



CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF CHRIST THE KING

714 King Street West ♦ Hamilton, Ontario L8P 1C7

(905) 522-5744

Sacrament of Confirmation

What is Confirmation?

Confirmation is a *Sacrament*, one of the *seven sacraments* of the Catholic Church. Along with *Baptism and Eucharist* it is a **Sacrament of Initiation**. A *Sacrament* is a visible sign, given to us by Christ, so that we can grow in his life. In addition to the Sacraments of Initiation, we also have *Sacraments of Healing – Reconciliation (Confession)* and the *Anointing of the Sick*. Through these Sacraments the Church brings the healing presence of Christ to those seeking forgiveness for sins; and healing in body or spirit during times of illness or near death. There are also two *Sacraments of Commitment – Marriage and Holy Orders*. In Marriage a man and woman are united in their love as a response to the love of God in their lives. Through Holy Orders the Church ordains deacons, priests and bishops to further the life of the Church through preaching and celebration.

Confirmation, celebrated after Baptism, deepens the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the life of the recipient. God's grace is given in this Sacrament so that the newly Confirmed can publicly profess the faith of the Church and grow as a disciple of the Lord. The Gifts of the Holy Spirit given in Baptism and deepened in Confirmation are a sure support in times of doubt or difficulty.

What happens during Confirmation?

The celebration of Confirmation takes place during Mass. After the reading of the Gospel, the candidates are presented to the Bishop who then preaches the homily. After the homily, the candidates renew their *Baptismal Promises* and the Bishop prays over the group of candidates. Then each candidate, with their sponsor, approaches the Bishop who anoints them on the forehead with *Sacred Chrism* while saying, **N, be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit**. The newly confirmed and the Bishop exchange the Sign of Peace. Once all the candidates have been confirmed, the celebration continues with the *Universal Prayer (General Intercessions)* and the celebration of the Eucharist.

What is Sacred Chrism?

Sacred Chrism is a mixture of olive oil and perfumed balsam. It is consecrated by the Bishop each year at the *Mass of Chrism* in Holy Week. It is used to anoint the newly baptized and confirmed, the hands of priests and heads of bishops at the ordination, and the Altar and walls of new Churches at the time of their dedication. It reminds us that we are set aside for mission – to bring others to Christ – and Christ to others.

How does Confirmation change me?

Confirmation reminds us that we are set aside for *mission*. We are called to participate in the mission of Christ in the world today. We take on that mission with the talents and abilities God has given us ... strengthened by His grace. We are called to be disciples – to conform our way of life to Christ and imitate his self-sacrificing love.

Mark the date ...

Retreat & Rehearsal

A retreat for all candidates which will conclude with a walk thru of the Confirmation ceremony. Retreat will be held in the Cathedral Auditorium:

Tuesday, May 28
9:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.
(lunch provided)

Confirmation Commitment Celebration

All parents, sponsors and candidates are invited to this celebration in which the Confirmation candidates will declare their intention to be confirmed:

Sunday, June 2, 2019
11:00 a.m. Mass
Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King

Confirmation Celebration

Candidates, parents, sponsors and guests will gather in the Cathedral Basilica for the celebration of Confirmation:

Saturday, June 8, 2019
5:00 p.m. Mass
Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King
(Candidates and Sponsors to arrive by 4:45 p.m.)

Sacrament of Confirmation – Candidate Information

Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, Hamilton

Please PRINT clearly and complete this form. You may return it to your child's classroom teacher by TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2019

Candidate's Name:

Given name(s)

Family name

Home address:

Unit/Apt. # - House/Building #

Street

Postal Code

Contact information:

Home telephone

Email address

Father's name:

Given name(s)

Family name

Religion

Mother's name <u>before</u> marriage:

Given name(s)

Family name (before marriage)

Religion

Candidate's Baptism:

Church of Baptism

Place

Date of Baptism

If your child was baptized at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King we have your child's baptismal record. If your child was not baptized at the Cathedral Basilica you must provide a "Baptismal Certificate" issued by the Catholic parish in which your child was baptized. Kindly include the Baptismal Certificate with this information form.

Sponsor Information

Candidates choose a sponsor to stand with them on the day of Confirmation and to assist them as an example of lived Catholic faith. A sponsor, according to Catholic Church law, must be a baptized, confirmed and regularly practicing member of the Catholic Church. He/she must be at least 16 years of age and may not be either the mother or father of one being Confirmed.

Sponsor's name:

Given name

Family name

Religion

Sponsor's address:

Apt./Unit # - Building/House #

Street

City/Prov.

Postal Code

Catholic Parish which sponsor normally attends:

Name of Catholic Church

Place

Parent's declaration

I understand that the parish program of preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation requires my child to attend preparation sessions at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King. I understand that full participation in this program is essential for the celebration of Confirmation.

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Parent's signature

Date