

Confirmation

Gift of the Holy Spirit

BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION and the EUCHARIST comprise the SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION. Confirmation completes Christian initiation, and strengthens the Candidates by the gift of the Holy Spirit. They are witnesses of Christ, bound to spread and defend the faith by their words and deeds.

Origins of the Sacrament

The Old Testament prophets announced that the Spirit of the Lord would rest on the awaited Messiah for his saving mission. The descent of the Holy Spirit on Jesus at his Baptism in the Jordan by John was the sign that this was the expected one: the Son of God, who would communicate the Spirit to the entire messianic people. On Pentecost, filled with the Holy Spirit, the Apostles began to proclaim the mighty works of God, and Peter declared this outpouring of the Spirit to be a sign of the messianic age.

In the Letter to the Hebrews, the doctrine on Baptism and the Laying on of Hands is listed among the first elements in Christian instruction. The Laying on of Hands is recognized as the original sign of the Sacrament of Confirmation, which perpetuates the grace of Pentecost in the Church.

The Bishop

The original ministers of Confirmation are the Bishops, the successors of the Apostles. They have received the fullness of the Sacrament of Holy Orders. The Bishop may transfer this mandate to the local Parish Priest. The Sacred Chrism used for the Anointing was blessed at the Mass of Chrism at the Cathedral during the previous Holy Week.

The Sponsor

The Sponsor is a fully-initiated member of the Church who:

- ❖ Represents the community; ❖ Will support the parents;
- ❖ Testifies that the Candidate will be a witness for Christ.

The original Godparent may perform this duty; or another adult who serves as an example of Christian living.

The Name

The Confirmation Name is the Christian *Baptismal* name, or the name of another *Saint* who will serve as a lifelong patron and prayer partner to the newly-confirmed.

Effects of Confirmation

The purpose of the Sacrament is the full outpouring of the Holy Spirit, as it was given to the Apostles on Pentecost:

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind...divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them the ability. (Acts 2.1-4).

The entire Church benefits by Confirmation: it conveys the grace of *Pentecost*, enabling us to live with the fruits of the Holy Spirit:

Charity, Joy, Peace, Patience, Generosity, Goodness, Perseverance, Mildness, Faith, Modesty, Continence, Chastity.

Confirmation has several important effects:

- (1) **It makes us more aware of God;**
- (2) **It releases the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit:** Wisdom, Knowledge, Counsel, Understanding, Courage, Piety and Reverence of the Lord.
- (3) **It unites us more firmly to Christ;**
- (4) **It binds us more perfectly to the Church;**
- (5) **It gives us strength to spread and defend the faith by our words and actions in order to:**
 - ✕ be true witnesses of Christ;
 - ✕ confess the name of Christ boldly;
 - ✕ never be ashamed of the Cross.

Confirmation perfects the grace of Baptism, and imprints a spiritual mark or permanent, indelible character on the Christian's soul. A Candidate for Confirmation who has attained the age of reason must profess the faith; be in the state of grace; desire to receive the Sacrament; and be prepared to assume the role of disciple and witness to Christ, both in the Church and in the world.

The Liturgy

Confirmation is ordinarily celebrated within the context of the Holy Mass. Following the Proclamation of the Word of God, the Sacrament is administered in this order:

Presentation of the Candidates

Homily

Renewal of Baptismal Promises

*Laying On of Hands*¹

*Anointing with Sacred Chrism*²

¹ LAYING ON OF HANDS: The Bishop faces the people and introduces the prayer. Then he (and any concelebrating Priests) extend their hands over the Candidates, and ask the Father to send the Holy Spirit upon them.

² ANOINTING WITH CHRISM: Candidates walk to the Sanctuary. The Bishop goes to them individually, takes some Chrism, addresses them by their Confirmation Name, and makes the Sign of the Cross on their foreheads.

Bishop: “ _____ , be sealed with
the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

Newly Confirmed: “AMEN.”

Bishop: “Peace be with you.”

Newly Confirmed: “AND WITH YOUR SPIRIT.”





2017 March for Life on Parliament Hill, Ottawa

Parish Week

Sunday, 13 August 2017

Saturday, 12 Aug. / St. Jane Frances de Chantal, religious

- 8.00 am Mass: † Jose & Felicisima Turiano (family)
- 1.00 pm Wedding: Davidson Rodney & Angela Olivacce
- 5.00 pm Mass: † Sonia Mungal (Janette & Kelvin)

SUNDAY, 13 AUG. / 19 - A

- Homilist: Deacon Ramon Villardo
- 2nd Collection: Canadian Missions

- 9.00 am Mass: † Ursula Reid (Joyce Durban)
- 10.30 am Mass: Int. Anastasia Williams
- 12.00 pm Mass: † Immaculata Raimondo (Braganza family)
- 1.30 pm Infant Baptism
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Monday, 14 Aug. / St. Maximilian Kolbe, priest & martyr

- 8.00 am Mass: Int. Thanksgiving (Fergie)
- 7.00 pm Mass: † Rocco Lombardi (family)

Tuesday, 15 Aug. / Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- 8.00 am Mass: † Cyril Bastiampillai (Caroline)

Wednesday, 16 Aug. / St. Stephen of Hungary

- 8.00 am Mass: Int. Thanksgiving (Tessie Mendonca)

Thursday, 17 Aug.

- 8.00 am Mass: † George MacNaughton (Racquel Dias)

Friday, 18 Aug.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Liberato Sr. & Valentina Yambong (Melinda)
- 11.00 am ► Ina Grafton Nursing Home Mass
- 3.00 pm Wedding: Pragash Antonipillai & Champika Ranjan

Saturday, 19 Aug. / St. John Eudes, priest

- 8.00 am Mass: † Melecia Victorino (family)
- 9.00 am Altar Servers: general meeting, & group photo
- 5.00 pm Mass: † Gabriel & Francis Andreas (Antonia Ambrose)

SUNDAY, 20 AUG. / 20 - A

- Homilist: Fr. Elias Chachati

- 9.00 am Mass: † Kevin Pierre (Shirley & Warren Persaud)
- 10.30 am Mass: Int. Fr. Elias (friend)
- 12.00 pm Mass: † Baltazar, Maria Aninha & Philip Mendonca (Tessie & family)
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Focus on the Word

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

1 Kings 3.5-12; Romans 8.28-30; Matthew 13.11-52

O God, protector of those who hope in you, without whom nothing has firm foundation, nothing is holy, bestow in abundances your mercy upon us and grant that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may use the good things that pass in such a way as to hold fast even now to those that ever endure. Amen.

Catholic Cemetery Masses 16 August

As noted on the Vestibule posters, this year's CATHOLIC CEMETERY MASSES will be at 7.00 pm on Wednesday, 16 August.

The Catholic Cemeteries most used by our parishioners are:

- ❑ *Christ the King* (near Steeles & Markham); this year's celebrant – **Bishop Vincent Nguyen**;
- ❑ *Holy Cross* (near Steeles & Yonge); this year's celebrant – **Cardinal Thomas Collins**.



8th Annual Goan Pilgrimage 26 August

The 8th Annual Goan Pilgrimage to the Martyrs' Shrine in Midland will be on Saturday, 26 August. *Sogot Sangata Melea*. Join in a procession while singing the Rosary, followed by Mass outdoors. Contact: **Fr. Patrick Coldricks, SJ**. See the PARISH EVENTS box on our website for details: stmariagoretti.archtoronto.org

Altar Servers 9.00 am, Saturday, 19 August

Next General Altar Servers meeting: 9.00 am on Saturday, 19 August. Please wear a white (or light) top for a group photo.

Church Bulletin Advertising

The printer of our Sunday Bulletin, LITURGICAL PUBLICATIONS, will be setting up the advertisements for our Church bulletin beginning in October 2017. These support the bulletin service. Please help by advertising your product or service within a loyal congregation. Call: LITURGICAL PUBLICATIONS, 905-624-4422.

2nd Collection: 13 August, Canadian Missions

On 13 August, the 2nd collection is for the *Canadian Missions Shared Collection*. CATHOLIC MISSIONS IN CANADA was established in 1908, to provide support to Catholic missionaries - priests, sisters, brothers & lay people – who dedicate their lives to proclaim the Gospel throughout the poorest regions in Canada.

COMING UP

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- 26 Aug. New Altar Servers Training Meeting (9.00 am)
- 27 Aug. 2nd Collection: *Maintenance*
- 2 Sept. Wedding: Britton-Kanagaratnam (1:00 pm)
- 4 Sept. Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm)
- 10 Sept. - ► St. Rosary Sunday, Midland; Infant Baptism (1:30 pm)
- 17 Sept. 2nd Collection: *Annual Needs of the Church in Canada*
- 21 Sept. St. Vincent De Paul Meeting (7:00 pm)
- 23 Sept. Wedding: Chopra – D'Rozario (1:00 pm)