



ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA
OFFICE for DIVINE WORSHIP
January 2017

Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation for Adults

CHRISTIAN INITIATION COORDINATOR MEMO
IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

Archbishop Charles J. Chaput will celebrate for you the Sacrament of Confirmation at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul, 222 North 17th Street, Philadelphia, on Pentecost Sunday, **June 4, 2017, at the 6:30 PM Mass**. This is an Easter celebration of the coming of the Holy Spirit to you and the whole Church. *All priests are invited to concelebrate. Please vest with archdiocesan vestments in the Neumann Room.*

The Sacrament of Confirmation brings a baptized person to full stature in Christ and is a significant moment in a Christian's life. Preparation for this Sacrament at the parish should include catechetical instruction, an opportunity for the celebration of the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation and the selection of a sponsor.

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CAREFULLY:

Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation:

As part of the preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation, pastors should make available an opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance near to the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation. This same opportunity should be made available to Sponsors and family members. Please encourage everyone to receive Communion at the Confirmation Mass.

Registration:

- Click [here](#) to register online. Click [here](#) for a printable registration form.

The **registration form** for the Sacrament of Confirmation, with a copy of the candidate's baptismal certificate and sponsor's letter of eligibility, may be sent either electronically or by mail. You may:

- Scan the baptismal certificate and the letter of eligibility and email them to cscharff@archphila.org.
- Send the documents by mail to the Office for Divine Worship, 222 North 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103, Attn: Connie Scharff.
- **All registration information is due by May 26, 2017.**

- Please ensure that the name for Confirmation, if one is selected, is a canonized saint's name, other than the Baptism name.
- If any of the candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation are also to receive their First Communion at this Mass, please note it on the form.
- Please ensure that the sponsor satisfies the usual canonical requirements, as outlined on the [Archdiocesan Guidelines page](#).
- Please ensure that all adult parish candidates are included in this registration process.

If for some serious reason, a school age baptized Roman Catholic is unable to be confirmed by the Bishop during his pastoral visit to the parish, then this candidate, with the permission of the pastor, may be presented for the Sacrament of Confirmation on Pentecost Sunday. The pastor's permission is to be included with the registration forms to be sent to the Office for Divine Worship.

- Reserved seating is assigned for candidates and sponsors only. Seating of candidates and sponsors by the ushers will be as they arrive. Ushers will be instructed to fill in the pews, therefore, it is possible that people from the same parish may not be seated together.
- An email confirming receipt of registrations will be sent to the parish Christian Initiation Coordinator.
- The [Confirmation Name Card template](#) is available on the Christian Initiation page of the Office for Divine Worship web site.
- **Please be sure the candidate for Confirmation arrives at the Cathedral with the Name Card in hand and filled out – front and back. THE CONFIRMATION NAME IS TO BE PRINTED IN LARGE LETTERS ON FRONT OF CARD.**
- The card is collected as the candidate approaches the Bishop for Confirmation.
- After the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation, the information on the card will be recorded at the Cathedral Basilica and a notification should be sent by the Christian Initiation Coordinator, to the church of Baptism. Commemorative certificates will not be issued.
- If you have any questions, please contact the Office for Divine Worship at 215-587-3537 or cscharff@archphila.org.

The following information is to be shared with all the Candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation:

- Parking:** Limited parking is available in the Archdiocesan Pastoral Center lot; additional parking is available at the Gateway Garage at 15th and Vine Streets.
- Time:** Plan to arrive at the Cathedral by 5:30 PM. Ushers will direct you to your seats. Catechesis/Instruction on the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation will begin at 6:00 PM.
- Dress:** Coat and tie for men, dress clothing for women. No Confirmation robes or stoles are to be worn.
- Candidate/Sponsor Seating:** Candidates and Sponsors (seated directly behind candidates) will be directed to their reserved seats by the ushers.
- Guest Seating:** Unreserved seats are available for family and guests. Please inform guests that pictures and videos may be taken only from their seats during Mass.
- Special Seating:** If your parish has a Confirmation Candidate or Sponsor who will need special seating because of a disability, please indicate this on the registration form. Someone from the Office for Divine Worship will contact the Coordinator regarding seating.

REMEMBER TO BRING:

- Confirmation Name Card** with the Candidate's Confirmation name.
- This card will be collected during the Rite of Confirmation.
 - Please print on the front of the Name Card: **the Confirmation Name – IN BIG LETTERS**
 - Please print on the reverse side of the Name Card:
 - **the Candidate's name and parish, and**
 - **the Sponsor's full name.**
 - These cards serve as a record that a Candidate has been confirmed.

Please review the Rite of Confirmation on the following page.

The Rite of Confirmation for Candidates and Sponsors

After the Gospel: Candidates remain standing for the presentation to the Archbishop.

Following the Archbishop's homily: Candidates respond, "**I do**" to each question asked by the Archbishop to renew their baptismal promises.

Laying on of Hands: The Archbishop extends his hands over the Candidates and prays, "All-powerful God..." All respond "Amen" at the conclusion of the prayer.

After the Questions: Ushers direct the Candidates and Sponsors to the Archbishop for the anointing.

Candidate: Bring your Confirmation card and give it to the assisting priest as you approach the Archbishop.

Sponsor: Follow the Candidate and place your right hand on the Candidate's right shoulder when you approach the Archbishop.

During the Anointing: The Archbishop says:

"N.,...Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit."

Candidate responds: "Amen."

"Peace be with you."

Candidate responds: "And with your spirit."

After the Anointing: Return to your pew and be seated.

El Rito de Confirmación para los Candidatos y los Padrinos/Madrinas

Después del Evangelio: El Candidato permanece de pie para su presentación al arzobispo.

Después de la homilía: Los Candidatos responden "**I do**" a cada pregunta hecha por el arzobispo para renovar las promesas bautismales.

Imposición de Manos: Se le pide a todos que se mantengan orando y atentos mientras el arzobispo extiende sus manos sobre el Candidato y reza, "Dios todopoderoso..." Todos responden "Amén" a la conclusión de la oración.

Después de las preguntas: El ujier dirige a los Candidatos y a los Padrinos/Madrinas hacia el arzobispo para la unción.

Candidato- Traiga su tarjeta y désela al sacerdote que está asistiendo al llegar al arzobispo.

Padrino/madrina: Siga al Candidato y coloque su mano derecha en el hombro derecho del Candidato al acercarse al arzobispo.

Durante la unción: El arzobispo reza:

"N.,...recibe por esta señal el Don del Espíritu Santo."

Usted responde: "Amén."

"La paz esté contigo."

Usted responde: "Y con tu espíritu."

Después de la unción: Vuelva a su asiento y siéntese.