



THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION
AND
THE ROMAN MISSAL

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Highlights of Revisions

1. *Gloria* is to be sung for ritual Masses (per rubrics for the Confirmation ritual Mass)
2. Revised “Renewal of Baptismal Promises”
 - a. Reflects text found on Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday
3. Dialog at “The Anointing with Chrism”
 - a. “And also with you” to “And with your Spirit”
4. Inserts for Eucharistic Prayers I, II, and III
 - a. Previously only an insert for EP I
5. Revised Solemn Blessing
6. Revised Prayer Over the People

RITE OF CONFIRMATION WITHIN MASS¹

LITURGY OF THE WORD

20. The liturgy of the word is celebrated in the ordinary way. The readings may be taken in whole or in part from the Mass of the day or from the texts for Confirmation in the *Lectionary for Mass* (nos. 764-768) and listed below (see Appendix).

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES

21. After the gospel the bishop and the priests who will be ministers of the sacrament with him take their seats. The pastor or another priest, deacon, or catechist presents the candidates for Confirmation, according to the custom of the region. If possible, each candidate is called by name and comes individually to the sanctuary. If the candidates are children, they are accompanied by one of their sponsors or parents and stand before the celebrant.

If there are very many candidates, they are not called by name, but simply take a suitable place before the bishop.

HOMILY OR INSTRUCTION

22. The bishop then gives a brief homily. He should explain the readings and so lead the candidates, their sponsors and parents, and the whole assembly to a deeper understanding of the mystery of Confirmation.

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES²

23. After the homily the candidates stand and the bishop questions them:

Do you renounce Satan and all his works and all his empty show?

The candidates respond together:

I do.

¹ Taken from *Rite of Confirmation* (1975). All paragraph numbers refer back to the original and have not been changed. Changes to the text reflect overlap with the *Roman Missal, third edition*, and have been underlined.

² Taken from *Roman Missal, third typical edition*; The Proper of Time; Easter Time; Easter Sunday of the Lord's Resurrection; The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night; The Renewal of Baptismal Promises.

Bishop:

**Do you believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth?**

Candidates:

I do.

Bishop:

**Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered death and was buried,
rose again from the dead
and is seated at the right hand of the Father?**

Candidates:

I do.

Bishop:

**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.

Bishop:

**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.

The bishop confirms their profession of faith by proclaiming the faith of the Church:

**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.

THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

24. The concelebrating priests stand near the bishop. He faces the people and with hands joined, sings or says:

**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.

25. The bishop and the priests who will minister the sacrament with him lay hands upon all the candidates (by extending their hands over them). The bishop alone sings or says:

**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.

R/. Amen.

THE ANOINTING WITH CHRISM

26. The deacon brings the chrism to the bishop. Each candidate goes to the bishop, or the bishop may go to the individual candidates. The one who presented the candidate places his right hand on the latter's shoulder and gives the candidate's name to the bishop; or the candidate may give his own name.

27. 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:

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

The newly confirmed responds:

Amen.

The bishop says:

Peace be with you.

The newly confirmed responds:

And with your spirit.

28. If priests assist the bishop in conferring the sacrament, all the vessels of chrism are brought to the bishop by the deacon or other ministers. Each of the priests comes to the bishop, who gives him a vessel of chrism.

The candidates go to the bishop or to the priests, or the bishop and priests may go to the candidates. The anointing is done as described above (no. 27).

29. During the anointing a suitable song may be sung. After the anointing the bishop and priests wash their hands.

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

30. The general intercessions follow...

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

31. After the general intercessions the liturgy of the Eucharist is celebrated according to the Order of Mass with these exceptions:

- a) the profession of faith is omitted, since it has already been made;
- b) some of the newly confirmed may join those who bring the gifts to the altar;
- c) When the Roman Canon is used, the proper form of the Hanc igitur (Therefore, Lord, we pray) is said:

Therefore, Lord, we pray:
graciously accept this oblation of our service,
that of your whole family,
which we offer you
also for those reborn in Baptism,
whom you have been pleased to confirm
by bestowing the Holy Spirit,
and in your mercy, keep safe in them your grace.
(Through Christ our Lord. Amen.)

- d) When Eucharistic Prayer II is used, after the words and all the clergy, the following is added:

Remember also, Lord, your servants
whom you have been pleased to confirm today
by bestowing the Holy Spirit,
and keep them in your grace.

e) When Eucharistic Prayer III is used, after the words the entire people you have gained for your own, the following is added:

**Remember also, Lord,
your servants reborn in Baptism
whom you have been pleased to confirm
by bestowing the Holy Spirit,
and in your mercy, keep safe in them your grace.**³

32. Adults who are confirmed, their sponsors, parents, wives and husbands, and catechists may receive communion under both kinds. [In the diocese of the United States all who participate may receive communion under both kinds.]

CONCLUDING RITE

If there are any announcements, they are made at this time.

GREETING

The rite of dismissal takes place.

Facing the people, the bishop extends his hands and sings or says:

The Lord be with you.

The people answer:

And with your Spirit.

BLESSING

The deacon or minister gives the invitation in these or similar words:

Bow down for the blessing.

³ Ritual Masses; 4. For the Conferral of Confirmation; A.
Diocese of Evansville

SOLEMN BLESSING

33. Instead of the usual blessing at the end of Mass, the following blessing or prayer over the people is used.

The Bishop, with hands extended over the newly confirmed, says:⁴

May God the Father almighty bless you,
whom he has made his adopted sons and daughters
reborn from water and the Holy Spirit,
and may he keep you worthy of his fatherly love.

R. Amen.

May his Only Begotten Son,
who promised that the Spirit of truth would abide in his Church,
bless you and confirm you by his power
in the confession of the true faith.

R. Amen.

May the Holy Spirit,
who kindles the fire of charity in the hearts of disciples,
bless you and lead you blameless and gathered as one
into the joy of the Kingdom of God.

R. Amen.

And he blesses all the people, adding:

And may almighty God bless all of you, who are gathered here,
the Father, ✠ and the Son, ✠ and the Holy ✠ Spirit.

R. Amen.

⁴ Ritual Masses; 4. For the Conferral of Confirmation; A.
Diocese of Evansville

Or:

PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Instead of the preceding blessing, the prayer over the people may be used. The deacon or minister gives the invitation in these or similar words:

Bow down for the blessing.

The Bishop, with hands extended over the newly confirmed and the people, says:⁵

Confirm, O God,
what you have brought about in us,
and preserve in the hearts of your faithful
the gifts of the Holy Spirit:
may they never be ashamed
to confess Christ crucified before the world
and by devoted charity
may they ever fulfill his commands.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, ✠ and the Son, ✠ and the Holy ✠ Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever.

R. Amen.

⁵ Ritual Masses; 4. For the Conferral of Confirmation; A.
Diocese of Evansville

4. FOR THE CONFERRAL OF CONFIRMATION⁶

This Mass is used, with the color red or white, or a festive color, at the conferral of Confirmation on days when Ritual Masses are permitted. The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is said. The Creed, however, is omitted.

A

Entrance Antiphon

Ez 36: 25-26

Thus says the Lord:
I will pour clean water upon you
and I will give you a new heart;
a new spirit I will put within you (E.T. alleluia).

Collect

Grant, we pray, almighty and merciful God,
that the Holy Spirit, coming near
and dwelling graciously within us,
may make of us a perfect temple of his glory.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Or:

Fulfill for us your gracious promise, O Lord, we pray,
so that by his coming
the Holy Spirit may make us witnesses before the world
to the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Other prayers to be used at choice.

Prayer over the Offerings

Receive in your mercy, O Lord,
the prayers of your servants
and grant that, being conformed more perfectly to your Son,
they may grow steadily in bearing witness to him,
as they share in the memorial of his redemption,
by which he gained for us your Holy Spirit.

⁶ *Roman Missal, third typical edition*; Ritual Masses
Diocese of Evansville

Through Christ our Lord.

Preface I of the Holy Spirit or Preface II may be used.

When the Roman Canon is used, the proper form of the Hanc igitur (Therefore, Lord, we pray) is said:

**Therefore, Lord, we pray:
graciously accept this oblation of our service,
that of your whole family,
which we offer you
also for those reborn in Baptism,
whom you have been pleased to confirm
by bestowing the Holy Spirit,
and in your mercy, keep safe in them your grace.
(Through Christ our Lord. Amen.)**

When Eucharistic Prayer II is used, after the words and all the clergy, the following is added:

**Remember also, Lord, your servants
whom you have been pleased to confirm today
by bestowing the Holy Spirit,
and keep them in your grace.**

When Eucharistic Prayer III is used, after the words the entire people you have gained for your own, the following is added:

**Remember also, Lord,
your servants reborn in Baptism
whom you have been pleased to confirm
by bestowing the Holy Spirit,
and in your mercy, keep safe in them your grace.**

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Heb 6: 4

**Rejoice in the Lord, all you who have been enlightened,
who have tasted the gift from heaven
and have been made sharers in the Holy Spirit (E.T. alleluia).**

Prayer after Communion

**Accompany with your blessing
from this day forward, O Lord,
those who have been anointed with the Holy Spirit
and nourished by the Sacrament of your Son,**

so that, with all trials overcome,
they may gladden your Church by their holiness
and, through their works and their charity,
foster her growth in the world.
Through Christ our Lord.

Solemn Blessing at the End of Mass

The Bishop, with hands extended over the newly confirmed, says:

May God the Father almighty bless you,
whom he has made his adopted sons and daughters
reborn from water and the Holy Spirit,
and may he keep you worthy of his fatherly love.

R. Amen.

May his Only Begotten Son,
who promised that the Spirit of truth would abide in his Church,
bless you and confirm you by his power
in the confession of the true faith.

R. Amen.

May the Holy Spirit,
who kindles the fire of charity in the hearts of disciples,
bless you and lead you blameless and gathered as one
into the joy of the Kingdom of God.

R. Amen.

And he blesses all the people, adding:

And may almighty God bless all of you, who are gathered here,
the Father, ✠ and the Son, ✠ and the Holy ✠ Spirit.

R. Amen.

Or:

Prayer over the People

The Bishop, with hands extended over the newly confirmed and the people, says:

Confirm, O God,
what you have brought about in us,
and preserve in the hearts of your faithful
the gifts of the Holy Spirit:

may they never be ashamed
to confess Christ crucified before the world
and by devoted charity
may they ever fulfill his commands.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, ✠ and the Son, ✠ and the Holy ✠ Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever.

R. Amen.

B

Entrance Antiphon

Rom 5: 5; cf. 8: 11

The love of God has been poured into our hearts
through the Spirit of God dwelling within us (E.T. alleluia).

Collect

Graciously pour out your Holy Spirit upon us,
we pray, O Lord,
so that, walking in oneness of faith
and strengthened by the power of his love,
we may come to the measure of the full stature of Christ.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Other prayers to be used at choice.

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept graciously these your servants, O Lord,
together with your Only Begotten Son,
so that, signed with his Cross and with a spiritual anointing,
they may constantly offer themselves to you
in union with him
and merit each day a greater outpouring of your Spirit.
Through Christ our Lord.

Preface I of the Holy Spirit or Preface II may be used.

In the Eucharistic Prayers there are proper intercessions.

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Ps 34 (33): 6, 9

Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
Taste and see that the Lord is good.
Blessed the man who seeks refuge in him (E.T. alleluia).

Prayer after Communion

**Instruct, O Lord, in the fullness of the Law
those you have endowed with the gifts of your Spirit
and nourished by the Body of your Only Begotten Son,
that they may constantly show to the world
the freedom of your adopted children
and, by the holiness of their lives,
exercise the prophetic mission of your people.
Through Christ our Lord.**

Solemn Blessing or Prayer over the People.

C

Other Prayers to be used if appropriate

Collect

**May the Paraclete who proceeds from you,
we pray, O Lord,
enlighten our minds and lead us into all truth,
just as your Son has promised.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.**

Prayer over the Offerings

**Accept the oblation of your family,
we pray, O Lord,
that those who have received the gift of the Holy Spirit
may keep safe what they have received
and come to eternal rewards.
Through Christ our Lord.**

Prayer after Communion

**Pour on us, O Lord, the Spirit of your love
and, in your kindness,
make those you have nourished by this one heavenly Bread
one in mind and heart.
Through Christ our Lord.**

Preface I of the Holy Spirit: The sending of the Spirit by the Lord upon the Church.

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

V. Lift up your hearts.

R. We lift them up to the Lord.

V. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R. It is right and just.

**It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Christ our Lord.**

**Ascending above all the heavens
and sitting at your right hand,
he poured out the promised Holy Spirit
on your adopted children.**

**Therefore, now and for ages unending,
with all the host of Angels,
we sing to you with all our hearts,
crying out as we acclaim:**

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts...

Preface II of the Holy Spirit: The action of the Spirit in the Church.

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

V. Lift up your hearts.

R. We lift them up to the Lord.

V. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R. It is right and just.

**It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.**

**For you bestow gifts suited to every season
and guide the governing of your Church in wonderful ways.**

**By the power of the Holy Spirit
you come unfailingly to her aid,
so that with a heart always subject to you
she may never fail to seek your help in time of trouble
nor cease to give you thanks in time of joy,
through Christ our Lord.**

**And so, in company with the choirs of Angels,
we praise you, and with joy we proclaim:**

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts...