

RITE OF CONFIRMATION DURING MASS

The Liturgy of the Word

20 The Liturgy of the Word is celebrated in the ordinary time way. The readings may be taken in whole or in part from the Mass of the day or from the texts for Confirmation in the Lectionary for Mass (nos 764-768) and listed in Chapter V, part III, p. 372.

Sacrament of Confirmation

PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES

21 After the Gospel the Bishop and Priests who will be ministers of the sacrament with him take their seats. The Parish Priest (pastor) or another Priest, Deacon, or catechist presents the candidates for Confirmation according to the custom of the region. If possible, each candidate is called by name and comes individually to the sanctuary. If the candidates are children, they are accompanied by one of their sponsors or parents and stand before the celebrant. If there are very many candidates, they are not called by name, but simply take a suitable place before the Bishop.

HOMILY

22 The Bishop then gives a brief Homily.

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES

23 After the Homily the candidates stand and the Bishop questions them:

Bishop:

**Do you renounce Satan,
and all his works,
and all his empty show?**

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,
suffered death and was buried,
rose again from the dead
and is 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.

The Bishop accepts their profession of Faith by proclaiming the faith of the Church:

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

The whole congregation replies:

Amen.

For This is our faith, some other formula may be substituted, or the community may express its faith in an appropriate song.

LAYING ON OF HANDS

24 The concelebrating Priests stand near the Bishop. He faces the people and, with hands joined, sings or says:

**My dear Friends
in Baptism God our Father
gave 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.**

All pray in silence for a brief period.

25 The Bishop and the Priests who will minister the Sacrament with him lay hands upon all the candidates (by extending their hands over them). The Bishop alone sings or says:

**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.
Through Christ our Lord.**

R. Amen.

ANOINTING WITH CHRISM

26 The Deacon brings the Chrism to the Bishop. Each candidate goes to the Bishop, or the Bishop may go to the individual candidates. The one who presented the candidate places his (her) right hand on the latter's shoulder and gives the candidate's name to the Bishop; or the candidate may give his (her) own name.

27 The Bishop dips his right thumb in the Chrism and makes the Sign of the Cross on the forehead of the one to be confirmed, as he says:

N. Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

The newly confirmed replies:

Amen.

The Bishop says:

Peace be with you.

The newly confirmed replies:

And with your spirit.

28 If Priests assist the Bishop in conferring the Sacrament, all vessels of Chrism are brought to the Bishop by the Deacon or by other ministers. Each of the Priests comes to the Bishop, who gives him a vessel of Chrism. The candidates go to the Bishop or the Priest, or the Bishop and Priests may go to the candidates. The anointing is done as described above (no. 27).

29 During the anointing an appropriate song may be sung. After the anointing the Bishop and the Priests wash their hands.

The Profession of Faith is omitted, since it has already been made.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER OR PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

30 The Universal Prayer, or the Prayer of the Faithful, follows, in this or similar form determined by the competent authority.

Bishop:

**My dear friends,
let us be one in prayer to God our Father
as we are one in the faith, hope and love his Spirit gives.**

Deacon or minister:

**For these sons and daughters of God,
confirmed by the gift of the Spirit,
that they may give witness to Christ
by lives built on faith and love,
let us pray to the Lord:**

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

Deacon or minister:

**For their parents and godparents
who led them in faith
that by word and example
they may always encourage them
to follow the way of Jesus Christ,
let us pray to the Lord:**

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

Deacon or minister:

**For the holy Church of God,
in union with N. our Pope, N. our Bishop,
and all Bishops, that God,
who gather us together by the Holy Spirit,
may help us grow in unity of faith and love
until his Son returns in glory,
let us pray to the Lord:**

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

Deacon or minister:

**For all men and women,
of every race and nation,
that they may acknowledge the one God as Father,
and in the bond of common fellowship
seek his kingdom,
which is peace and joy in the Holy Spirit,
let us pray to the Lord:**

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

Bishop:

**God our Father,
you sent your Holy Spirit upon the Apostles,
and through them and their successors
you give the Spirit to your people.
May his work begun at Pentecost
continue to grow in the hearts of all who believe.
Through Christ our Lord.**

R. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

31 After the Universal Prayer (Prayer of the Faithful) the Liturgy of the Eucharist is celebrated according to the Order of the Mass, with these changes:
a) the Profession of Faith is omitted, since it has already been made;
b) some of the newly confirmed may join those who bring the gifts to the altar;
c) when Eucharistic prayers I, II, or III are used, the proper intercessions are said, as indicated (cf. Chapter V, part I, and Ritual Masses “For the Conferral of Confirmation”).

32 Adults who are confirmed, their sponsors, parents, wives and husbands, and catechists may receive Communion under both Kinds.

The Concluding Rite

33 Instead of the usual blessing at the end of Mass, the following blessing or the Prayer over the People is used:

SOLEMN BLESSING AT THE END OF MASS

The Deacon or minister says the following invitation:

Bow down for the Blessing

The Bishop, with hands extended over the newly confirmed, says:

**May God the Father almighty bless you,
whom he has made his adopted sons and daughters
reborn from water and the Holy Spirit,
and may he keep you worthy of his fatherly love.**

R. Amen.

**May his Only Begotten Son,
who promised that the Spirit of truth would abide in his Church,
bless you, and confirm you by his power
in the confession of the true faith.**

R. Amen.

**May the Holy Spirit,
who kindles the fire of charity in the hearts of disciples,
bless you and lead you blameless and gathered as one,
into the joy of the Kingdom of God.**

R. Amen.

And he blesses all the people, adding:

**And may almighty God bless all of you, who are gathered here, the Father, +
and the Son, + and the Holy + Spirit.**

R. Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Instead of the preceding blessing, the Prayer over the People may be used.
The Deacon or minister says the following invitation:

Bow down for the blessing.

The Bishop, with hands extended over the newly confirmed and the people
says:

**Confirm, O God,
what you have brought about in us,
and preserve in the hearts of your faithful
the gifts of the Holy Spirit:
may they never be ashamed
to confess Christ crucified before the world
and by devoted charity
may they ever fulfil his commands.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.**

R. Amen.

**And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, + and the Son, + and the Holy + Spirit,
come down on you remain with you for ever.**

R. Amen.