

2026 REVISION

Form A Sacrament of Confirmation for Youth

- ✓ IMMEDIATE PREPARATION
- ✓ CHOOSING SCRIPTURE
- ✓ RITUAL



NUMBER OF CANDIDATES - for the Sacrament of Confirmation will determine the type of celebration that will be used. The parish may choose either Confirmation Within Mass OR Confirmation Without of Mass. The number of Candidates for a Mass is **not to exceed 75**. If there are more than 75 candidates, the liturgy will be Confirmation Without Mass. Make certain to schedule as many celebrations that will accommodate the number of candidates that your parish has. Scheduling should be done through the Executive Assistant to the Bishop at eespinoz@cathdal.org. Please send the type of celebrations, the number of celebrations, how many candidates per celebration and the parish's desired dates. Dates will be assigned according to the bishops' schedules.

FORM B - Form B is a fillable form and can be completed electronically on the computer. Save with your parish's name and date of Confirmations and send as a .pdf to worship@cathdal.org at least 3 weeks before your scheduled Confirmation. All blanks on the form must be completed; the parish music director must assist as he/she will have information to complete all the blanks on this form.

SCRIPTURE FOR CONFIRMATION - If the Confirmation Mass is scheduled for 4 p.m. or later on Saturday, then you must use the readings of Sunday **[If there is not a regular Saturday Mass 4 p.m. or later, then you may CHOOSE from the list of readings on Form B.]** If the celebration is outside of Mass, the readings from the Confirmation Ritual Mass can be used.

- If the Confirmation Mass is scheduled on a holy day of obligation, then the readings must be of the holy day of obligation.

Questions? Contact the Office of Worship

Jeanne Marie Miles | jmiles@cathdal.org | 214-379-2879

- ONLY THE GOSPEL READING, regardless of day or feast, may be proclaimed in 2 languages, one-after-the-other. The first and second readings should be proclaimed in one language, but they may be proclaimed in different languages for a bilingual celebration: i.e. one in English and one in another language.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL - The bishops request that some of the intercessions from the ritual book be used and adding TWO intercessions for the parish's needs, for a total of no more than six intercessions. If a deacon is present and exercising his ministry, he is to announce the intercessions. If a deacon is not present to announce the intercessions, one lay minister may do so.

DEACONS - If a bishop is the principal celebrant, (or Abbot Verhalen, who is the equivalent of a bishop) then you should have at least one Deacon of the Mass, as a courtesy to the bishop; the use of two Deacons is acceptable: Deacon of the Word and Deacon of the Altar.

RITUAL – The candidates for Confirmation should be versed in the various parts of The Order of Confirmation, especially those pertaining to their responses. **Regular practice of their responses should happen throughout their preparation so that candidates for Confirmation will know the responses and are comfortable in dialoging with the bishops during the conferral of Confirmation.** In addition, they should be trained in the expectation of reverence when in Mass; they must be prepared for full, active participation throughout the whole liturgical celebration by knowing when to place their hands together in prayer and other postures used throughout the Mass. Candidates for Confirmation should also know how to sign themselves with holy water when entering and exiting the church.

LITURGICAL DECORUM – The dress of the candidates for Confirmation and sponsors should be appropriate and modest for the festive and solemn occasion. White albs may be worn by the candidates, as a reminder of Baptism. The use of red Confirmation robes is inappropriate, since they are easily confused with graduation robes. Confirmation stoles are never used, since the stole is a liturgical vestment distinct to an ordained minister. There should be no gum chewing by the candidates for Confirmation, catechists, or anyone attending the celebration.

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SPONSORS – The sponsors are to understand both the canonical requirements (CIC Can. 874 §1) and function of a sponsor and should be prepared to exercise this function in the life of the one to be confirmed. They are to accompany the Confirmandi in the procession toward the altar. Sponsors are not to have their hand on the confirmand's shoulder during processions as this may create a tripping hazard.

ANOINTING – When approaching the Bishop for the Anointing with Chrism, the sponsors should not place their hand on the Confirmand's right shoulder until he or she is in front of the bishop in order to prevent any trip hazard. Catechists or staff should not interrupt the flow of the procession by stopping candidates when processing toward the bishop.

SAINT'S NAME – It is the custom of this Diocese that candidates for Confirmation choose a saint to research and that they will embody a model and intercessor. The doctrine of the Communion of Saints should be thoroughly explained to the candidates for Confirmation as part of their catechesis. Keeping with the wonderful spiritual journey that is Confirmation preparation, they need to be able to articulate to the Bishop what they find inspiring about that saint they chose. Choices of Confirmation patron saints should be done in a spirit of humble piety and gratitude for those men and women who have gone before us in faith. When making the choice of patron saint, any motivations contrary to Church teachings are to be purified.

NAME CARD - Each candidate for Confirmation is to have his/her Confirmation name printed in large-point type font on a card. The sponsor will show it to the bishop as they approach the anointing with Chrism and then hand the card to the bishop's Master of Ceremonies.

HOSPITALITY - Please publish a worship aid for your Confirmation celebration as a courtesy to visitors and guests, this helps them follow the flow of the liturgy, and aids participation. The ministry of Hospitality for your church is to welcome visitors and guests. Warm hospitality evangelizes.

CHRISM - The bishop will bring his own Holy Chrism, but you may want to have some readily available if needed. If your parish needs fresh Chrism, please contact the Office of Worship to make arrangements to get Chrism that has been recently consecrated. Also, you may contact us if your parish vessels need to be refilled with Holy Oils.

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