

The Liturgy of Initiation
Presentation of the Candidates

The Bishop asks those to be confirmed

Have you been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit? **I have.**

Are you ready with your own mouth and from your own heart to affirm your faith in Jesus Christ? **I am.**

The Bishop addresses the whole congregation

Faith is the gift of God to his people.

In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling.

People of God, will you welcome these candidates and uphold them in their life in Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

The Decision

The Bishop addresses all the candidates

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him.

Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

I come to Christ.

Profession of Faith

The Bishop addresses the congregation

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess together with these candidates the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Amen.

Confirmation

The Bishop stands before those who are to be confirmed and says

Our help is in the name of the Lord
who has made heaven and earth.
Blessed be the name of the Lord
now and for ever. Amen.

The Bishop extends his hands towards those to be confirmed and says

Almighty and ever-living God,
you have given these your servants new birth
in baptism by water and the Spirit,
and have forgiven them all their sins.
Let your Holy Spirit rest upon them:
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding;
the Spirit of counsel and inward strength;
the Spirit of knowledge and true godliness;
and let their delight be in the fear of the Lord.
Amen.

The bishop sits and the candidates come to him one by one and kneel.

The bishop addresses each candidate by name

N, God has called you by name and made you his own.

He lays his hand on the head of each candidate, saying,

Confirm, O Lord, your servant with your Holy Spirit.

The candidate answers Amen.

He anoints each candidate with the Oil of the Holy Chrism,

N, be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The candidate answers Amen.

Peace be with you.

The candidate answers And also with you.

The Bishop prays for all those on whom he has laid hands.

Defend, O Lord, these your servants with your heavenly grace,
that they may continue yours for ever,

and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more
until they come to your everlasting kingdom. **Amen.**

The Mass continues