THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION
within Mass
Revised Responses of the People for the New Translation of Roman Missal

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE SONG

When the candidates, their sponsors and parents, and the whole assembly of the faithful have gathered, the bishop goes to the sanctuary with the priests who assist him, one or more deacons, and the ministers. Meanwhile all may sing a psalm or appropriate song.

Pastoral staff and miter are given to servers.

The bishop makes the usual reverence to the altar with the ministers.

SIGN OF THE CROSS AND GREETING

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 with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL RITE – Form C as found in the Confirmation Ritual

GLORIA
Not sung during Lent.

OPENING PRAYER

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING – must be from Acts of the Apostles during Easter season
RESPONSORIAL PSALM
SECOND READING – use particular selection for 2011-2012

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Bishop receives the staff for the Gospel
GOSPEL
PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES

After the Gospel the bishop, ministers and congregation are seated.

Bishop receives miter.

The dean or other designated pastor should begin the presentations in these or similar words:

"Bishop McFadden, the parish(es) of ____________ wish(es) to present to you our/their young men and women who have been 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.

Each Pastor presents his candidates as a parish group.

"From the parish of N., I present these candidates for confirmation..."

All the candidates will stand as a group when their parish is presented. They should be seated after a few seconds.

HOMILY

After the homily the Bishop sits.
RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES

_Bishop stands with miter and the pastoral staff. The Master of Ceremonies asks the candidates to stand. The bishop questions them:_

**Bishop:**

_Do you reject Satan and all his works and all his empty promises?_

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

_Do you believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth?_

Candidates: **I do.**

_Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died, and was buried, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?_

Candidates: **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?_

Candidates: **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?_

Candidates: **I do.**

_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**
LAYING ON OF HANDS

Then, putting aside the miter and pastoral staff, the bishop stands. He is joined by any concelebrating priests. With hands joined, 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 short time.

The bishop lays hands upon all the candidates (by extending his hands over them) and says:

Bishop: 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

Then the bishop takes the miter.
THE ANOINTING WITH CHRISM

❖ The deacon brings the chrism to the bishop.

❖ Confirmands should line up two by two in the center aisle for the reception of the anointing. However, they will approach the Bishop one at a time for the anointing with Sacred Chrism

❖ The sponsor who presented the candidate places his or her right hand on the candidate’s shoulder. The candidate presents his/her card to an assisting minister (either a priest, deacon, catechist or other designated person) - and each candidate announces in a LOUD, CLEAR VOICE his/her name to the Bishop. The practice of presenting a card with the name of the candidate and their pertinent information is to be maintained, even though each candidate will announce his or her name to the Bishop. During the anointing, a suitable hymn may be sung and the congregation should be seated.

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:  N., be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.  
    The newly confirmed responds:  Amen.

Bishop:  Peace be with you. 
    The newly confirmed responds:  And with your spirit.

After the anointing, the MC takes the miter from Bishop.

Bishop will clean his hands with lemon, bread and water.
GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

The bishop, standing without the miter, introduces the 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.

*Deacon or if one is not present another 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. 
Ré. Lord, hear our prayer.

*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. 
Ré. Lord, hear our prayer.

*Deacon or minister:*

For the holy Church of God, 
in union with Benedict our pope, 
Joseph 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. 
Ré. Lord, hear our prayer.
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.
℟. Lord, hear our prayer.

Deacon or minister:

For an increase in vocations
to the priesthood and consecrated life,
especially in the Diocese of Harrisburg.
May our young hear God’s call.
May our families, parishes, and schools,
sow the seeds that will reap a harvest
of sacred workers for God’s Church:
let us pray to the Lord.
줬. Lord, hear our prayer.

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 his work begun at Pentecost
continue to grow in the hearts of all who believe.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Mass continues in the usual way.
Some of the newly confirmed may take part in the Presentation of the Gifts.
If a collection is to be taken up, it is to be executed following the Presentation of the Gifts. The Gifts are to be presented to the Bishop immediately.
The bishop, wearing the miter, says,

**Bishop:** The Lord be with you  
**All:** And with your spirit.

**Deacon:** Bow your heads for the blessing

**Bishop with hands outstretched over the people.**

**Bishop:** God our Father made you his children  
by water and the Holy Spirit:  
may he bless you and  
watch over you with his fatherly love. Amen.

Jesus Christ the Son of God  
promised that the Spirit of truth  
would be with his Church for ever:  
may he bless you and give you courage  
in professing the true faith. Amen.

The Holy Spirit came down upon the disciples  
and set their hearts on fire with love:  
may he bless you, keep you one in faith and love  
and bring you to the joy of God’s kingdom. Amen.

**The bishop takes the pastoral staff and says:**

May almighty God bless you,  
✠ the Father, ✠ and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.  
✠. Amen.

**DISMISSAL**

**Deacon:** Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.  
(Alleluia, Alleluia • Octave Easter only)

**All:** Thanks be to God.  
(Alleluia, Alleluia • Octave Easter only)

A recessional song should be sung as the bishop and other ministers leave the church **before** the newly confirmed. The bishop imparts his blessing as he leaves.