

Pastoral Guidance

for the Preparation and Celebration

of the Sacrament of Confirmation

Guidelines, Procedures, Resources

Appendix 3 – Template 3

Order for the Conferral of Confirmation without Mass

(Optional Introductory Rites including Presentation of Symbols)

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 Introductory Rites of 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 use in conjunction with the template for Confirmation without Mass;
* is a Master Copy template and therefore includes all the structure and elements of the Introductory Rites 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

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

This is an optional elements for our diocese and is included in the appendices of the diocesan *Guidelines for the Preparation of the Sacrament of Confirmation*:

* Appendix 3: ‘Ritual for the Presentation of Symbols’ which may be included in the Introductory Rite for the *Order of Confirmation Without Mass*.

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 contact me.

With thanks,

Paul Mason

Coordinator of Liturgy and Ministry

E: [paul.mason@dow.org.au](mailto:paul.mason@dow.org.au)

P: 02 4222 2462

Optional Rite: Presentation of Symbols

The following ritual is for use in the Introductory Rite in *The Conferral of Confirmation without Mass*.

It is presented here with the same formatting as the master copy template and so can be copied and pasted straight into your master copy.

The focus of the following outline of the Introductory Rite is the fourth element, the Presentation of Symbols. Preparation for this element begins in the Entrance Procession. That is why the entire Introductory Rite is included here. It is to be adapted by the community to suit its circumstances.

Green text is instruction for those preparing the liturgy and is to be deleted from the completed Master Copy.

The Introductory Rites

Gathering Hymn Please stand

*The Paschal candle is in position and lit.*

*As the gathering hymn begins the liturgical procession moves to the sanctuary as follows: cross bearer, person carrying the Oil of Chrism, person carrying the Book of the Gospels with clergy following as usual.*

Upon reaching the sanctuary, those carrying symbols move to stand in the designated place. 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.

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

*The bishop introduces the celebration.*

Presentation of Symbols *Please be seated.*

*The bishop moves to the centre and those holding the symbols face him.*

Bishop: We gather tonight as God’s holy people, his disciples who ‘put on Christ’ at baptism.

**The Light of Christ**

Reader: The Paschal Candle shines brightly reminding us that at baptism we were enlightened by Christ, promising to keep the flame of faith alive in our hearts.

Christ our light.

**All: Help us to walk always as children of the light.**

**The Cross**

*The cross bearer presents the cross to the bishop who holds it aloft as the following dialogue takes place.*

Reader: At baptism we were claimed for Christ the priest, our parents and godparents marking us with the sign of the cross.

Christ our strength.

**All: Help us to love as you love us.**

*The bishop returns the cross to the person who then places it in its usual position, moves to bow to the altar and returns to his/her place. The ritual continues when this action is complete.*

**The Word of God**

*The bearer of the Book of the Gospels presents it to the bishop who holds it aloft as the following dialogue takes place.*

Reader: At baptism the priest prayed that our ears would be open to receive the Word of God and our mouth to proclaim it.

Christ our word of life.

**All: Help us to listen to your word and pattern our lives on the Gospel.**

*The bishop returns the Book of the Gospels to the person who then places it on the altar, steps back and bows to the altar and returns to his/her place. The ritual continues when this action is complete.*

**The Holy Chrism**

*The bearer of the Holy Chrism presents it to the bishop who holds it aloft as the following dialogue takes place.*

Reader: At baptism Christ anointed us with the oil of Chrism, so that, united with all God’s people, we would remain forever a member of Christ who was anointed Priest, Prophet and King.

Tonight in the sacrament of confirmation God will again pour out the Holy Spirit upon our candidates so they will become more like Christ.

Christ our saviour.

**All: Help us to live as your disciples.**

*The bishop returns the Chrism to the person who then places it near the paschal candle and baptismal font. He/she moves to bow to the altar and returns to his/her place. The ritual continues when this action is complete.*

The Asperges – Rite for Sprinkling with Holy Water Please stand

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 Order of Confirmation, #35, 58-60.

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.

Acknowledgement

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