

What Happens at Confirmation

1. Presentation of the Candidates

The Parish Priest presents the candidates to the Bishop.

He tells him that they are well prepared for this Sacrament and calls each candidate by name.

The candidates come forward to the sanctuary and stand before the Bishop.

2. Homily

The Bishop gives a short homily explaining the readings and helping the candidates to get a better understanding of the Sacrament.



4. Laying on of hands

Bishop: My dear friends in Baptism, God our Father gave the new birth of eternal life to his chosen sons and daughters.

Let us pray to our Father, that He will pour out the Holy Spirit to strengthen his sons and daughters with his gifts and anoint them to be more like Christ, the Son of God.

Bishop:

All powerful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by water and the Holy Spirit you freed your sons and daughters from sin, and gave them new life.

Send your Holy Spirit upon them to be their Helper and Guide.

Give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of right judgement and courage, the spirit of knowledge and reverence.

Fill them with the spirit of wonder and awe in your presence. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

3. Renewal of Baptismal Promises and Profession of Faith

The candidates stand and publicly profess their faith in God.

Bishop: Do you reject Satan, and all his works, and all his empty promises?

Candidates: I do.

Bishop: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?

Candidates: I do.

Bishop: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died and was buried, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?

Candidates: I do.

Bishop: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life, who came upon the apostles at Pentecost and today is given to you sacramentally in Confirmation?

Candidates: I do.

Bishop: Do you believe in the Holy Catholic Church, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting?

Candidates: I do.

Bishop: This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church. We are proud to profess it in Christ Jesus our Lord.

All: Amen!

5. Anointing with Chrism

Each candidate goes up to the Bishop. His sponsor places his right hand on the candidate's shoulder.

The Bishop dips his right thumb in the chrism oil and makes the sign of the cross on his/her forehead.

Bishop: (name), be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit!"

Candidate: Amen

Bishop: Peace be with you!

Candidate: And with your spirit.

