



Pastoral Guidance
for the Preparation and Celebration
of the Sacrament of Confirmation

Guidelines, Procedures, Resources

Appendix 6 – Template 1
Order for the Conferral of
Confirmation without Mass

Normally Cover Page
(Delete Current content)

Normally Inside Cover Page

Template Notes

This master template is offered for your assistance. It provides you with the general structure and formatting for the liturgy and much of the text. It is for you to adapt to suit your community.

These notes are to be deleted to make space for other things you wish to include on the inside cover.

This template:

- is for confirmation without Mass;
- is a Master Copy template and therefore includes all the structure and elements of the liturgy and detailed rubrics that explain everything that is to happen;
- presumes there is no deacon. Adjustments will need to be made if there is a deacon present;
- presumes the Bishop is presiding. All references to the mitre and crozier, and the blessing of the minister (unless a Deacon) before the gospel need to be deleted if the VG or another priest is presiding.
- when viewed electronically, the styles listed at the top of the page are embedded into the template. Using these will make formatting easier. To amend a style, modify it in the list of styles and it will automatically be amended throughout the document.

Styles are listed as:

Lit Heading 1, 2 and 3

Lit Style 1 and 2, rubrics and copyright.

- **green text gives directions or explanations for you and should be deleted from your copy;**
- includes an Organisation Sheet at the end which may be of assistance. Adjust it to suit your needs.

Please consider the parish practice regarding 'Acknowledgement of Country' and include this ahead of the gathering hymn as appropriate.

When inserting liturgical texts please retain the sense lines. Also, please retain the spacing between elements. This helps the presider.

Optional elements for our diocese are included in the appendices of the diocesan *Guidelines for the Preparation of the Sacrament of Confirmation*. These are:

- 'Ritual for the Presentation of Symbols' which may be included in the Introductory Rite for the *Order of Confirmation Without Mass*.
- Simplified version of the 'Renewal of Baptismal Promises' (See Guideline no. 9)

See also the forms to be completed when sending confirmation liturgies to the Bishop's/liturgy office:

- *Confirmation Liturgy Advice Form*
- *Liturgy Outline 1* which may accompany the advice form in place of a Master Copy.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss any of this, please to contact the Diocesan Liturgy Co-ordinator as noted below.

With thanks,

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The Introductory Rites

Gathering Hymn *Please stand*

As the gathering hymn begins the liturgical procession moves to the sanctuary as follows: ...

Upon reaching the sanctuary, the other ministers make the usual reverence to the altar and move to their position. The bishop gives his mitre and crozier to the servers.

Amend the rubrics above to indicate what is to happen for the procession.

Insert words to hymn here.

Greeting

Bishop: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Bishop: Peace be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Introduction

Under normal circumstances this is the opportunity for a brief introduction to the liturgy, either by the presider, or it could involve a welcome to the Bishop/VG from the community.

If however, in lieu of the bishop or vicar general, another priest has been delegated to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation, the Letter of Delegation is read by the most appropriate leader in the parish. e.g. the parish priest if he is not the delegate, or if he is the delegate, the letter might be read by the chair of the Parish Pastoral Council. In this

circumstance the introductory comments and/or welcome would follow the reading of the Letter of Delegation.

Please add rubrics to indicate what is happening.

The Asperges – Rite for Sprinkling with Holy Water

The bishop moves to stand near the Baptismal Font. A server has the vessels to be filled with holy water.

Bishop: Dear friends, we come together to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation, an important step in the process of Christian Initiation.

May this baptismal water remind us of the promises we made at our baptism. As we use it in this sprinkling rite, let us, through the power of God's Spirit, be healed of our brokenness and renewed in faithfulness and love.

The bishop takes water from the font and moves through the Church sprinkling the community with holy water. Music or an appropriate refrain accompanies the ritual action.

Insert words to any refrain being used here.

Upon returning the bishop goes to the font, tips the remaining water in and then returns to the chair. When all is ready he continues.

Bishop: May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

Collect

Bishop: Let us pray

Pause for silent prayer

Insert the text for the Collect keeping the sense lines as set out in the Missal.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Please be seated. The bishop receives his mitre from the server and puts it on.

Celebration of God's Word

First Reading

A reading from ...

Insert the first reading here.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Pause for quiet reflection.

Responsorial Psalm

Insert the Psalm here. Ensure it is set out as it will be prayed. e.g. indicating repeats, cantor parts, assembly parts.

Pause for quiet reflection.

Gospel Acclamation

Please stand

As the acclamation begins the minister goes to the bishop for a blessing, then processes to the altar, takes up the Book of the Gospels and processes to the Ambo. When the bishop stands he removes his mitre and hands it to the server.

Please note only a Deacon goes to the VG for a blessing.

Insert the Gospel Acclamation here ensuring it is set out as it is to be prayed.

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to ...

The bishop receives his crozier from the server.

Insert the Gospel here.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Please note the Book of the Gospel is not taken to the Bishop to reverence. We are retaining this action for Mass.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Presentation of Candidates

Please be seated

The bishop and other ministers take their seats. The bishop receives his mitre from the server and puts it on.

When all is ready the Bishop may stand and remains at the chair. He receives his crozier from the server. A member of the Sacraments of Initiation team calls each candidate by name.

The presenter calls each candidate by name. The candidates stand in their places when called and remain standing until invited to sit.

Amend or extend the rubrics regarding the presentation of candidates, adding any text associated with this. The Bishop remains at the chair for this.

Homily

Renewal of Baptismal Promises

After the homily, the bishop invites the candidates to stand and then questions them. The candidates respond together.

Bishop: ...

Bishop: Do you renounce Satan, and all his works and 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, 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 today, through the Sacrament of Confirmation, is given to you in a special way, just as he was given to the Apostles on the day of Pentecost?

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.

The Laying on of Hands

The Bishop removes his mitre and hands it and his crozier to the server, then (while the Priests associated with him remain by his side) standing, facing the people, with hands joined, says:

Bishop: Dearly beloved,
let us pray to God the almighty Father,
for these, his adopted sons and daughters,
already born again to eternal life in Baptism,
that he will graciously pour out the Holy Spirit upon them
to confirm them with his abundant gifts,
and through his anointing
conform them more fully to Christ, the Son of God.

All pray in silence for a short time.

*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 says:*

Bishop: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who brought these your servants to new birth
by water and the Holy Spirit,
freeing them from sin:
send upon them, O Lord, the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete;
give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and fortitude,
the spirit of knowledge and piety;
fill them with the spirit of the fear of the Lord.
Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Anointing with Chrism

The bishop receives his mitre from the server and puts it on.

Amend the following rubrics to outline the process for confirmation.

The Chrism is brought 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 right hand on the latter's shoulder and gives the candidate's name to the bishop, or the candidate may give his or her own name.

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:

Bishop: N., be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

Child: Amen.

The bishop touches the cheek of the newly confirmed as a sign of peace.

Bishop: Peace be with you.

Child: And with your Spirit.

Music or an appropriate hymn may accompany the anointing.

If a hymn is used it is inserted here.

The Universal Prayer *Please stand*

The bishop removes his mitre and hands it to the server.

Insert Introductory statement and petitions. There is no concluding prayer at the end of the petitions.

The Recitation of the Lord's Prayer

Using these or similar words the bishop introduces the Our Father.

Bishop: My brothers and sisters,
the power of the Holy Spirit enables us to pray
and to call God Our Father.
Let us gather together our petitions,
praying with one voice,

as the Lord Jesus Christ taught us.

The bishop extends his hands, and, together with the Assembly, continues:

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

The Concluding Rite

Presentation of Certificates

The bishop addresses the sponsors, inviting them to present the newly confirmed with their certificates.

Special Greeting

This is only included if there are people to be greeted by the bishop as outlined in the Diocesan Guidelines for Confirmation item 14. People would only be presented to the bishop and vicar general, not to delegates.

Greeting

The bishop receives his mitre from the server and puts it on.

Bishop: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Solemn Blessing

Choose either the Solemn Blessing or the Prayer Over the People
(Missal pg. 1188)

Bishop: Bow down for the blessing.

Bishop: May God the Father almighty bless you
whom he has made his sons and daughters
reborn by the Holy Spirit,
and may he keep you worthy of his fatherly love.

All: Amen.

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

All: Amen.

Bishop: 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

All: Amen.

The bishop receives his crozier from the server.

Bishop: May almighty God bless all of you who are gathered here,
the Father, ✠ and the Son, ✠ and the Holy ✠ Spirit.

All: Amen.

OR

Prayer over the People

Bishop: Bow down for the blessing.

Bishop: 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.

All: Amen.

The bishop receives his crozier from the server.

Bishop: May almighty God bless all of you who are gathered here,
the Father, ✠ and the Son, ✠ and the Holy ✠ Spirit.

All: Amen.

Dismissal

Bishop: Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Recessional Hymn

Insert hymn here

Acknowledgement

All hymns/mass parts used in the liturgy are to be acknowledged where they occur in the people's booklet or powerpoint. Please see the template and other resources on the diocesan [website](#) for further information.

An acknowledgement of the Missal, Order of Confirmation and Scripture texts must also be made. What appears below incorporates most things you will need. Delete the scripture acknowledgement you are not using and any other acknowledgements that are unnecessary. Please note the very strict conditions for amending any text covered by copyright.

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OR

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Organisation sheet

Presider:

Concelebrants:

Deacon

Servers:

Music:

INTRODUCTORY RITE

Entrance Procession:

Processional Cross:

Candles:

Book of the Gospels:

Introduction:

Sprinkling Rite:

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading:

Psalm:

Second Reading:

Gospel:

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Presentation of Candidates:

Homily:

Universal Prayer:

CONCLUDING RITE

Presentation of Certificates:

Special Greeting: