



Confirmation Outside Mass

The order for the procession is: server with cross, 2 servers with candles, the four persons carrying the Paschal Candle, Book of Gospels/Lectionary, Chrism and water, the priest, the Bishop, the MC and the servers for the Mitre and Cross.

Those carrying the paschal candle, Book of Gospels/Lectionary, Chrism and Water move to the side at the foot of the sanctuary as the procession arrives in the sanctuary.

INTRODUCTORY RITE

Arriving at the sanctuary and before genuflecting the Bishop gives the Mitre and Crozier to the servers.

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 also with you. **(Sit)**

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

The Easter Candle is presented to the Bishop who holds it aloft. The reader says:

Reader: We praise and give thanks to God for the Light of Christ, Jesus is our life.
All: We praise you, we bless you, we thank you.

The Easter candle is placed in an appropriate place by one of the ministers.

THE WORD OF GOD

The Book of the Gospels/Lectionary is presented to the Bishop who holds it aloft. The reader says:

Reader: We praise and give thanks to God for the Holy Word. Your Word, Lord, is light to our eyes, is joy to our hearts. Help us to listen to your Word.
All: We praise you, we bless you, we thank you.

*The Book of the Gospels is placed on the altar by one of the ministers.
If the Lectionary is used it is placed on the Ambo by one of the ministers.*

HOLY CHRISM

The Holy Chrism is presented to the Bishop who holds it aloft. The reader says:

Reader: We praise and give thanks to God for the Holy Chrism.
We are to be anointed by the Spirit.

All: We praise you, we bless you, we thank you.
The Holy Chrism is placed on the Altar by one of the ministers.

SPRINKLING RITE

(Stand)

The vessel containing the water to be blessed is presented to the Bishop.

Bishop: This water reminds us of our baptism. Let us ask God to bless it. Father, bless + this water as a sign of our life in you. When we use it, free us from our sins and make us worthy to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Bishop sprinkles the congregation with holy water.

Opening Prayer

Let us pray.

Lord, fulfil your promise: send your Holy Spirit to make us witnesses before the world to the good news proclaimed by Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Bishop puts on the Mitre and sits for the first Reading

The celebration of the Word of God follows. There should be at least one reading from Lectionary for Mass with Children (Confirmation) or Celebrating with Children Volume II, No 39 or Volume III (Ritual Masses) of the Lectionary for Confirmation.

If more than one reading is chosen, then the traditional order is followed.

After the first reading there should be a psalm, a sacred song or a period of silence may be observed.

The Gospel Acclamation is sung.

Before the reading of the Gospel the Bishop stands takes off the Mitre and takes the Crozier.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

After the Gospel the Bishop puts on the Mitre and gives the Crozier to a server.

Presentation of Candidates

Most Reverend Father, in the name of our Parish Community I present these our members for Confirmation. They are well prepared for this day and come with joy to this celebration.

Candidates stand in their place when their name is called. The Bishop will then call them forward. They come and stand around the Bishop. The bishop speaks to the candidates.

Homily

The Bishop addresses the candidates

Renewal of Baptismal Profession of Faith

Bishop: Boys and girls, as we grow, we need to remind ourselves of the things that are important in our Christian life, and renew our faith in them.

Bishop: Do you believe in God the Father who loves you?

Candidates: I do.

Bishop: Do you believe in Jesus, God's Son, whose Mother was Mary?

Candidates: I do.

Bishop: Do you believe that Jesus died for you and rose to be with God the Father forever?

Candidates: I do.

Bishop: Do you believe that you will live with God forever?

Candidates: I do.

Bishop: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit who guides you in your life?

Candidates: I do.

Bishop: Do you believe that God calls you to be part of the Church?

Candidates: I do.

Bishop: Do you believe that God forgives you when you do wrong?

Candidates: I do.

Bishop: This is the faith that we all share. This is the faith we are to live together.

All: Amen.

The Bishop takes off the Mitre

Laying On of Hands

Bishop: My dear children, at your Baptism, you were welcomed into the Christian Community. Let us pray that God will give you the Holy Spirit to strengthen you with the gifts of the Spirit and make you more like Jesus our brother.

All pray silently.

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 judgement 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 Bishop puts on the Mitre

The candidates return to their places.

The bishop now addresses the congregation

Anointing with Chrism

The sponsors accompany the candidates to the bishop. The candidates stand in pairs in front of the bishop. The sponsors place their right hand on the right shoulder of the candidate.

Bishop: *N.*, be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Response: Amen.

Bishop: Peace be with you.

Response: And also with you.

After the Anointing and the washing of hands the Bishop takes off the Mitre

General Intercessions

Bishop: My dear friends, let us be one in prayer to God our Father as we are one in the faith, hope and love his Spirit gives.

Suggestion for prayers in Appendix B

Bishop: God our Father, You sent your Holy Spirit upon the apostles, and through their successors you give the Spirit to your people. May the work begun at Pentecost continue to grow in the hearts of all who believe. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Our Father

The Bishop puts on the Mitre and takes the Crozier

Prayer Over the People

Bishop: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Bishop: Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

God our Father, complete the work you have begun
and keep the gifts of your Holy Spirit
active in the hearts of your people.

Make them ready to live the gospel and eager to do your will.

May they never be ashamed to proclaim to all the world Christ crucified
living and reigning for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Bishop: May almighty God bless you, the + Father, and the + Son, and the + Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Dismissal

Bishop: Filled with the Holy Spirit, go out to tell the Good News.

All: Thanks be to God.