



**The Celebration of
Confirmation in the
Diocese of Meath
2024
(Outside of Holy Mass)**



(Entrance Hymn)

Greeting

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

Amen.

Peace be with you,

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 prophet Ezekiel

36: 24-28

The Lord says this:

I am going to take you from among the nations and gather you together from all the foreign countries, and bring you home to your own land. I shall pour clean water over you and you will be cleansed; I shall cleanse you of all your defilement and all your idols. I shall give you a new heart, and put a new spirit in you; I shall remove the heart of stone from your bodies and give you a heart of flesh instead. I shall put my spirit in you, and make you keep my laws and sincerely respect my observances. You will live in the land which I gave your ancestors. You shall be my people and I will be your God.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps. 103: 1,24. 27-28. 30-31. 33-34.

R/ *Send forth your spirit, O Lord,
and renew the face of the earth.*

1. Bless the Lord, my soul!
Lord God, how great you are.
How many are your works, O Lord!
In wisdom you have made them all.
The earth is full of your riches. ... **R/**



2. All of these look to you
to give them their food in due season.
You give it, they gather it up;
You open your hand, they have their fill. ... **R/**

3. You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth.
May the glory of the Lord last for ever!
May the Lord rejoice in his works. ... **R/**

4. I will sing to the Lord all my life,
Make music to my God while I live.
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
I find my joy in the Lord. ... **R/**

Second Reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

2:1-6. 14. 22-23. 32-33

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language.

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed them in a loud voice:



‘Men of Judaea, and all you who live in Jerusalem, make no mistake about this, but listen carefully to what I say. Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of are witnesses to that. Now raised to the heights by God’s right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.’

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Come, holy Spirit,
Send forth a ray of your light from on high.
Alleluia

During the Season of Lent:

Praise and Honour to you, Lord Jesus!
Come, holy Spirit,
Send forth a ray of your light from on high.
Praise and Honour to you, Lord Jesus!

Gospel

The Lord be with you
And with your spirit

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord

4:16-22



Jesus came to Nazra, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written:

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me;
For he has anointed me.
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor,
To proclaim liberty to captives
And to the blind new sight.
To set the downtrodden free,
To proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were on him. Then he began to speak to them. 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen'. And he won the approval of all, and they were astonished by the gracious words that came from his lips.

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 call 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



Photo Source: catholicteacherresources.com



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 Tom, 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.**

Conclusion

Almighty God and Father, through your Son, Jesus Christ you said "Ask and you shall receive", may you receive these our prayers and as they accord to your will, hear and answer them, through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



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

The students who wish to take the Confirmation Pledge repeat the words after the Bishop.

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.

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)

