

Sealed with the Holy Spirit



What will happen at the Confirmation Mass?

The bishop is the ordinary minister of Confirmation.

- This means that he's the normal celebrant of the sacrament

For pastoral reasons he may delegate a priest to administer the sacrament.

- With over 400 parishes in the Archdiocese of Denver, Archbishop Aquila may not come to St. Peter's, but he may send Bishop Rodriguez, or delegate another priest from one of the Archdiocesan offices (meaning not pastor at a parish)

Presentation of the Candidates

- After the Gospel the Bishop takes his seat.
- The candidates for Confirmation are presented by the Pastor
- Since there are many candidates, they are not called by name;
- The first pews will be assigned to you and your sponsor, Fr. Tomasz will ask you all to stand.

Homily or Instruction

- The bishop then gives a brief homily that is usually directed to the candidates.



Renewal of Baptismal Promises

Bishop: Do you renounce Satan and all his works and all his empty show?

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 came upon the apostles at Pentecost and today is given to you sacramentally in confirmation?

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 present: Amen.

Why we renew (say again) our baptismal promises?

Confirmation "confirms", strengthens, and perfects baptismal grace.

Parents and Godparents answer the questions on behalf of a baby being offered into baptism.

Now you take the Catholic Faith as your own, and publicly and openly profess your faith to Jesus Christ the Son of the living God who died for our sins and founded the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church.

The Laying On of Hands

“The laying of hands on the candidates by the bishop and the concelebrating priests represents the biblical gesture by which the gift of the Holy Spirit is invoked”.

The concelebrating priests stand near the bishop. He faces the people and with hands joined, says:

Bishop: My dear friends. in baptism God our Father gave the new birth of eternal life to his chosen sons and daughters.

Let us pray to our Father that he will pour out the Holy Spirit to strengthen his sons and daughters with his gifts and anoint them to be more like Christ the Son of God.

All pray in silence for a short time.

The Laying On of Hands

The bishop and the priests who will administer the sacrament with him lay hands upon all the candidates (by extending their hands over them). The bishop alone says:

All-powerful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
by water and the Holy Spirit you freed your sons and daughters from sin
and gave them new life.

Send your Holy Spirit upon them to be their Helper and Guide.

Give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of right judgment and courage,
the spirit of knowledge and reverence.

Fill them with the spirit of wonder and awe in your presence.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Anointing of Chrism

“The anointing with chrism and the accompanying words express clearly the effect of the giving of the Holy Spirit. Signed with the perfumed oil, the baptized receive the indelible character, the seal of the Lord, together with the gift of the Holy Spirit that conforms them more closely to Christ and gives them the grace of spreading ‘the sweet odor of Christ’”. The deacon brings the Chrism 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

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: “(Confirmation Name), be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

Newly confirmed: Amen.

Bishop: Peace be with you.

Newly confirmed: And with your spirit.

The newly confirmed and their sponsor return to their seat.



The remaining parts of the mass are celebrated as normal.

