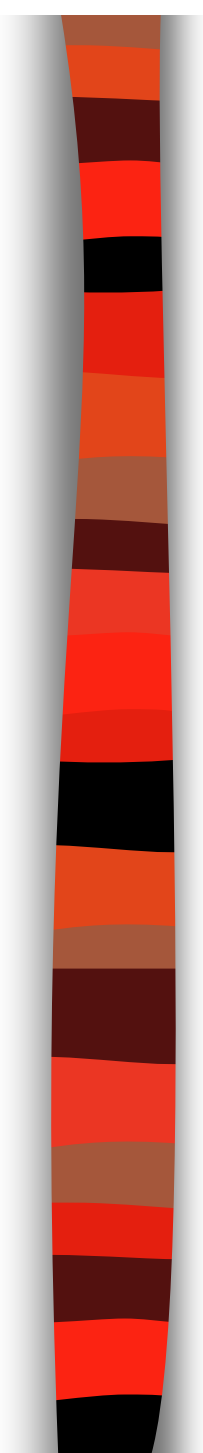


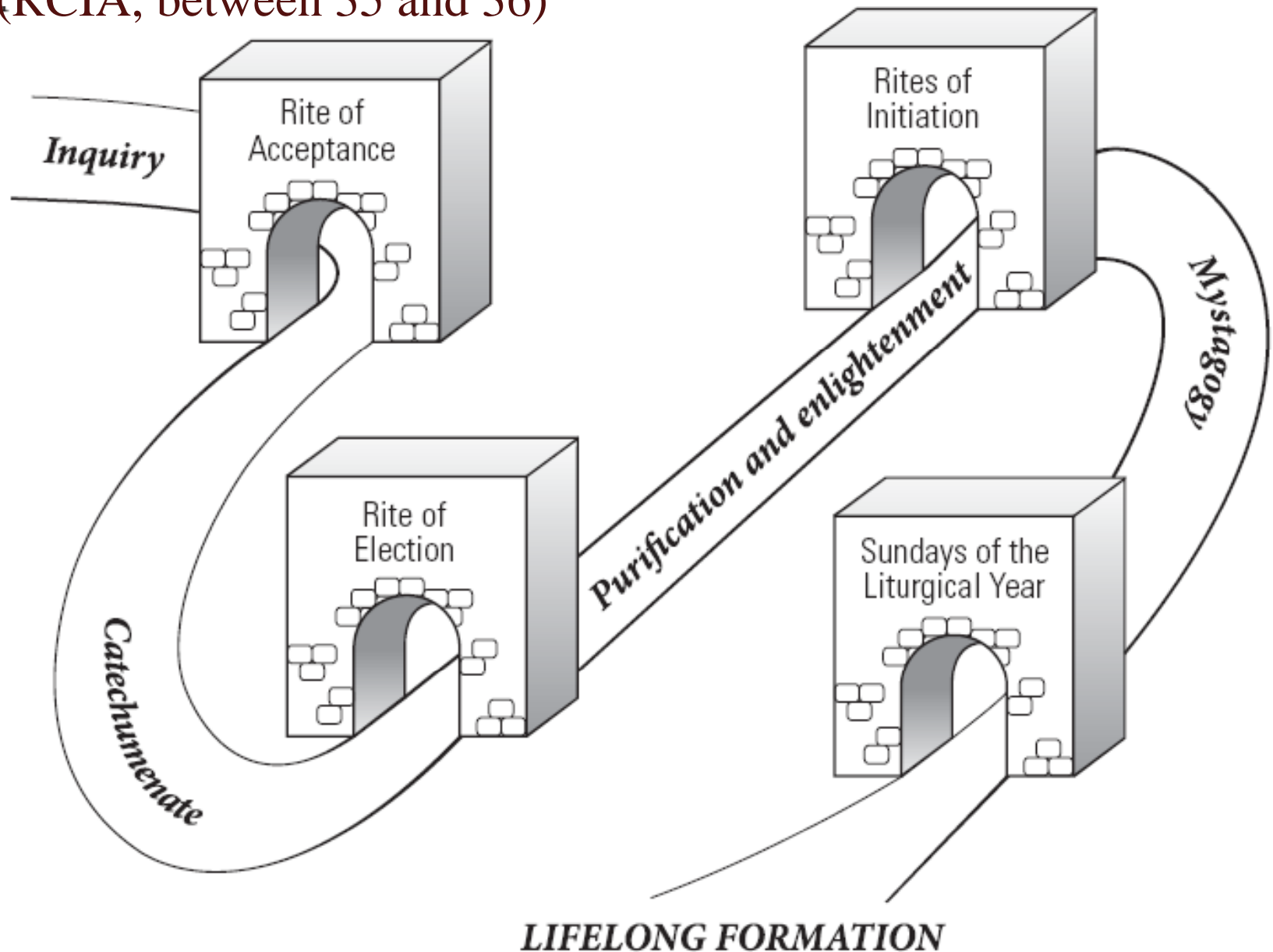


To uncover and heal,
bring out and strengthen

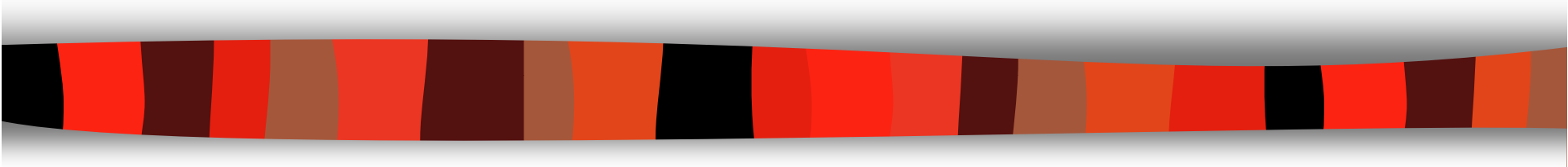


The Journey of Faith and Conversion

(RCIA, between 35 and 36)



Scrutinies



RCIA 20, 141-146, 150-
156, 164-170, 171-177



What's what in the RCIA

■ “scrutinize”

- What does this mean?
- What/who in the rite “scrutinizes”?

■ “exorcize”

- reinforces the scrutinies
- frees the elect from the effects of sin and influence of the devil
- they receive strength and open their heart



What must happen before rite?

Would doing the rite now reflect the reality? (RCIA 142 [120])

Scrutinies

Elect ask for the three sacraments of initiation

Elect have intention of achieving an intimate knowledge of Christ and his Church

Elect expect to progress:

- in genuine self-knowledge

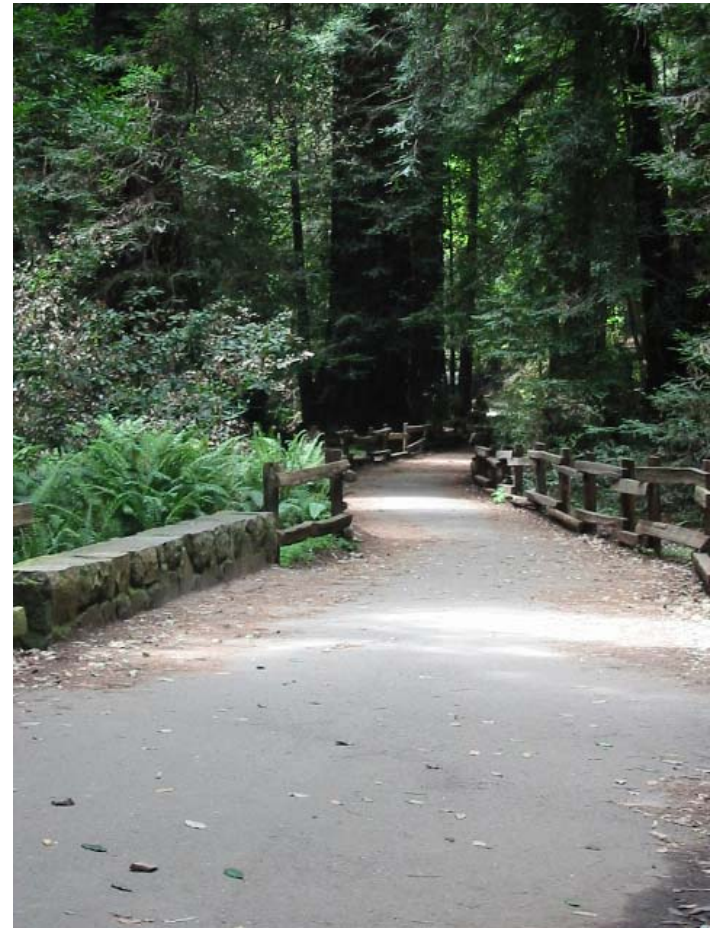
- through serious examination of their lives

- and true repentance

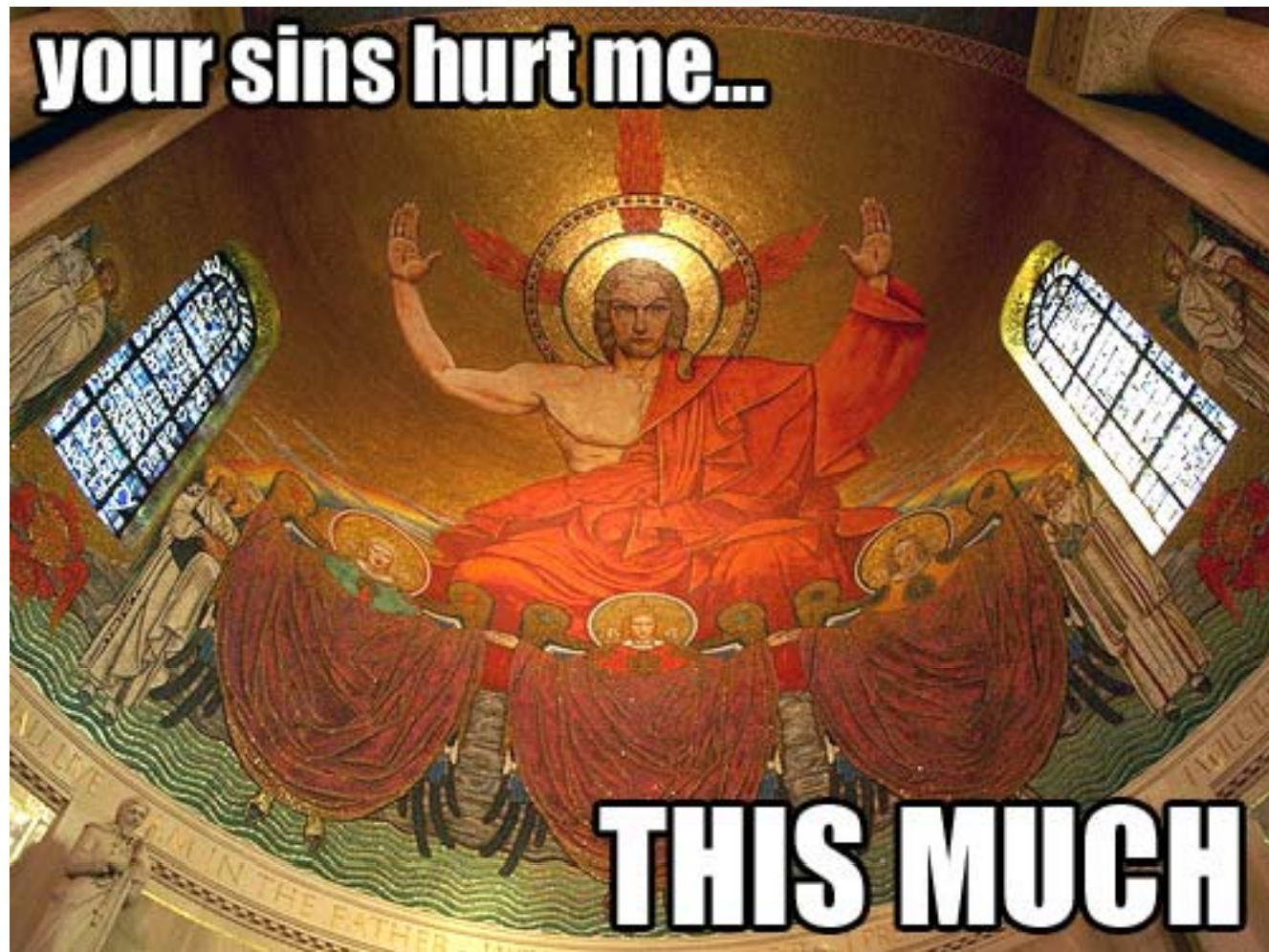
What Scrutinies ritualize? (RCIA 141)

What do they *do*? (How do they do this?)

- The scrutinies are for self-searching and repentance
- They uncover and then heal
- They bring out and strengthen



What Scrutinies are not...





What Scrutinies ritualize? (RCIA 143)

What do they *do*? (How do they do this?)

- They inspire in the elect a desire for purification and redemption by Christ
- *By means of these rites*, the elect
 - are instructed gradually about the mystery of sin
- *By means of these rites*, the elect
 - are filled with Christ the redeemer, who is
 - the living water,
 - the light of the world,
 - the resurrection and the life
- This is “progressive” prayer (three movements; one rite)

No shortcuts to conversion

(RCIA 20)

- For serious reasons, the Bishop may dispense the elect from *one* of the scrutinies
- For really, really serious reasons, the Bishop may dispense from *two* of the scrutinies



When does rite happen? (RCIA 146, 20)

- Third, Fourth, Fifth Sundays of Lent
 - Always use Year A readings for these Sundays of Lent, even when scrutinies are celebrated at different times
- Why?



What are the primary symbols of the Scrutinies?



- Word / Intercession
- Posture / Gesture
 - Kneeling / standing
 - Laying on of Hands
- Silence
- Godparents / Assembly



What about the baptized?

- Why don't the baptized candidates also get scrutinized in the Scrutinies?
 - Note RCIA 463: there is no combined rite; there is no exorcism in the Penitential Rite for baptized candidates
- In fact, aren't we all scrutinized in this rite?
 - Note RCIA 145: the faithful derive benefit and join in the intercessions for elect



Options and Adaptations

- Unbaptized children: RCIA 281-290
- Baptized Christians: RCIA 459-472
 - Penitential Rite (optional)
 - Similar in style, but not the same in purpose as Scrutiny
- Unbaptized & baptized: no combined rite



Learn more at:

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