

# Resurrection Weekly

Volume 1 Issue 2

March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017

www.resurrectionparish.ca

Resurrection Weekly is resolved to bring you the most current and up to the date details on this year's catechumens. Each week we will be doing an exposé on three of our newly elected Elect. If you would like help write a story that covers how you see God working in their lives please send your stories to Tashia: sacraments@resurrectionparish.ca

## Last Week's Election Results: The Surprising Story Behind the Scenes



### What Happened Last Sunday?

Last Sunday at the 11:00 mass we celebrated two rites with our catechumens and candidates, which are the unbaptized and baptized respectively. The first was the **Rite of Lenten Renewal**. Here the candidates ask to begin this final period of their preparation, and to be supported by the prayer and example of Resurrection. They were called by name and their sponsors testified that they are ready to become fully initiated into the Catholic Church. They were told to be “one with us” during this season. Through prayer, fasting, and works of charity, we will all become united more closely to Christ, and come to know in a deeper way the power of the Resurrection in us. “We assure you

of our support by prayers and example during this holy season: concluded Father Steve. Those are some pretty big shoes to fill!

Immediately proceeding this was the **Rite of Sending**, where the catechumens who are journeying towards their baptism ask for recognition for the progress that they have made in their spiritual formation. In this rite, the godparents are asked to testify. “Have these catechumens taken their formation in the Gospel, the Good News of Jesus Christ and in the Catholic way of life seriously?” – Not an easy task for any of us – to which the godparents answered a resounding, “They have!”

Last week you were made aware of a critical election that took place on Sunday March 5<sup>th</sup> at Holy Rosary Cathedral at 3:00. There was only one person who had the necessary credentials to vote, Archbishop Donald Bolen. He did not take this vote lightly after consulting various catechists, godparents, and sponsors, and asking some very tough questions, he was able to welcome numerous catechumens to become our **Newly Elect**. Here at Resurrection Parish we are blessed to have seven Elect.

Other than the fact that the Bishop, shepherd of our diocese, has called them to be part of the Elect where did this term come from. We went straight to the horse's mouth, the Catholic Rites Today, book tells us that “on the basis of the testimony of godparents and catechesis and of the other catechumen's reaffirmation of their intention, the Church judges their state of readiness and decides on their advancement towards the sacraments of initiation. Thus the Church makes its “election,” that is, the choice and admission of those catechumens who have the disposition that make them fit to take part, and the next major celebration, in the sacrament of initiation” page. 82.

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## Up Close and Personal



Christina Burns who is our **RCIA** (*Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*) grew up in not only Regina but also the beautiful southern

town of Katepwa. She is a hard working individual like so many of us, and earned her Bachelors in Education from the prestigious University of Regina in 2015. Burns loves to teach the Sciences at LeBoldus High School. She has been working there for a year now, and we have it on good authority that she loves it immensely.

Burns is also an animal lover. She has had various pets throughout her life but currently has settled for a beautiful Shih Tzu named Chase. Reports show that during her time, in the **RCIA** program, she has grown and learned many things about the Catholic faith. "I am looking forward to becoming baptized," Burns recently stated, "so I can continue my journey alongside the staff and students at school."



Dominick Olivarese is one of our youngest Elect, but that does not take away from the great experience

that he has had throughout the **RCIC** (*Rite of Christian Initiation of Children*) experience. "I am very excited to be baptized because I love God and I will be more close to God and Jesus will be my best friend," Olivarese stated in a recent interview. He comes to us from a loving family with a Mom, Dad, and my big three brothers. "I love all of them."

Olivarese is an avid music lover, with a particular love for rock music. Attending Grant Road School he enjoys playing sports with his many friends. Animals are another love of his, especially ice Age Animals. And let's be honest, who doesn't love them the best? It is with great joy and enthusiasm that Dominick is coming to **RCIC** and growing in his faith.



Liam Swartz, our youngest **RCIC** catechumen, just past the **Age of Reason** i.e. seven. Swartz attends St. Marguerite. In

the winter Swartz enjoys building snow forts, playing hockey, and taking his dog Sam for walks. In the summer his activities include playing outside with friends, and riding his red bike. Swartz also plays soccer and soon will start playing ball hockey. He is also a budding pianist.

His strong family ties, including his maternal side, are Catholics. Attending Catholic Schools, being educated and growing up in a strong faith context are the major motivators behind Swartz's desire to receive baptism. Swartz recently commented, "I want to be Jesus' friend. I am looking forward to receiving Communion. I am learning a lot of interesting stories and learning more about the Bible." This reporter could not be happier!

The following are key words from this, and the previous edition of Resurrection Weekly

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