

**RITE OF CONFIRMATION  
LITURGY PREPARATION GUIDE**

Diocese of Fairbanks

Revised 2014

Parish \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Celebration \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

Vestment color (see Guidelines) \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Confirmandi \_\_\_\_\_

Will there be a worship aid for the assembly? \_\_\_\_\_

Who will make it? \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Ministers of Hospitality (Ushers and greeters) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Music Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Sacristan \_\_\_\_\_

**Order of Procession**

Incense bearer (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Cross bearer \_\_\_\_\_

Candle bearers \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Altar Servers (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Confirmandi and Sponsors (Make a separate list of all confirmandi)

Catechists \_\_\_\_\_

Oil bearer (optional – oil can be on credence table) \_\_\_\_\_

Book of the Gospels (Deacon) \_\_\_\_\_

(carried by lector, if no deacon is present)

Priest(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Bishop \_\_\_\_\_ Second Deacon? \_\_\_\_\_

*(If there are no deacons, a server should be responsible for the bishop's miter and staff)*

## INTRODUCTORY RITE

Gathering Song \_\_\_\_\_

Greeting by Bishop

Sprinkling Rite

Music \_\_\_\_\_

Glory to God (not used during Advent, Lent, or on weekdays)

Music \_\_\_\_\_

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading \_\_\_\_\_

Lector \_\_\_\_\_

Responsorial Psalm (cantor) \_\_\_\_\_

Music \_\_\_\_\_

Second Reading \_\_\_\_\_

Lector \_\_\_\_\_

Gospel Acclamation (no alleluias during Lent)

Music \_\_\_\_\_

Gospel \_\_\_\_\_

Proclaimed by (deacon/priest) \_\_\_\_\_

## RITE OF CONFIRMATION

*Following the Gospel*

### **PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES**

*by pastor, administrator, catechist or designated person(s)*

Presentation made by \_\_\_\_\_

*(Sample presentation-you may write your own))*

**Bishop \_\_\_\_\_, the parish community of \_\_\_\_\_ wishes to present to you its young men and women who have prepared and are ready to receive the fullness of Christian Initiation in the Sacrament of Confirmation. Each candidate has been well instructed and is accompanied by a sponsor. It is my privilege to present them to you at this time. I invite the candidates for Confirmation to please stand as they are called by name."**

*(Bishop welcomes them and invites them to be seated for his homily)*

**Homily** *(Feel free to include any information about the parish or the confirmandi that might be helpful to the bishop in preparing his homily)*

## **RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES**

*Bishop invites all the candidates to stand – not the sponsors  
Bishop leads the renewal and candidates respond to each question in a loud, clear voice “I DO”*

**Do you renounce Satan, and all his works, and all his empty show?**

*Confirmandi: I DO.*

**Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?**

*Confirmandi: I DO.*

**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?**

*Confirmandi: I DO.*

**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?**

*Confirmandi: I DO.*

**Do you believe in the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?**

*Confirmandi: I DO.*

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

*Alli: AMEN.*

## **THE LAYING ON OF HANDS**

*The confirmandi remain standing and the concelebrating Priests stand near the bishop. He faces the people and, with hands joined sings or 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 brief period.*

*In silence (no music). 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 sings or or 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. Through Christ our Lord.**

*Confirmandi respond: AMEN.*

## THE ANOINTING WITH CHRISM

*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 ( the sponsor) places his or her 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.*

*During the anointing an appropriate song may be sung or instrumental music may be played.*

*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 says:*

**N. be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.**

*Newly confirmed responds:*

**AMEN.** *(All responses should be loud and clear)*

*Bishop says:*

**Peace be with you**

*Newly confirmed responds:*

**AND WITH YOUR SPIRIT.**

*The newly confirmed and their sponsor return to their seats and the next candidate comes to the Bishop. If all the confirmandi and sponsors are standing facing the congregation, then all the confirmandi and sponsors would return to their seats as a group.*

*After the final anointing, water, lemon and towel are ready for Bishop to wash his hands.*

*The Profession of Faith is omitted, since it has already been made.*

## Universal Prayer, or Prayer of the Faithful

*The Universal Prayer, or the Prayer of the Faithful, follows, in this or a similar form determined by the competent authority.*

Intercessions will be read by \_\_\_\_\_

The response will be \_\_\_\_\_

The response will be: Sung \_\_\_\_\_ or Said \_\_\_\_\_

*See next page for Prayers of the Faithful suggestions offered in the Rite of Confirmation*

## **Prayer of the Faithful Suggestions From Rite of Confirmation**

*These or a similar form may be used.  
Be sure the Bishop receives a copy of what you are using.*

*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.**

*Deacon or minister:*

**For these sons and daughters of God, confirmed by the gift of the Spirit, that they give witness to Christ by lives built on faith and love: let us pray to the Lord.**

*Response: Lord, hear our prayer (or other similar response – sung or said)*

*Deacon or minister:*

**For their parents and godparents who led them in faith, that by word and example they may always encourage them to follow the way of Jesus Christ: let us pray to the Lord.**

*Response: Lord, hear our prayer (or other similar response – sung or said)*

*Deacon or minister:*

**For the Holy Church of God in union with N. our Pope, N. our Bishop, and all the Bishops, that God, who gathers us together by the Holy Spirit, may help us grow in unity of faith and love until his Son returns in glory: let us pray to the Lord.**

*Response: Lord, hear our prayer (or other similar response – sung or said)*

*Deacon or minister:*

**For all men and women, of every race and nation, that they may acknowledge the one God as Father, and in the bond of common fellowship seek his Kingdom, which is peace and joy in the Holy Spirit: let us pray to the Lord.**

*Response: Lord, hear our prayer (or other similar response – sung or said)*

*Bishop*

**God our Father, you sent your Holy Spirit upon the Apostles, and through them and 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. Through Christ our Lord**

*Response: Amen*

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*After the Universal Prayer (Prayer of the Faithful) the Liturgy of the Eucharist is celebrated according to the Order of Mass, with these changes:*

- a) The Profession of Faith is omitted, since it has already been made;*
- b) Some of the newly confirmed may join those who bring the gifts to the altar;*
- c) When Eucharistic Prayers I, II, or III are used, the proper intercessions are said as indicated ( cf. Chapter V, part I and Ritual Masses " For the Conferral of Confirmation").*

*If there is to be a collection, it is taken while the altar is being prepared*

### **PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS**

*Some of the newly confirmed may bring (or join those who bring) the gifts to the altar  
If money, water, or other gifts are brought to the altar, they should come first.*

*The bread and wine are always presented last.*

*Everything is presented to the Bishop who then hands it to the deacon or servers.*

*There should be a sufficient amount of bread and wine for all who will receive communion.*

*The music may continue through the washing of hands.*

Presenters of the Gifts:

Wine\_\_\_\_\_

Bread\_\_\_\_\_

Other\_\_\_\_\_

Other\_\_\_\_\_

Presentation Music\_\_\_\_\_

Will incense be used? Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

### **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

*The **Eucharistic Acclamations** are to be sung.*

Holy, Holy (*music*)\_\_\_\_\_

Memorial Acclamation (*music*)\_\_\_\_\_

Great Amen (*music*)\_\_\_\_\_

*The **Lord's Prayer and Lamb of God** may be sung or recited.*

Lord's Prayer (*sung or recited*)\_\_\_\_\_

Lamb of God (*sung or recited*)\_\_\_\_\_

## COMMUNION

*Sufficient hosts for all communicants should be consecrated during the Mass and sufficient wine should be consecrated to offer the Blood of Christ to all communicants. Hosts should not be taken from the Tabernacle unless you accidentally run out.*

*The Communion Song(s) should be well known and easy to sing*

Communion Music (1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

### Communion Ministers

*Priests and deacons who are assisting are the ordinary ministers of communion. If more ministers are needed, Eucharistic ministers may be used. If possible, have two cups for the wine for each of the containers of hosts.*

Body of Christ \_\_\_\_\_ Bishop \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Blood of Christ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## CONCLUDING RITE

*Any **announcements** are made at this time*

*The usual **rite of dismissal** takes place*

*The Bishop gives the **final blessing**, taken from the Rite of Confirmation*

*The **ministers** reverence the altar leave in the order of the Entrance procession*

*The **newly confirmed** bow to the altar from their seats and follow behind the Bishop*

*(The Book of Gospels and Chrism are NOT carried out).*

Recessional Music \_\_\_\_\_

Will there be a group photo? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

- |  |
|--|
| <p><b>At least two Weeks Before the Date of Confirmation</b><br/><b>Please send the following items to</b><br/><b>Office of the Bishop, 1316 Peger Road, Fairbanks, AK 99709</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. A copy of this completed liturgy preparation guide</li><li>2. Letters to the Bishop from each candidate</li><li>3. A list of the names of all candidates</li></ol> |
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**Consider making copies of this planner for the pastor, administrator, catechist, sacristan, music leader, and others as needed.**

## GUIDELINES FOR CELEBRATION (Condensed from pg. 7-8 of Confirmation Guidelines)

- Vestments are to be RED for Sundays, Sunday vigils and weekdays during Ordinary Time, for Christmas Season and for Pentecost. They are to be WHITE for Sundays, Sunday vigils, and weekdays during Advent, Lent, and the Easter Season. On solemnities the color corresponds to the day.
- The bishop will bring his own alb, but you will provide the proper color chasuble.
- Chairs should be set for the bishop and any priest(s) who assist him.
- If there is a deacon, he should be seated to the right of the bishop.
- Books, vessels, and other items needed:
  - ❖ Lectionary on the ambo
  - ❖ Book of the Gospels to be carried in by deacon (or lector, if no deacon)
  - ❖ Sacramentary (or Presider book with complete liturgy). Bishop will bring the Rite of Confirmation to use with Sacramentary.
  - ❖ Water for sprinkling (optional, but wonderful connection to baptism)
  - ❖ Thurible, charcoal, and incense (optional)
  - ❖ Container of Chrism
  - ❖ Lemon or lemon juice, water and towel for washing after anointing
  - ❖ Sufficient hosts, wine cups, and patens for offering communion under both kinds (using consecrated hosts from the Tabernacle is discouraged)
  - ❖ Corporal, purificators, water, bowl & towel for washing during offertory
  - ❖ Easter candle placed near ambo or baptismal font
- During Ordinary Time and on weekdays, scripture readings may be taken in whole or in part from the Mass of the day or from the texts for Confirmation found in *Lectionary for Weekdays IV* (nos. 764-768). On the Sundays of Advent, Lent and Easter, on solemnities, and during the Holy Week and Octave of Easter, the prayers and readings from the day must be used.
- The music used should speak of our baptismal dignity, the Paschal Mystery, our call to Christian witness, and the empowerment of the Holy Spirit. It should highlight the significant parts of the liturgy and be familiar to the candidates.
- The candidates and their sponsors should enter in procession with the bishop and go to their appointed seats.
- After the Gospel, the catechist or appointed person (can be parent or sponsor) will call the names of the confirmandi. They will respond "PRESENT" and stand until all have been called. Then they will be seated for the homily. Let the Bishop know ahead of time how you will be doing it.
- After the homily they will stand at their seats again and respond "I DO" to the questions asked by the Bishop in renewal of their baptismal promises.
- The Bishop will then lay hands on each of them, one at a time, **in silence**. Any concelebrating priests will follow him doing the same. At the end of the *laying on of hands*, the Bishop will say a prayer.
- The candidates now go to the Bishop, one at a time, each accompanied by their sponsor. The candidate tells Bishop his/her confirmation name and the Bishop anoints him/her. The sponsor puts his/her hand(s) on the confirmandi's shoulder(s) during the anointing. When the Bishop says..." N., be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.", the newly confirmed answers, loud and clear, "AMEN". When the bishop says, "Peace be with you", the newly confirmed answers again, loud and clear, "AND WITH YOUR SPIRIT". After the anointing, the newly confirmed and sponsor return to their seats.
- *If, because of circumstances, all of the confirmandi and sponsors must go to the front at the same time for the Laying on of Hands and the Anointing, let the Bishop know ahead of time how you will be doing it. If it is done in this manner, the Bishop will go to each confirmandi and all will remain in the front until everyone has been anointed.*