

Pastoral Guidance

for the Preparation and Celebration

of the Sacrament of Confirmation

Guidelines, Procedures, Resources

Appendix 1 – Template 1

Order for the Conferral of Confirmation within Liturgy of the Word

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 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;
* 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.

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 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,

Monica Barlow

Sacramental and Liturgy Consultant

E: [monica.barlow@dow.orga.au](mailto:monica.barlow@dow.orga.au)

P: 02 4222 2462

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.**

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.

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

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 sit.

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

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 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 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.

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 (Order of Confirmation, #49, or 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.

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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:**