] our sick,  
we pray, **Lord, have mercy:**

For [ ] and] everyone who has died this week,  
we pray, **Christ, have mercy:**

**Priest Celebrant** *Modify the blessing according to gender and number:*

Father of love and power,  
whose will it is to establish everything in Christ  
and to draw us into his all-embracing love,  
guide [this catechumen] [and this candidate]  
in the days and weeks ahead:  
strengthen *him* in *his* vocation,  
build *him* into the kingdom of your Son,  
and seal *him* with the Spirit of your promise.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.