

Office of Divine Worship
Diocese of Marquette
Confirmation Mass Procedures 2021

Confirmations are celebrated on the vicariate level. Below is an order of the celebration. Please review the items listed below to ensure the joyous celebration of this sacrament.

- Rehearsal for all Confirmands and Sponsors will be held one hour before the Mass begins. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to the rehearsal time to pick up nametags, certificates, and seating directions. This is important to ensure rehearsal begins on time.
- After the Gospel, the deacon of the Mass or host pastor or his delegate will call the names of all the parishes participating in the confirmation. When their parish is called the Confirmands will stand in place until instructed to be seated. Sponsors will remain seated.
- At the end of the homily, the Confirmands will again be asked to stand and renew the profession of faith made at their Baptism through the Renewal of Baptismal Promises. Their response will be **“I do.”** (Roman Pontifical, Rite of Confirmation no. 23) Again, the Sponsors will remain seated.
- This is followed by the “laying on of hands.” The Bishop, surrounded by concelebrating priests, introduces the prayer which he then prays while he and the other priests “lays on hands” by extending their hands over the Confirmands. (Rite of Confirmation, no. 24-25)
- Confirmands will come forward in a single line with their sponsors directly behind them using the center aisle. They will then be anointed with Sacred Chrism (Rite of Confirmation, no. 27).
- The Sponsors will present their Confirmands to the Bishop by placing their right hand on the Confirmand’s shoulder and saying,
 - *“Bishop Doerfler (DER-fler), I present to you (Confirmation name) for the Sacrament of Confirmation” (These words will be provided to sponsors on a small card.)*
 - The Bishop will dip his thumb in the Sacred Chrism and make the sign of the cross on the forehead of the one to be confirmed while saying *“(Confirmation name), be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.”*
 - The newly confirmed responds, *“Amen.”*
 - The bishop will then say, *“Peace be with you.”*
 - The newly confirmed responds, *“And with your spirit.”*

Note to Musicians: The hymns should continue throughout the anointing but end as the last candidate is anointed. The MC will then initiate applause from the lay faithful.

At this point, the Order of the Mass continues in the usual manner with the Universal Prayer (Prayers of the Faithful).

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Host Parish Responsibilities:

- Arrange for liturgical ministers so that all participating parishes are represented:
 - One or two assisting deacon(s) if possible
 - 2 lectors (preferably confirmands)
 - 5 servers-Cross/book bearer, 2 Candle bearers, and 2 Vimps
 - 3-4 gift bearers
 - Musician(s) and cantor
 - A light reception to follow the Mass
- No offertory collection should be taken at this Mass

Diocesan Responsibilities:

- There will be a diocesan master of ceremonies at each Confirmation Mass.
- Universal Prayer (Prayers of the Faithful) will be provided.
- Nametags and certificates will be provided by the diocesan office. If a candidate(s) does not attend due to sickness or other unforeseen circumstances the certificate(s) must be returned to the Department of Evangelization & Education at the diocese.
- When a proxy will be standing in for a sponsor, please provide the name of the sponsor to the Diocesan Director of Catechesis via email prior to the Mass or at the check in process.

Other things to note:

- A Special Liturgy Planning Form must be filled out and submitted no later than two weeks prior to the Mass using this link: form.jotform.us/form/51195931278159
- Readings should be from the Ritual Lectionary on Confirmation (764-768)
- There will be no procession of Confirmands.
- Confirmands should not be wearing stoles.
- Dress: All clothing should be neat, clean, and modest – Sunday best!
- Photography: Please refrain from taking photographs during Mass. Bishop John will be available for photos after Mass. There will not be a diocesan photographer at the confirmations but please arrange for a group photo and send it to the UPCatholic at news@dioceseofmarquette.org

For questions regarding the Mass contact Deacon Tom Foye, tfoye@dioceseofmarquette.org or 906-362-2002.
Direct all other questions to Denise Foye, dfoye@dioceseofmarquette.org or 906-227-9130.