



The Confirmation Ceremony

1. The presentation of the candidates

The candidates for Confirmation are called by name and come forward with their sponsor to the front of the church. The bishop will then explain what Confirmation is about.

Bishop: On the day of Pentecost, the apostles received the power of the Holy Spirit, as the Lord promised, and the power to give it to others through baptism. Bishops are successors of the apostles and therefore also have the power to give the Holy Spirit.

The gift of Holy Spirit, which you will receive in Confirmation, is a spiritual sign, which will make you like Christ.

I ask you now to renew the profession of faith made on your behalf at baptism.

2. The renewal of the baptismal vows

Bishop: Do you reject Satan and all his works and all his 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, who died, was buried and rose again?

Candidates: I do

Bishop: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, who you receive today in Confirmation?

Candidates: I do

Bishop: Do you believe in the holy, Catholic Church?

Candidates: I do

Bishop: This is our faith and the faith of the Church. We are proud to profess it in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Everyone: Amen



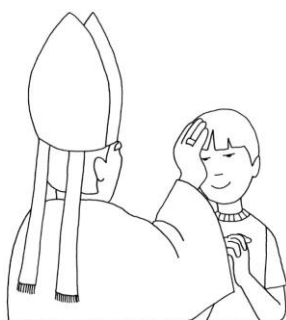
3. The laying on of hands

Bishop: Let us pray that God will pour out the Holy Spirit to strengthen his children and anoint them to be more like Christ.

The bishop lays his hands upon the candidates, extending them over their heads.

Bishop: Lord, send your Holy Spirit upon your children to be their Helper and Guide. Give them wisdom, understanding, right judgement, courage, knowledge, reverence, and the spirit of awe and wonder. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Everyone: Amen.



4. The anointing with Chrism

The bishop dips his right thumb into the chrism and makes the sign of the cross on the candidate's forehead.

Bishop: (Name), be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Candidate: Amen

Bishop: Peace be with you

Candidate: And also with you

Prayers of intercession and the liturgy of the Eucharist follow this.

5. The final blessing

At the end of the Mass, the bishop says the following blessing:

Bishop: May God bless you and watch over you with his fatherly love.

Everyone: Amen

Bishop: May Christ Jesus bless you and give you courage in professing the true faith.

Everyone: Amen

Bishop: May the Holy Spirit keep you one in faith and love and bring you to the joy of God's kingdom.

Everyone: Amen

Bishop: May almighty God bless you, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Everyone: Amen