



**The Celebration of
Confirmation in the
Diocese of Meath 2021
(Outside of Holy Mass)**



(Entrance Hymn)

Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

And with your spirit.

Collect

Let us pray,

Grant we pray almighty and merciful God,
that the Holy Spirit coming near,
and dwelling graciously within us,
may make us a perfect temple of His glory.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Amen



The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

A reading from the First Book of Samuel

3:1-10,19

The boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord in the presence of Eli; it was rare for the Lord to speak in those days; visions were uncommon. One day, it happened that Eli was lying down in his room. His eyes were beginning to grow dim; he could no longer see. The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying in the sanctuary of the Lord where the ark of God was, when the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' He answered, 'Here I am.' Then he ran to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli said, 'I did not call. Go back and lie down.' So he went and lay down. Once again the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' He replied, 'I did not call you, my son; go back and lie down.' Samuel had as yet no knowledge of the Lord and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. Once again the Lord called, the third time. He got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli then understood that it was the Lord who was calling the boy, and he said to Samuel, 'Go and lie down, and if someone calls say, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

The Lord then came and stood by, calling as he had done before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel answered, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.'

Samuel grew up and the Lord was with him and let no word of his fall to the ground.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God



Responsorial Psalm

Ps. 39(40):2,5,7-10

R/ Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will..

- 1 I waited, I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry.
Happy the man who has placed
his trust in the Lord
and has not gone over to the rebels
who follow false gods. **R/**
- 2 You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,
but an open ear.
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.
Instead, here am I.. **R/**
- 3 In the scroll of the book it stands written
that I should do your will.
My God, I delight in your law
in the depth of my heart.. **R/**
4. Your justice I have proclaimed
in the great assembly.
My lips I have not sealed;
you know it, O Lord. **R/**



Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Galatians

5:16-17. 22-25

If you are guided by the Spirit you will be in no danger of yielding to self-indulgence, since self-indulgence is the opposite of the Spirit, the Spirit is totally against such a thing, and it is precisely because the two are so opposed that you do not always carry out your good intentions. What the Spirit brings is very different: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self-control. You cannot belong to Christ Jesus unless you crucify all self-indulgent passions and desires. Since the Spirit is our life, let us be directed by the Spirit.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God



Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the Handmaid of the Lord,
Let what you have said be done to me.

Alleluia

Gospel

The Lord be with you

And with your spirit

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

1:26-38

Glory to you, O Lord

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

The gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Presentation of the Candidates

The candidates are presented to the Bishop for the Sacrament of Confirmation by the Parish Priest, or delegated by him, the teachers may do so by the calling of the candidate's name. The candidates on being called, stand up. They may be seated again at the end of the presentation.

HOMILY

The Bishop instructs the seated candidates and the faithful on the meaning, duties and responsibilities given by the Sacrament of Confirmation.

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES

The candidates are invited to stand to renew their baptismal promises. The responses should be given in a raised voice to the questions asked by the Bishop.

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

*The candidates respond together: **I do.***

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

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?

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?

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?



I do.

The bishop confirms their profession of faith by proclaiming the faith of the Church:

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

The whole congregation responds:

Amen.

THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

Bishop, (with priests remaining by his side) facing the people, with hands joined, says:

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 period

Bishop, (along with priests), with hands extended, 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.

Amen.

THE ANOINTING WITH CHRISM

Each candidate goes before the Bishop, makes a sign of reverence, and kneels. The candidate's sponsor places their right hand on the candidate's shoulder, and gives the chosen name of the candidate to the bishop (or the candidate will do so themselves)



The bishop anoints the forehead of the candidate with Holy Chrism, saying:

N., Be sealed, ✠ with the gift of the Holy Spirit

The newly confirmed replies:

Amen

The bishop adds:

Peace with you

The newly confirmed replies:

And with your spirit



PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Introduction

Heavenly Father, we turn to you, imploring your great mercy to hear our prayers. Just as you have sent your Holy Spirit into our hearts, may He now raise these our prayers to you.

We pray for our Holy Father, Pope Francis, our Bishop Thomas, all priests and religious and all God's people, that we may be strengthened in faith, hope and charity.

Lord hear us. **Lord graciously hear us.**

For all of us, sons and daughters of God, confirmed by the gift of the Spirit, that we may give witness to Christ, by lives built on faith and love:

Lord hear us. **Lord graciously hear us.**

For our parents, guardians and godparents, who led us in faith, that by word and example they may always encourage us to follow the way of Jesus Christ: Lord hear us. **Lord graciously hear us.**

We pray for people who are in need today; the poor, the sick, the homeless, and people displaced from their home countries. By the strength of the Holy Spirit, may we show the love of Christ to all.

Lord hear us. **Lord graciously hear us.**

In a moment of silent prayer, we bring to the Lord those intentions and prayers kept in the silence of our hearts (**PAUSE.....**).

Lord hear us. **Lord graciously hear us.**

Lord, we entrust our Faithful Departed into your merciful heart. May our loved ones who have died come to know the fullness of life in your presence.

Lord hear us. **Lord graciously hear us.**



The Lord's Prayer

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

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.

Ár nAthair atá ar neamh,
go naofar d'ainm
Go dtaga do ríocht
Go ndéantar do thoil
ar an talamh mar a dhéantar ar
neamh.
ár n-arán laethúil tabhair dúinn
inniu
Agus maith dúinn ár bhfiacha
Mar a mhaithimidne ár
bhféichiúnaithe féin
Agus ná lig sinn i gcathú
ach saor sinn ó olc.



Confirmation Pledge

Lord Jesus, on this my Confirmation Day, I make a special promise not to consume alcohol or any drug which might harm or destroy your gift of life to me. Grant me, O Lord, your grace to keep this promise and to consider renewing this pledge when I am 18 years of age.

Blessing of Religious Objects

Father in Heaven, we thank you for sending your spirit into our hearts to teach us to remain close to you. Bless ✠ these objects that we dedicate to you and teach us to use them as a help to sincere and devoted prayer. May we continue to grow in faith, in love for you and one another, and be pleasing to you all our lives. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son who lives and reigns with you for ever and ever.

Amen

Concluding Prayer

Let us pray,

Accompany with your blessing from this day forward, O Lord,
Those who have been anointed with the Holy Spirit
So that with all trials overcome,
They may gladden the Church with their holiness
And, through their words and their charity,
Foster her growth in the world,
Through Christ our Lord,

Amen



Solemn Blessing

The Lord be with you
And with your spirit

Bow down for the blessing

May God the Father almighty bless you,
whom He has made His adopted sons and daughters
reborn from water and the Holy Spirit,
and may He keep you worthy of His fatherly love.

Amen

May His Only Begotten Son,
Who promised that the Spirit of truth
would abide in His Church,
bless you and confirm you by His power
in the confession of the true faith.

Amen

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
in the joy of the kingdom of God.

Amen

And may almighty God bless all of you, who are gathered here,
The Father ✠, the Son ✠ and the Holy Spirit ✠

Amen

The celebration of Confirmation is ended, go in peace, glorifying the
Lord by your life.

Thanks be to God

(Recessional Hymn)

