

Pastoral Guidance

for the Preparation and Celebration

of the Sacrament of Confirmation

Guidelines, Procedures, Resources

Appendix 2 – Template 2

Order for the Conferral of Confirmation within 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. Additional texts can be copied from the *Order of Confirmation*, which is available at [www.liturgyhelp.com](http://www.liturgyhelp.com). 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 within Mass and presumes it is a Sunday liturgy;
* 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;
* when viewed electronically in Microsoft Word, 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 for you and should be deleted from your Master Copy;
* when inserting other liturgical texts retain the sense lines of the text
* 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.

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*. Please refer to Appendix 3 – Template 3.

Please upload your Master Copy of the liturgy with your Preparation Checklist. We will print it and insert in the Confirmation Presider’s folder.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss any of this, please to contact me.

With thanks,

Monica Barlow

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The Introductory Rites

Gathering Hymn Please stand

Place rubrics regarding the procession here.

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 from the community.

If however, in lieu of the bishop, another bishop or 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.**

Gloria

The exact words of the sung setting should be reprinted in place of the text below.

Glory to God in the highest,

and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,

we bless you,

we adore you,

we glorify you,

we give you thanks for your great glory,

Lord God, heavenly King,

O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,

Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

you take away the sins of the world,

have mercy on us;

you take away the sins of the world,

receive our prayer;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father,

have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,

you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High,

Jesus Christ,

with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

Collect

Bishop: Let us pray

Pause for silent prayer

Insert the text for the Collect of the day 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 Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

A reading from …

Insert the first reading for the day 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.

Second Reading

A reading from …

Insert the second reading here.

The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Pause for quiet reflection.

Gospel Acclamation Please stand

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 …

Insert the Gospel here.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sacrament of Confirmation

Presentation of Candidates Please be seated

The bishop and other ministers take their seats. The presenter calls each candidate by name. The candidates stand in their places when called and remain standing until invited to come forward and gather in front of the bishop.

Amend or extend the rubrics above to indicate what is to happen. Also add any text associated with the Presentation.

Homily

The bishop moves to a position in front of the altar and begins his homily, addressing the children who have gathered in front of him. When the bishop concludes his address to the children he will ask them to return to their seats. The bishop will then proceed to address the assembly.

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 concelebrating priests stand near the bishop. He faces the people and 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

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

Insert introductory statement, petitions and concluding prayer here.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

The Preparation of the Offerings

If a hymn is being used for the Preparation of the Offerings it is inserted here. Also if using a hymn or the prayers are being prayed quietly, delete the people’s response ‘Blessed be God forever’ from the following prayers.

After receiving the bread and wine the bishop and deacons move to the altar, where the bishop takes the vessel holding the bread, and holding it slightly above the altar, says inaudibly:

Bishop: Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,

for through your goodness we have received

the bread we offer you:

fruit of the earth and work of human hands,

it will become for us the bread of life.

He then places the paten with the bread on the corporal.

**All: Blessed be God forever.**

The deacon, or the priest, pours wine and a little water into the chalice, saying quietly:

By the mystery of this water and wine

may we come to share in the divinity of Christ

who humbled himself to share in our humanity.

Taking the chalice and holding it slightly above the altar, the bishop says inaudibly:

Bishop: Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,

for through your goodness we have received

the wine we offer you:

fruit of the vine and work of human hands,

it will become our spiritual drink.

Then he places the chalice on the corporal.

**All: Blessed be God forever.**

The bishop bows and says inaudibly:

Bishop: With humble spirit and contrite heart

may we be accepted by you, O Lord,

and may our sacrifice in your sight this day

be pleasing to you, Lord God.

The bishop washes his hands, saying inaudibly:

Bishop: Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity

and cleanse me from my sin.

Prayer over the Offerings Please stand

Bishop: Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters),

that my sacrifice and yours

may be acceptable to God,

the almighty Father.

**All: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands**

**for the praise and glory of his name,**

**for our good**

**and the good of all his holy Church.**

Insert the Prayer Over the Offerings here

Through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

**Eucharistic Prayer II (Preface XXX)**

Insert the Eucharistic Prayer and Preface here.

Communion Rite Please stand

Bishop: My brothers and sisters,

The power of the Holy Spirit

enables us to pray and to call God Our Father.

So let us pray with one voice,

as the Lord Jesus Christ taught us.

**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.**

Bishop: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,

graciously grant peace in our days,

that, by the help of your mercy,

we may be always free from sin

and safe from all distress,

as we await the blessed hope

and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**All: For the kingdom,**

**the power and the glory are yours**

**now and for ever.**

The bishop, with hands extended, says aloud:

Bishop: Lord Jesus Christ,

who said to your Apostles:

Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,

look not on our sins,

but on the faith of your Church,

and graciously grant her peace and unity

in accordance with your will.

Who live and reign for ever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

The bishop extends and then joins his hands, and continues:

Bishop: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**All: And with your spirit.**

Bishop: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

The assembly exchanges a sign of peace.

The bishop then takes the host, breaks it over the paten, and places a small piece in the chalice, saying quietly:

Bishop: May this mingling of the Body and Blood

of our Lord Jesus Christ

bring eternal life to us who receive it.

Meanwhile, the assembly prays:

**All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,**

**have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,**

**have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,**

**grant us peace.**

The bishop, with hands joined, continues inaudibly:

Bishop: May the receiving of your Body and Blood,

Lord Jesus Christ,

not bring me to judgement and condemnation,

but through your loving mercy

be for me protection in mind and body

and a healing remedy.

The bishop genuflects, takes the host and, holding it slightly raised above the paten or above the chalice, while facing the people, says aloud:

Bishop: Behold the Lamb of God,

behold him who takes away the sins of the world.

Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**All: Lord, I am not worthy**

**that you should enter under my roof,**

**but only say the word**

**and my soul shall be healed.**

The following communion hymns are to be used only as needed for the communion procession

Insert Communion Hymn(s) here

After communion, a period of silence is observed.

Prayer after Communion Please stand.

Bishop: Let us pray.

Insert the prayer here.

Through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

The Concluding Rites

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

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.**

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.**

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](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/catholic-faith/liturgy/liturgy-resources) for further information.

An acknowledgement of the Missal, Oder 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. Please note the very strict conditions for amending any text covered by copyright.

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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:**

**SACRMENT OF CONFIRMATION**

**Presentation of Candidates:**

**Homily:**

**Universal Prayer:**

**LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

**Presentation of the Offerings (2):**

**Ministers of Communion:**

**CONCLUDING RITE**

**Presentation of Certificates:**

**Special Greeting:**