

# Preparation of the Ritual Celebration of Confirmation



Archdiocese of Perth  
Centre for Liturgy

### **When the Archbishop is Conferring Confirmation**

- Complete your draft order of service outline using the template provided.
- Send the draft to the Centre for Liturgy [director@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:director@perthcatholic.org.au) to be reviewed.
- Include with the draft a name and the contact number of the person preparing the ritual.
- If adjustments need to be made you will be contacted.
- The Centre for Liturgy will prepare the final outline for the Archbishop and prepared a folder for him. A copy of this outline will be sent to you.

## Preparation of the Ritual celebration of Confirmation

The following pages include:

Preparing a Confirmation order of service outline – notes.

### Page 3

- These notes indicate where to look in **The Roman Missal** for the various prayers for Confirmation celebrated at a Mass and where to find a choice of readings in the **Lectionary of the Mass**.

A template for the order of service booklet that is required for the Celebrant. **Page 14**

- This template requires that you fill in the areas where you see red text with either a hymn that is being used at give parts of the ceremony, the readings that will be used or the indication the parts of the Mass that will be sung.

How to prepare Universal Prayers. **Page 8**

- The order of service template already has Universal Prayers inserted from the rite of Confirmation.
- This information sheet gives you guidelines to help you prepare alternative prayers.

Use of the Mitre and Crosier during Mass. **Page 12**

- This information is to assist Altar Ministers and Acolytes when assisting a Bishop at a Confirmation Mass.

## Preparing a Confirmation Order of Service

### outline notes

Preparing the ritual outline for the Eucharist in which the Rite of Confirmation is celebrated can be challenging given that this ritual is usually only celebrated once a year and those responsible for preparing the outline may be new to the role.

To assist and streamline this process a template for the ritual outline has been developed. The order of service template is in a Word document and indicates what needs to be filled in.

It is not necessary to put into the order of service the prayers that the Celebrant alone says throughout the Mass as there are several he can choose from on the day.

### Missal Prayers

Please mark the prayers below in the Roman Missal at the indicated pages in preparation for the Celebrant on the day of the Confirmation.

### Introductory Rites

#### **Collect**

The Collect is taken from The Roman Missal. One of the choices has been included in the template which can be placed in a folder for the Celebrant. - see pages 1189-1190 in The Roman Missal.

If the celebrant is the Archbishop, he will bring his own prepared folder.

## Eucharistic Prayer

**Eucharistic Prayer II** - *see page 678*

**Prayer over the Offerings** – *see pages 1186, 1189 or 1190 in The Roman Missal.*

**Preface** – *Preface I of the Holy Spirit (Roman Missal pages 1405-1406)*

## Concluding Rites

### Prayer After Communion

The Prayer after Communion *is taken from The Roman Missal. One of the choices has been included in the template. - see pages 1187 or 1190 in The Roman Missal.*

## The Liturgy of the Word

### Choice of Readings

Scripture readings are chosen from **Lectionary III** pp.86ff “Readings for Confirmation”. Readings and Presidential Prayers are not to be changed on the Sundays of Advent, Lent, the Easter Season and Solemnities.

Mary, Mother of God  
Epiphany of the Lord  
St Patrick, Bishop  
Joseph, Husband of Mary  
Annunciation of the Lord  
Easter Sunday  
Mary, Help of Christians  
Ascension of the Lord  
Pentecost Sunday  
Trinity Sunday

The Body and Blood of Christ  
Nativity of John the Baptist  
Sacred Heart of Jesus  
St Peter and Paul  
Assumption of the Virgin Mary  
St Mary of the Cross  
All Saints  
Christ the King  
Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary  
Christmas

**As the dates for Solemnities will change each year  
you will need to check the Ordo.**

At parish Masses on Sundays, the Mass of the day is normally used, and the Sunday readings respected, though the ritual Mass with its readings may be used on the Sundays of Christmas and Ordinary Time. On days when ritual Masses are not allowed, one of the readings may still be taken from those provided for the celebrations of sacrament, except Christmas, Epiphany, Easter, Ascension, Pentecost, Corpus Christi and Assumption

### **First Reading**

*-See The Lectionary Volume III, pages 86-91 (Outside the Easter Season).*

*-See The Lectionary Volume III, pages 91-97 (During the Easter Season).*

## Responsorial Psalm

*-See The Lectionary Volume III, pages 86-91 (Outside the Easter Season).*

*-See The Lectionary Volume III, pages 91-97 (During the Easter Season).*

## Second Reading

*-See The Lectionary Volume III, pages 97-100.*

## Gospel Acclamation

*-See The Lectionary Volume III, pages 100-109.*

## Gospel

*-See The Lectionary Volume III, pages 100-109.*

## Universal Prayer

Sample petitions have been included from The Order of Confirmation ritual outline that is attached (pages 16-17).

*These prayers are only examples taken from 'The Order of Confirmation' pages 16-17. You may wish to adjust them to suit your community celebration.*

## How to Prepare Universal Prayers

The Universal Prayer or the Prayer of the Faithful is the prayer of the church for the world in general. The intercessions are not prayers of thanksgiving but petitions from the entire community placed before a loving God. The statements are short and simple but also broad and inclusive. For example, instead of praying for 'those in hospital' the petition can be broadened to 'All who suffer injury or illness especially those in hospital'.

*Asking on behalf of another – has been characteristic of a heart attuned to God's mercy. The one who prays looks "not only to their own interests, but also to the interests of others," even to the point of praying for those who do you harm."*

*Catholic Catechism of the Church #2653*

The intentions take the form of a litany. As litanies they move best when they follow a pattern.

The intention – each petition in a set should commence with the same wording.

**For example:**

*For those whom God has called to eternal life, **that** they hear the call of the Good Shepherd as reward for their good actions in this life.*



*For world leaders, that they work together to bring about world peace and healing to those who suffer as a consequence of war and terrorism.*

The reader's invitation to the assembly to respond to the prayer is by 'Lord, hear us' or similar words. **Live and Proclaim God's Word**, A Handbook for Readers in Parish and School, Archdiocese of Perth Liturgical Guidelines - Pages 11 & 12.

Other names for the Universal prayers are Prayers of the Faithful, Bidding Prayers, General Intercessions.

**The Liturgy of the Word concludes with the Universal Prayers.**

### **The Universal Prayer from The General Instruction of the Roman Missal**

**69.** In the Universal Prayer or Prayer of the Faithful, the people respond in some sense to the Word of God which they have received in faith and, exercising the office of their baptismal priesthood, offer prayers to God for the salvation of all. It is desirable that there usually be such a form of prayer in Masses celebrated with the people, so that petitions may be offered for holy Church, for those who govern with authority over us, for those weighed down by various needs, for all humanity, and for the salvation of the whole world.

**70.** The series of intentions is usually to be:

- a) for the needs of the Church;
- b) for public authorities and the salvation of the whole world;

- c) for those burdened by any kind of difficulty;
- d) for the local community.

Nevertheless, in any particular celebration, such as a Confirmation, a Marriage, or at a Funeral, the series of intentions may be concerned more closely with the particular occasion.

**71.** It is for the Celebrant to regulate this prayer from the chair. He himself begins it with a brief introduction, by which he calls upon the faithful to pray, and likewise he concludes it with an oration. The intentions announced should be sober, be composed with a wise liberty and in few words, and they should be expressive of the prayer of the entire community.

They are announced from the ambo or from another suitable place, by the Deacon or by a cantor, a reader, or one of the lay faithful.

**68.** The people, for their part, stand and give expression to their prayer either by an invocation said in common after each intention or by praying in silence.

### **Examples of Formularies for the Universal Prayer. from *The Roman Missal, Appendix V, page 1515***

#### **Formula I**

For..... intention.

That ...prayer

For refugees and all who have fled violence, that they will be guided to places of safety and helped to rebuild their lives.

## Formula II

For.... intention

Let us...prayer

For those who hold public office, let us call on the power of the Lord.

### Other Examples:

For our political leaders. May they be blessed with insight and courage and seek to develop policies that serve the common good.

For people whose lives have been devastated by natural disasters. May they be given the support needed for them to rebuild their lives and communities.

### Resource:

Pastoral Liturgy have General Intercessions for every Sunday of the liturgical year. Link to this resource is on the [Centre for Liturgy](#), Archdiocese of Perth, website homepage.

## Use of the Mitre and the Crosier in the Mass

Two extra Altar Ministers are required to assist with the Crosier and Mitre. They walk behind the Bishop, give a profound bow and take their seat close enough to be available when needed to assist with the Bishop's Crosier and mitre.

### Crosier

**As a rule, the Bishop holds the pastoral staff (Crosier) when he:**

- walks in procession
- listens to the Gospel reading
- gives the Homily
- bestows a blessing on people.

### Mitre

**As a rule, the bishop wears the Mitre when he:**

- is seated.
- gives the Homily
- greets the people, addresses them or gives them the invitation to pray.
- gives a solemn blessing
- confers a Sacrament
- walks in a procession.

**The following are the times that the Altar Minister needs to be prepared to assist the Bishop:**

- Entrance Procession
- Incensing of the Altar the Bishop hands the Crosier to the Altar Minister.

- After incensing the Altar: Receives Crosier to walk back to presider's chair.
- Presiders Chair: Mitre and Crosier removed at the chair.
- After the Introductory Rites and before the First Reading: the Bishop receives the Mitre.
- When the Bishop stands for the Gospel Acclamation (after he puts incense in the thurible): the Mitre is removed, and the Crosier given to the Bishop.
- During the Homily: Mitre and Crosier are used.
- Profession of Faith: Mitre and Crosier are removed.
- After the Prayer over the Gifts: the Bishop removes the skull cap and either places it on the altar or hands it to an Altar Minister.
- After Holy Communion: the Bishop places the skull cap on his head.
- Final Blessing and Recessional Procession: Mitre and Crosier are used.

**Altar Ministers need to be close to the Bishop so that the Mitre and Crosier are always ready.**

Confirmation Order of Service  
Template

**Cover Page**

**COVER PAGE**

**Confirmation Mass**

**at**

(Insert name of Church/ Parish here)

**on**

(insert date here)

**Celebrant:**

## The Introductory Rites

### Processional Hymn

*Insert text here.*

### Sign of the Cross/ Greeting

### Penitential Act

Celebrant: Brothers and Sisters, let us acknowledge our sins,  
and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred  
mysteries.

All: I confess to almighty God  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned,  
in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,  
through my fault, through my fault,  
through my most grievous fault;  
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,  
all the Angels and Saints,  
and you, my brothers and sisters,  
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Celebrant: May almighty God have mercy on us,  
forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy. *(Will this be sung – yes/no?)*

All: Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.



## Gloria

(Will this be sung – yes/no?)

All:           Glory to God in the Highest,  
                  and on earth peace to people of good will.  
                  We praise you,  
                  we bless you,  
                  we adore you,  
                  we glorify you,  
                  we give you thanks for your great glory,  
                  Lord God, heavenly King.  
                  O God, almighty Father.

                  Lord, Jesus Christ, Only begotten Son,  
                  Lord God, Lamb of God, son of the Father,  
                  you take away the sins of the world,  
                          have mercy on us;  
                  you take away the sins of the world,  
                          receive our prayer;  
                  you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
                          have mercy on us.

                  For you alone are the Holy One,  
                  you alone are the Lord,  
                  you alone are the Most High,  
                  Jesus Christ,  
                  with the Holy Spirit,  
                  in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

# The Liturgy of the Word

## First Reading

*-Insert text here.*

## Responsorial Psalm

*-Insert text here.*

## Second Reading

*-Insert text here.*

## Gospel Acclamation

*-Insert text here.*

## Gospel

*-Insert text here.*

# The Rite of Confirmation

## Presentation of the Candidates

Parish Priest: Would those who are to be confirmed please stand.

The Parish community of *(insert name here)* wishes to present to you these candidates who have been prepared to receive the fullness of Christian initiation in the Sacrament of Confirmation. It is my privilege to present them to you.

Celebrant: Do you judge them to have been prepared to receive the sacrament?

Parish Priest: Yes, I believe with the help of their parents and teachers that they are suitably prepared.

Celebrant: Thanks be to God. I gladly accept these candidates to receive the sacrament of Confirmation.

*Please be seated*

## Homily

### Renewal of Baptismal Promises - *Candidates are invited to stand.*

Celebrant: Do you renounce Satan and all his works and empty promises?

Candidates: I do.

Celebrant: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?

Candidates: I do.

Celebrant: 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.

**Celebrant:** Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who today through the Sacrament of Confirmation is given to you in a special way just as he was given to the Apostles on the day of Pentecost?

**Candidates: I do.**

**Celebrant:** 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.**

**Celebrant:** This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church. We are proud to profess it in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

### **Laying on of Hands**

**Celebrant:** Dearly beloved,  
let us pray to God the almighty Father,  
for these, his adopted sons and daughters,  
already born again to eternal life in Baptism,  
that he will graciously pour out the Holy Spirit upon  
them to confirm them with his abundant gifts,  
and through his anointing  
conform them more fully to Christ, the Son of God.

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who brought these your servants to new birth  
by water and the Holy Spirit,  
freeing them from sin:  
send upon them, O Lord, the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete;  
give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and fortitude,  
the spirit of knowledge and piety;  
fill them with the spirit of the fear of the Lord.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

*Candidates are seated.*

## **Anointing of the Candidates**

*Congregation remains seated.*

*The Chrism is brought to the Celebrant. Candidates give their Confirmation card to the Acolyte and standing in front of the celebrant, say their Confirmation name.*

*The Sponsor places his/her right hand on the candidate's right shoulder. The Celebrant will make the sign of the cross on the forehead of each candidate.*

Celebrant: Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Candidate: **Amen.**

Celebrant: Peace be with you.

Newly Confirmed: **And with your Spirit.**

## Universal Prayer

These prayers are only examples taken from 'The Order of Confirmation pages 16-17'. You may wish to adjust them to suit your community celebration.

Celebrant: My dear brothers and sisters,  
Let us humbly pray to God the almighty Father  
and be of one mind in our prayer,  
just as faith, hope and charity,  
which proceed from His Holy Spirit, are one.

For these his servants,  
whom the gift of the Holy Spirit has confirmed:  
that, planted in faith and grounded in love,  
they may bear witness to Christ the Lord  
by their way of life,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

For their parents and sponsors:  
that by word and example  
they may continue to encourage  
those whom they have sponsored in the faith  
to follow in the footsteps of Christ,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the holy Church of God  
together with Francis our Pope,  
Timothy our Bishop and all the Bishops:  
that, gathered by the Holy Spirit,  
the Church may grow and increase in unity  
of faith and love until the coming of the Lord.  
let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the whole world:  
that all people, who have one Maker and Father,  
may acknowledge one another as brothers and sisters,  
without discrimination of race or nation,  
and with sincere hearts seek the Kingdom of God,  
which is peace and joy in the Holy Spirit,  
let us pray to the Lord.  
**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Celebrant:** O God, who gave the Holy Spirit to your Apostles  
and willed that through them and their successors  
the same Spirit be handed on to the rest of the faithful,  
listen favourably to our prayer,  
and grant that your divine grace,  
which was at work when the Gospel was first proclaimed,  
may now spread through the hearts of those  
who believe in you.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

## **The Liturgy of the Eucharist**

### **Preparation of the Offerings**

*-Insert text of hymn here.*

**Holy, Holy, Holy** (Will this be sung – yes/no?)

**All:** Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

**Memorial Acclamation** (Will this be sung – yes/no?)

**All:** We proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
and profess your Resurrection  
until you come again.

**Great Amen** (Will this be sung – yes/no?)

Celebrant: Through him, and with him, and in him,  
O God, almighty Father  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honour is yours,  
for ever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

Celebrant: At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching  
we dare to say:

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil**

Celebrant: Deliver us, Lord, from every evil,  
graciously grant peace in our days,  
that, by the help of your mercy,  
we may be always free from sin and safe from all  
distress,  
as we await the blessed hope  
and the coming of our  
Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**All: For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever.**



## Lamb of God

(Will this be sung – yes/no?)

All:

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world;  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world;  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world;  
grant us peace.

## Communion Hymn

*-Insert text here*

## Post-Communion Hymn

*-Insert text here*

## The Concluding Rite

### Solemn Blessing and Dismissal

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**All: And with your spirit.**

Celebrant: Bow down for the blessing.

Celebrant: 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.

**All: Amen.**

Celebrant: 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.

**All: Amen.**

Celebrant: 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.

**All: Amen.**

Celebrant: May almighty God bless you,  
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

Celebrant: Go forth, the Mass is ended.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Recessional Hymn

*-Insert text here*



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