

Confirmation Connect: Candidate Journal



Archdiocese of Dublin
THE OFFICE FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit, spirit of love,
Fill our hearts with love.
Holy Spirit, spirit of peace
Make us instruments of your peace.
Holy Spirit, spirit of God,
Be our leader and guide.

Come, Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of the faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth Your Spirit
and they shall be created.
And You will renew the face of the earth.

O God, who has taught
the hearts of the faithful
by the light of the Holy Spirit,
grant us in the same spirit
to be truly wise
and ever to rejoice in His consolation,
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

My Faith Journey So Far...!

My name is

I am years old.

I go to school.

My teacher is



The church of my Baptism is

Date of my Baptism

Names of my Godparents



The church of my First Communion is

Date of my First Communion



The church of my Confirmation is

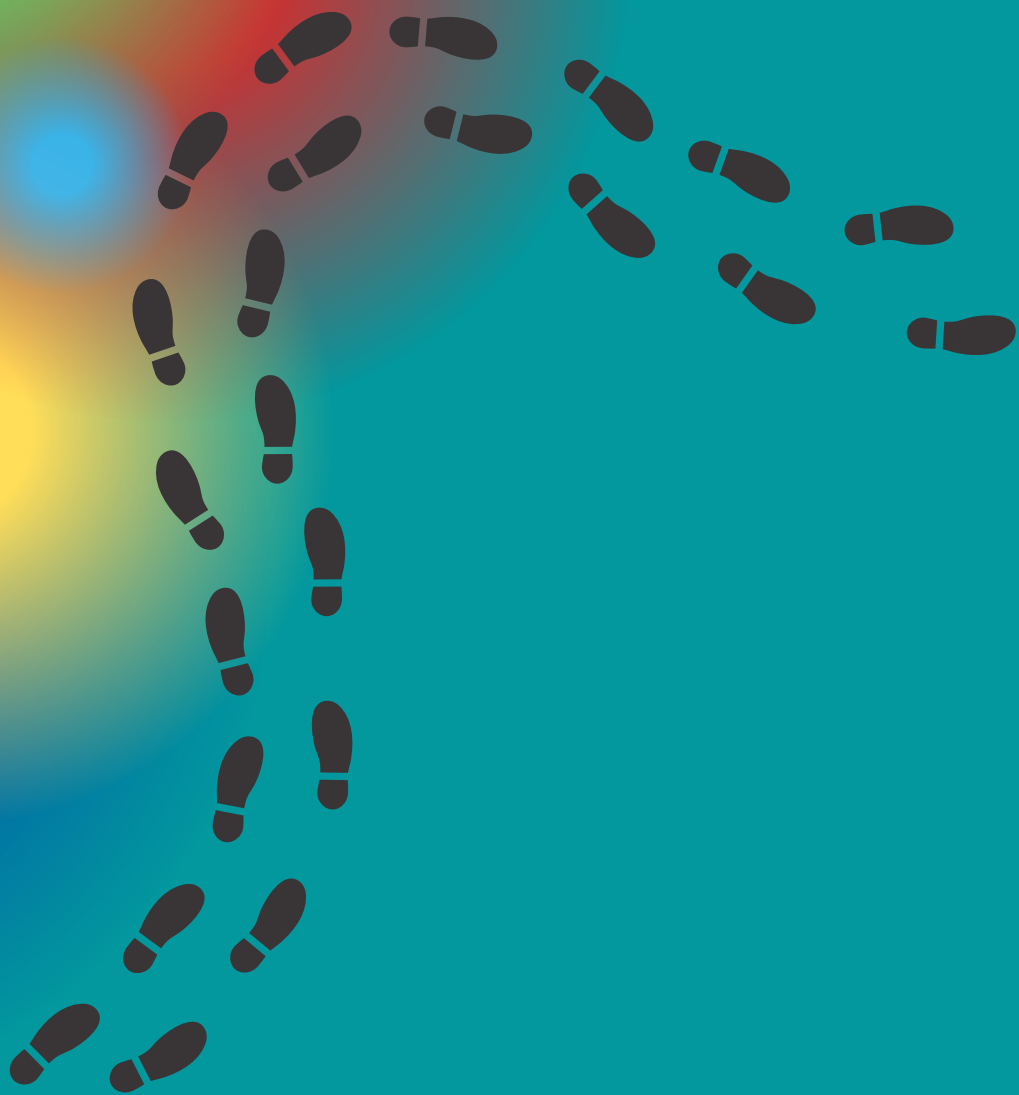
Date of my Confirmation is

My Confirmation Name is

My Confirmation Sponsor is

Connection 1:

Journey in Faith





Video 1: Strength for the Journey

We spend our lives changing...

Celebrated in Baptism

*Big Moments in life so far...
First Day of School
First Communion*

Change can be unfamiliar...

We Grow
We Change
We Learn
We Move On
We Leave Something Behind
for a new world of possibilities

Now...
an ending and a
beginning

*...Hopes, Expectations and Letting
Go...*

*Deep hopes for your happiness and worries
that all will go well*

**IT IS GOOD TO REMEMBER YOU ARE NOT ALONE,
SOMEBODY WILL ALWAYS BE BY YOUR SIDE**

*God walks with you, loving you every
moment of your life*

Anointed

God's Spirit

Say **'Yes!'** at
Confirmation

*Nothing can separate us from the Love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord
~ St Paul*



Video 1:

Strength for the Journey

Candidate

What are your hopes for the next stage of your journey?

How do you hope Confirmation will help you on this journey?

What does it feel like to have God on your side?

Parent/Guardian

Share on why you had your child Baptised?

What are your hopes for your child as they take the next steps on the journey?

How do you hope Confirmation will help your child on their journey?



Session 1:

My Pledge & Promise

NOW YOU ARE FINISHING PRIMARY SCHOOL IT'S TIME
TO MAKE SOME CHOICES.

NAME THREE THINGS THAT YOU CAN NOW MAKE
CHOICES ABOUT IN YOUR LIFE.

FIRST CHOICE
I CAN CHOOSE...

SECOND CHOICE
I CAN CHOOSE...

THIRD CHOICE
I CAN CHOOSE...



At Baptism God chose you...

- YOU WERE CHOSEN TO SHARE
GOD'S LOVE.
- You were chosen to share
God's goodness and kindness.
- You were chosen to be a friend
and disciple of Jesus



Now you can make your choice for God.

- **To continue to follow Jesus.**
- **To live and act as one of his disciples.**
- **To strengthen and affirm God's choice of you at Baptism**

As you begin to prepare for the great Sacrament of Confirmation take time to reflect about the choices you can make in this year.

If you agree with these promises then sign the pledge below:

My Pledge

- I promise to respond as fully as I can to my Baptism
- I promise to pray each day
- I promise to think about what God calls me to do
- I promise to help others
- I promise to be kind and fair
- I promise to be patient with myself and others
- I promise to be thoughtful and considerate
- I promise to share well
- I promise to make good use of the internet
- I promise to be the best I can be

Signed: _____

Date: _____

TO HELP YOU DO YOUR FIRST TASK
DO A LITTLE BIT OF RESEARCH.

FIND OUT:

WHAT A CONFIRMATION SPONSOR
DOES.

THEN THINK ABOUT A PERSON YOU
KNOW WHO FITS THAT
DESCRIPTION.

INVITE THAT PERSON TO BE YOUR
SPONSOR AND TO PRAY FOR YOU
EVERY DAY.

Scan or Click the QR
code in the title of this
session to help you with
your research.



JOURNALLING TASK

It's always good to write down our thoughts and feelings. This is what we do when we keep a diary and write down things that are important to us.

Sometimes we can look back on our journal or diary and see what we have learned, how we have changed and how we have grown. As you prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation you are being asked to keep a journal and add to it once a week. You can start with the journal entry box on the next page.

This will give you an opportunity to stop and reflect on:

- 1. Where you are in your friendship with God?**
- 2. What you are learning?**
- 3. What you are achieving?**

To help you on the journey, you will be asked to share your journal with some the following people:

- **Your Parish Priest or School Chaplain or**
- **Your mum or dad or**
- **The Person you have chosen to be your Sponsor**



Session 2: Bringing Good News

WHEN YOU ARE CONFIRMED YOU ARE CALLED LIKE JESUS TO BE A PERSON WHO SHARES THE GOOD NEWS.

LISTEN TO THESE WORDS OF THE GOSPEL AND BE PREPARED TO SHARE HOW YOU CAN SHARE IN THE MISSION OF JESUS.

Jesus travelled to Nazareth, where he had grown up. On the Sabbath day he went to the synagogue as he always did. Jesus stood up to read. The book of Isaiah the prophet was given to him. He opened the book and found the place where this is written:



"The Spirit of the Lord is in me. This is because God chose me to tell the Good News to the poor. God sent me to tell the prisoners of sin that they are free, and to tell the blind that they can see again. God sent me to free those who have been treated unfairly, and to announce the time when the Lord will show kindness to his people."

(Luke 4: 16-19)

REFLECTION BOX

WRITE ABOUT WHO YOU THINK ARE THE POOR PEOPLE IN OUR WORLD TODAY WHO NEED TO HEAR GOOD NEWS AND WHO NEED TO BE TREATED FAIRLY AND KINDLY.

WE ARE ALL CALLED TO BE THE GOOD NEWS FOR OUR WORLD.
TAKE TIME TO WORK OUT WHAT THE MISSING LETTERS ARE
AND LEARN HOW YOU CAN BE GOOD NEWS FOR OTHERS.

G _ ve g _ ner _ us _ y

Op _ n yo _ r ha _ ds to the p _ or

O _ en y _ ur e _ es to the ne _ dy

Da _ e to m _ ke a d _ ffe _ ence

N _ ver be un _ ind

Ev _ ry go _ d act co _ nt _

Wa _ k wi _ h the po _ r

Sh _ re a _ l y _ u ha _ e.



**NOW WRITE ABOUT HOW YOU CAN
BE GOOD NEWS FOR OTHERS.**

A PRAYER TO SAY

**AS YOU JOURNEY TOWARDS
CONFIRMATION, TAKE TIME TO
PRAY EACH DAY.
YOU CAN USE THIS PRAYER:**

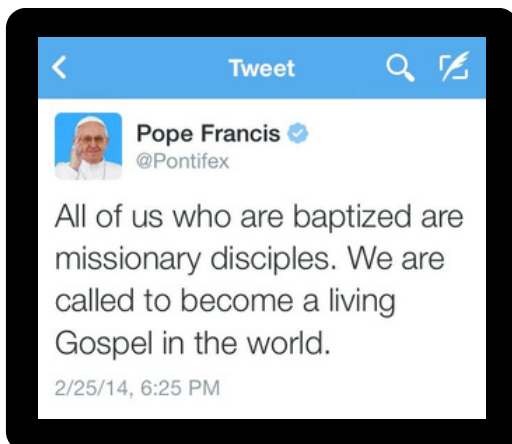
Grow, Jesus,
grow in me.
In my spirit,
in my heart,
in my imagination,
in my hands
in my feet.



Grow in me in your gentleness,
in your kindness and love.
Grow in me with your grace,
your light and your peace.
Grow in me
so that I will become Good News.



**WRITE A TWEET TO POPE FRANCIS ABOUT
HOW YOU CAN BE GOOD NEWS FOR OTHERS:**



Back arrow | Tweet | Search icon | Compose icon



Session 3:

Being a Person of Faith

In the Gospels Jesus meets lots of people, he cures many people who are sick and restores them to full health.

Take time to remember these stories from Luke's Gospel:

- **The Ten Lepers and the man who gave thanks (Luke 17: 11-19)**
- **The Widow whose son was very ill and the words Jesus said to her (Luke 7: 11-17)**
- **The Woman who anointed the feet of Jesus (Mark 14: 3-9)**
- **The Tax Collector who stood at the back of the Temple and asked for God's mercy (Luke 18: 9-14)**
- **The Words of the man who was made clean by Jesus (Matthew 8: 1-4)**
- **The woman who reached out and touched Jesus (Mark 5: 21-34)**
- **The faith of the centurion (Matthew 8: 5-13)**

All of these people put their faith and trust in Jesus.
They **believed** in Him.



Complete the missing letters in the sentences below to find out how the people mentioned above expressed their faith in Jesus or how Jesus recognised their faith.

Stand _p and go _n your w_y. You were h_aled because y_u b_l_eved.

Bec_ use you b_lie_ed, yo_ are s_ved from _our s_ns. G_ in pe_ce.

G_d have me_cy on _e. I _m a si_n_r.

Lo_d if yo_ want _o, y_u ca_ ma_e me c_ean.

Wom_n y_ur fa_th has s_ved _ou. Go _n pe_ce.

I t_ll you, no_ eve_ in Is_ael have I f_und su_h gre_t f_ith.



A PRAYER TO SAY

**AS YOU JOURNEY TOWARDS
CONFIRMATION, TAKE TIME TO
PRAY EACH DAY.
YOU CAN USE THIS PRAYER:**



Be silent.
Be still.
Alone. Open
before God.
Say nothing.
Ask Nothing.
Be silent.
Be still.
Let God
look upon you.
That is all.
He knows.
He understands.
He loves you with
an enormous love.
He only wants to
look upon you
with His Love.
Quiet.
Still.
Be.
Let God love you.

A MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS

'God loves us.
We should not be afraid of loving Him.

Faith is expressed
with the lips and with the heart,
with words and with love.'

As you prepare for Confirmation think about
how you live your faith in words and actions.



Rite 1:

Presentation of the Gospels

Presider: Children, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and in the name of all who believe in him and are here today, we welcome you to celebrate the gift of God's Word to us in the Scriptures.

I invite you to come forward and to stand in front of the altar so that we can present you with these precious words of life.



Each child is called forward by name

Candidates come forward and stand in front of the altar

PRESENTATION of the SCRIPTURES

Presider: Let us pray for these candidates that God will fill their hearts with love for the Scriptures they are about to receive.

Loving Father, bless these candidates
for Confirmation.
Through your Holy Spirit enlighten their minds
and open their hearts
to love and treasure the words of the Gospel.
Through reading and praying the Scriptures
may they come to know Jesus
and his love for them,
putting his words into practice in their lives.
We ask this through Christ our Lord



BLESSING of the GOSPEL BOOKS

Presider: We now ask God to bless these books of the Gospel. May our candidates find in them the living word of God. May these words of the Gospel enlighten their minds and fill their hearts with God's love.

Leader: In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, and in the name of his Church here present, we are happy to invite our candidates to come forward to receive the book which contains the Good News of Jesus Christ.

The children come forward to receive a copy of the Gospel

The presider says the following words as he hands the Gospel to the child:

N....(name of child), receive the Gospel,
the Good News of Jesus Christ, Son of God.

Candidate: Thanks be to God

INTERCESSIONS

PRESIDER: We pray now for our candidates that God's word will give them life:

PARENT 1: We pray that the book of the Gospel, which our candidates have received, may enlighten and inspire them to know, love and follow Jesus throughout their lives.
LORD HEAR US

PARENT 2: We pray that they may learn to listen with their hearts to God speaking to them in the words of the Gospel.
LORD HEAR US

PARENT 3: We pray that God's word may be a living word that speaks to them every day of their lives.
LORD HEAR US

PRESIDER:
Lord, bless these children of light
who now receive your word.
May the word of God always live in their hearts
that they may bring your Good News to the world.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.



CONNECTION 2:

CALLED IN FAITH





Video 2: Called By Name

*Kind, caring and generous to
everyone she knew*

Our name tells us that we are unique

When we join a choir, or a
sports team, or when enrol
for confirmation, we put
our name down

I chose my
confirmation name in
honour of my
grandmother

There is only one you

The Faith
Community
Welcomes Us

At Baptism our parents give us a name

We are Baptised in the name of the FATHER,
SON AND HOLY SPIRIT

WE HOPE TO BE STRENGTHENED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

You will choose a new name...
Many from the Bible took a new name

Our confirmation
name can represent a
new beginning

How does Jesus inspire us?

Who inspires you?

Today we are asked to carry forward the light of faith, hope and love
in Jesus's name



Video 2: Called By Name

Candidate

What new beginning do you hope Confirmation will bring you?

What steps have you taken so far to help choose a Confirmation name?

Who is your inspiration in life and why?

Parent/Guardian

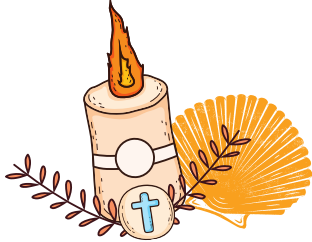
Share how you went about picking your child's name at birth?

What is your Confirmation Name and how was it chosen?

Who is your inspiration in life and why?



Session 4: Called to be a Witness



At your baptism three things happened:

- YOU WERE MADE A LIFELONG FRIEND OF JESUS
- YOU WERE GIVEN A PLACE IN THE FAMILY OF THE CHURCH
- YOU WERE ASKED TO BE A WITNESS TO THE LOVE OF JESUS

Often people are called to court to be a witness

A witness is a person who can **speak for the truth**

A witness is a person who will **defend another**

A witness is a person who **saw what happened**

A witness is a person who says **I know, I was there**



ALL OF THE BAPTISED ARE CALLED TO WITNESS TO JESUS, TO SAY I KNOW HIM, I CAN TELL YOU ABOUT HIS LIFE IN THE GOSPELS, I CAN MEET HIM IN PRAYER, I CAN SERVE HIM IN MY LIFE.

CLICK THE IMAGE OF SR CLARE CROCKETT OR SCAN THE QR CODE ABOVE TO FIND OUT ABOUT HER AND HOW SHE WAS A WITNESS TO JESUS.

Fill in the missing words to find out how she was a witness.

Clare _ _ _ _ _ with joy wherever she was sent.

Clare _ _ _ _ _ to the poor

Clare _ _ _ _ _ talked about Jesus to others

Clare lived a simple life of _ _ _ _ _

Clare made _ _ _ _ _ happy at work and in the convent

Clare _ _ _ _ _ in place with her class during the earthquake

SERVED, REACHED OUT, POVERTY, OTHERS, STAYED, OFTEN

REFLECTION BOX

THINK ABOUT THE MANY WAYS YOU CAN BE A WITNESS TO YOUR FAITH IN JESUS AND WRITE DOWN SOME FAITH ACTIONS YOU CAN PUT INTO PRACTICE:

AT HOME I CAN WITNESS
TO MY FAITH BY...

AT SCHOOL I CAN WITNESS
TO MY FAITH BY...

IN MY PARISH I CAN
WITNESS TO MY FAITH BY...

WITH FRIENDS I CAN
WITNESS TO MY FAITH BY...

A PRAYER TO SAY

AS YOU JOURNEY TOWARDS CONFIRMATION,
TAKE TIME TO PRAY EACH DAY.
YOU CAN USE THE PRAYER OF ST FRANCIS
OF ASSISI, THIS WAS A FAVOURITE PRAYER
OF SR CLARE CROCKETT:



Lord, make me an instrument of
your peace;
where there is hatred, let me sow
love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master,
grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console;
to be understood, as to
understand;
to be loved, as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are
pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are
born to eternal life.

WRITE A TEXT MESSAGE ABOUT HOW YOU ARE GOING TO BE
A WITNESS AND SEND IT TO YOUR CONFIRMATION SPONSOR.

A MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS

Pope Francis at
World Youth Day 2013

"You too, dear young people,
can be joyful witnesses of his
love, courageous witnesses
of his Gospel, carrying to this
world a ray of his light."

A large rectangular box with a grey border, intended for writing a text message. It contains five speech bubbles: a large blue one at the top, a smaller green one below it, another large blue one below that, and two more speech bubbles at the bottom, one blue and one green.



Session 5: Called to be an Apostle

IN CONFIRMATION YOU WILL RECEIVE THE SAME SPIRIT THAT THE APOSTLES RECEIVED AT PENTECOST. THIS IS WHAT HAPPENED TO THEM:

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a noise came from heaven. It sounded like a strong wind blowing. This noise filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw something that looked like flames of fire. The flames were separated and stood over each person there. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they began to speak different languages. The Holy Spirit was giving them the power to speak these languages.

ACTS of the APOSTLES 2: 1- 4



REFLECTION BOX

At your Baptism your parents were given a lighted candle and promised to keep the flame of faith burning brightly in your heart.

This was a solemn promise and you will be asked by the Celebrant at Confirmation if you are now ready to carry that flame of faith and keep it burning brightly.

Share with the person beside you what can help you to keep your faith alive.

BECOMING AN APOSTLE

Fill in the missing words to find out how you are called to be an Apostle.

The apostles were _ _ _ _ _ with the fire of God's _ _ _ _ . At Confirmation the fire of God's love will _ _ _ _ _ me for _ _ _ _ _ and to reach out to others.

The apostles were able to _ _ _ _ _ to everyone and be _ _ _ _ _ . At Confirmation the Holy Spirit will _ _ _ _ _ me to speak of God's love.

The apostles were given _ _ _ _ _ and conviction. At Confirmation the Holy Spirit will give me the strength to _ _ _ _ _ to my faith.

**HELP LOVE SPEAK STRENGTHEN UNDERSTOOD
FILLED SERVICE COURAGE WITNESS**

ANOINTED AND SEALED FOR SERVICE

At Confirmation, the Celebrant will **anoint** you with the oil of **Chrism** for **service** and **witness**. You are already anointed.



This happened at your **Baptism**, where the priest anointed you to live like Jesus as a **priest, prophet** and **king**.

Just as a priest worships, you were called to **pray** and **worship**.

Just as a king serves, you were called to **serve** others in love.

Just as the prophets were called to speak up for the truth, you too at your Baptism were called to **stand up** for God.

Through the anointing of Confirmation, you will be given more **strength** to serve, set aside for service, **sealed** with the gifts of the Holy Spirit so that you can make a difference in the world.

You will be marked forever with this seal so that you can be a witness.

This seal is a promise that you will always belong to God.

This means that you must honour God's promise by being faithful.



REFLECTION BOX

NOW YOU ARE COMING CLOSER TO THE CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION. WRITE A SHORT PERSONAL STATEMENT ABOUT WHY YOU WANT TO MAKE YOUR CONFIRMATION.

A PRAYER TO SAY

**AS YOU JOURNEY TOWARDS
CONFIRMATION, TAKE TIME TO
PRAY EACH DAY.
YOU CAN USE POPE FRANCIS'
FIVE FINGER PRAYER**



The **thumb** is the closest finger to you so start praying for those who are closest to you. They are the people easiest to remember – your family and your friends.

The next finger is the **index finger**. It points the way. Pray for teachers and for all those who help you to learn.

The **middle finger** is the tallest. It reminds us of our leaders and all who have authority to change the world and make it a better place. They make important decisions that affect people's lives and need God's guidance.

The **fourth finger is the ring finger**. This is the weakest of all your fingers. It should remind you to pray for people who are weak, sick, poor, or facing other problems. They need your prayers.

Finally, your **little finger** should remind you to pray for yourself. When you have finished praying for others you will be able to see your own needs.



A MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS

Thank the Lord every day for the grace of your confirmation. Filled with the joy of the Holy Spirit, may you always mirror Christ's presence in your life with others, your openness to those in need and your living witness to the Gospel message of joy and peace.



THINK ABOUT

- How you will live out your Confirmation for the rest of your life.
- What difference being Confirmed will make in your life.
- How you can always call upon the help of the Holy Spirit.

Expect to do great things!!



Session 6: Called to be Saints

At Confirmation we are reminded that we are called to be Saints.

A Saint is someone who:

- Followed Jesus in everything they did
- Lived their baptism to the full
- Relied on the Holy Spirit to help them



Some saints are known for their great patience or courage. Other saints are known for standing up for what is right and sometimes dying for what they believe. Then there are saints who were great teachers and told people about the love of Jesus.



REFLECTION BOX

ALL OF THE SAINTS ARE UNIQUE AND DIFFERENT. WHICH SAINTS DO YOU KNOW ABOUT? SHARE WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT THEM...

WHAT KIND OF SAINT WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE?

WHO FITS THE PICTURE?

PIER GIORGIO BORN IN ITALY, A YOUNG PERSON WHO ENJOYED MOUNTAIN CLIMBING. SERVED THE POOR AND WENT TO MASS EVERY DAY OF HIS LIFE.

JOSEPHINE BAKHITA, BORN IN THE SUDAN. TAKEN CAPTIVE BY SLAVE TRADERS, AND ABUSED BY THEM. SHE BECAME CHRISTIAN AND THEN ENTERED A CONVENT IN ITALY. SHE ALWAYS FORGAVE THOSE WHO HAD ABUSED HER AND HURT HER. SHE TAUGHT EVERYONE ABOUT COMPASSION.

FRANCIS OF ASSISI another Italian! Son of a rich merchant, gave up everything to become poor. Preached the Gospel with his life. Invented the Christmas crib. Loved animals and all creation.

KATERI TEKAKAWITHA DAUGHTER OF A MOHAWK CHIEF. BAPTISED WHEN SHE WAS NINETEEN, HAD GREAT FAITH FRIENDSHIPS. REMEMBERED AS A GOOD FRIEND OF GOD AND BRINGING OTHERS TO GOD.

Who am I?



Who am I?



Who am I?

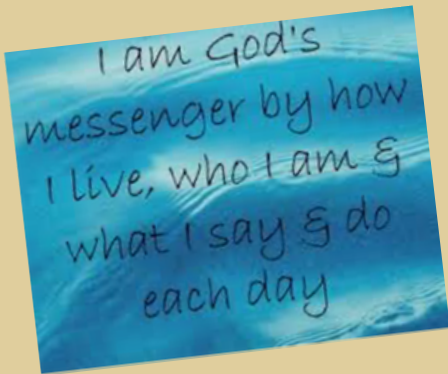


Who am I?



A PRAYER TO SAY

**AS YOU JOURNEY TOWARDS
CONFIRMATION, TAKE TIME TO
PRAY EACH DAY.
YOU CAN USE THIS PRAYER:**



I am God's
messenger by how
I live, who I am &
what I say & do
each day

Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit,
that my thoughts may all be holy.

Act in me, O Holy Spirit,
that my work, too, may be holy.

Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit,
that I love but what is holy.

Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit,
to defend all that is holy.

Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit,
that I always may be holy. Amen.



Pope Francis ✓
@Pontifex

The Saints were not superhuman.
They were people who loved God in
their hearts, and who shared this joy
with others.

11/19/13, 10:19 PM

A MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS

**TAKE SOME TIME THIS MONTH TO SEARCH
THE INTERNET AND FIND A SAINT WHO
REALLY INSPIRES YOU.**

**YOU WILL BE ASKED TO PICK A SAINT'S
NAME FOR YOUR CONFIRMATION.**

**FIND A SAINT WHO CAN HELP YOU TO BE
THE BEST YOU CAN BE.**



Rite 2:

Presentation of the Our Father



Presider: As Jesus taught his disciples to pray, the parents of these children have taught them to pray.

In this celebration today they will present them with the Lord's Prayer, a summary of how we should pray.

I now invite our candidates for Confirmation to come forward and stand, while we pray that each of them will be filled with a spirit of prayer.



*Each child is called forward by name
Candidates come forward and stand in front of the altar*

*The Presider lays hands on each candidate in turn
while the community prays in silence*

Presider: I invite our candidates to now stand around the altar to listen to the gospel reading where our Lord Jesus teaches his followers how to pray.

Candidates make their way to the altar and stand in a semi-circle to listen to the Gospel

A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

At that time Jesus said to his disciples:
'Say this when you pray:
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.'

The children return to their seats and the presider explains the meaning and importance of the Lord's Prayer.

INTERCESSIONS

Then there follows prayers of intercession for the children led by their parents.

PARENT 1: Our Father who art in heaven hallowed be thy name.
May these candidates to whom we have presented the Lord's Prayer come to live
this prayer, and pray it with simple, faithful trust.
LORD HEAR US

PARENT 2: Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. We pray
that God's kingdom may grow daily in all our lives as we try to do what he wants.
LORD HEAR US

PARENT 3: Give us this day our daily bread.
We pray that these children may always turn to God in trusting faith and love for all
their needs, and that our brothers and sisters throughout the world may never lack
daily bread.
LORD HEAR US

PARENT 4: Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.
We pray that we may love one another as Jesus loves us and that we may always
have hearts that are ready to forgive.
LORD HEAR US

PARENT 5: And lead us not into temptation.
We pray that our hearts will always be set on God and that we will always turn to him
for help in times of temptation.
LORD HEAR US

PRESIDER:
Father we thank you for the way Jesus taught us to pray.
We ask that these candidates whom we have presented with this prayer will love
and cherish it.
Through it may they come to know you as their loving Father and to worship you as
the one, true God.
May they always turn to you in their needs and seek from you in prayer the strength
to follow Jesus.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
AMEN.



Connection 3: Living in Faith





Video 3: Gifted by the Spirit



God has given us special gifts to help us on our way...

SOME ARE TALENTS WE DEVELOP WITH PRACTICE, TIME AND CARE

SOME LIE DEEP WITHIN US, OTHERS ARE AS CLEAR AS DAY

VALUES THAT HELP US TO SPREAD GOODNESS EVERYWHERE

EACH PERSON'S GIFTS ARE UNIQUE

May your heart forever flow to make a difference in the world and to everyone you know...

NO TWO PEOPLE ARE THE SAME

USE THESE GIFTS TO GROW

GOD GIVES HIS LOVE TO YOU TO SHARE WITH MANY OTHERS

GOD HAS GIVEN US SPECIAL GIFTS TO HELP US ON OUR WAY

GOD GAVE THE GIFT OF YOU

The Spirit helps us know God better as a friend

Be people who keep giving

May our hearts stay close to God and find God's beauty everywhere



Video 3: Gifted by the Spirit

Candidate

What type of person do you want to be in the world?

What talents can do you have and can use to be the person you want to be?

Which of the 7 Gifts of the Holy Spirit are you most looking forward to receiving?

Parent/Guardian

Share details you can remember about your own Confirmation day...

What gift do you hope to pass on to your child?

How has the Gift of Faith helped you in life?



Session 7: The Spirit: Guide & Helper

IN THE GOSPEL OF JOHN 14: 25 - 27 JESUS SPEAKS TO HIS DISCIPLES ABOUT A HELPER HE IS GOING TO SEND. LISTEN TO THESE WORDS:

'I have told you this while I am still with you. The Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and make you remember all that I have told you.

"Peace is what I leave with you; it is my own peace that I give you. I do not give it as the world does. Do not be worried and upset; do not be afraid."

At Confirmation, we are given the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. Through these gifts, the Holy Spirit is always with us helping us night and day.

- We can call upon the Holy Spirit's help at all times. The Holy Spirit gives us guidance.
- We can sense the presence of the Spirit in our lives
- We know the Spirit always helps us to choose what is right and good
- The Holy Spirit helps us to know the difference between what is right and what is wrong.



SEVEN GIFTS To find out what the Holy Spirit does for you fill in the missing letters

KNOWLEDGE - The Holy Spirit helps me to k_ow r_gh_ from wro_g

COURAGE - The Holy Spirit helps me to st_nd up and b_ str_ng

UNDERSTANDING - The Holy Spirit helps me kn_w G_ds w_y

REVERENCE - The Holy Spirit helps me to _ray

RIGHT JUDGEMENT - The Holy Spirit enl_ghtens and gu_des me

WISDOM - The Holy Spirit helps me to f_el His Presence beside me

WONDER & AWE - The Holy Spirit makes me aw_re of God's awes_me power



THE ACTION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

St Paul talked to the Christian community of Galatia and helped them to see that when we are living a life that pleases God, then we are living a life in the Spirit. When we make good use of the gifts of the Holy Spirit people can see the effect of God's love in us.

Find out what the fruits of the Spirit are by filling in the missing letters:

The Spirit Produces

l _ ve.

jo _ .

pea _ e.

pa _ ie _ ce.

ki _ dne _ s.

g _ od _ ess.

fa _ th _ uln _ ss.

h _ mil _ ty.

and se _ f-co _ trol in us.



St. Paul's letter to the Galatians 5: 22 - 23

REFLECTION BOX

TAKE TIME TO THINK ABOUT HOW OTHER PEOPLE SEE THESE FRUITS IN YOU!
NAME THREE FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT YOU CAN SEE IN YOURSELF.

NAME A FRUIT THAT STILL NEEDS TO GROW IN YOU AND YOU NEED TO WORK ON.

A PRAYER TO SAY

AS YOU JOURNEY TOWARDS
CONFIRMATION, TAKE TIME TO
PRAY EACH DAY.
YOU CAN USE THIS PRAYER:



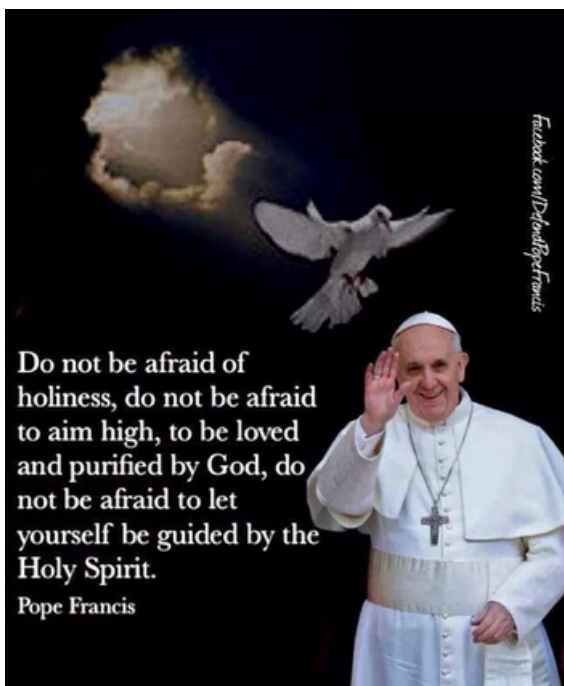
Come Holy Spirit and fill my heart today with love, joy and peace in all I do and say.

Come Holy Spirit, help me to do good to be patient and kind towards those I should.

Come Holy Spirit control my tongue help me to be faithful to Jesus your Son.

Come Holy Spirit, help me to be humble and give, to realise it's in you alone I live.

A MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS



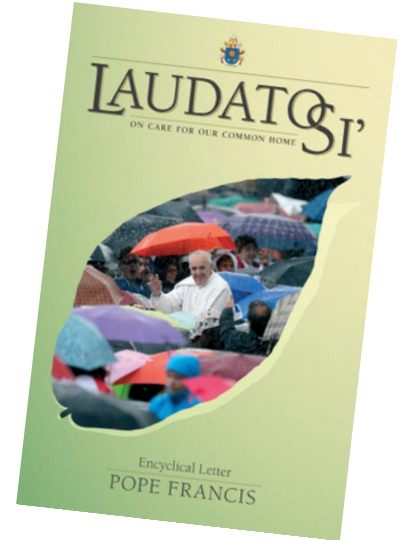
Do not be afraid of holiness, do not be afraid to aim high, to be loved and purified by God, do not be afraid to let yourself be guided by the Holy Spirit.
Pope Francis

- TEXT A FRIEND and LET THEM KNOW YOU ARE GOING TO MAKE YOUR CONFIRMATION
- IN THE TEXT ASK THEM TO PRAY FOR YOU
- TELL YOUR FRIEND YOU WILL ALSO PRAY FOR THEM



Session 8: Inspired by the Holy Spirit

On 24th May 2015, Pope Francis brought out an important letter for everybody in the world to read. It is called *Laudato Si'*. *Laudato Si'* means 'Praise be to you'. The name comes from the main phrase of St. Francis of Assisi's famous prayer, *Canticle of the Sun*. You learnt in Session 6 about St Francis and how he is the patron saint of animals and he was inspired by the Holy Spirit to care for all in creation. He inspires us today, too. Pope Francis says that this letter is about 'caring for our common home', the earth. We hear lots in our news and online about climate change, loss of bees and birds, rising water and loss of land.



Click the image or scan the QR code to watch a video on Laudato Si'



REFLECTION BOX WE NEED TO ACT NOW!!!!

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT
CLIMATE CHANGE?

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO FIND OUT MORE
ABOUT THIS IMPORTANT TOPIC?

"No One Is Too Small to Make a Difference"



In the book of Genesis (chapters 1 & 2), the first book of the Bible, we all learn about how God created the world, the heavens, the seas, the birds, the trees, the bees and everything in between. As people of faith, we believe that God created the heavens and the earth and it was good. There is so much to God's earth that it feels like we might not be able to do anything about the difficult problem earth faces. But Greta

Thunberg reminds us that we can have an impact by doing one thing, no matter how small and we can make a difference once we start now.



NAME SOME WAYS THAT YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO HELP GOD'S CREATION INSPIRED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT :

**AT HOME
I CAN...**

**IN SCHOOL
I CAN...**

**IN MY PARISH
I CAN...**

**SHARING WITH OTHERS
I CAN...**

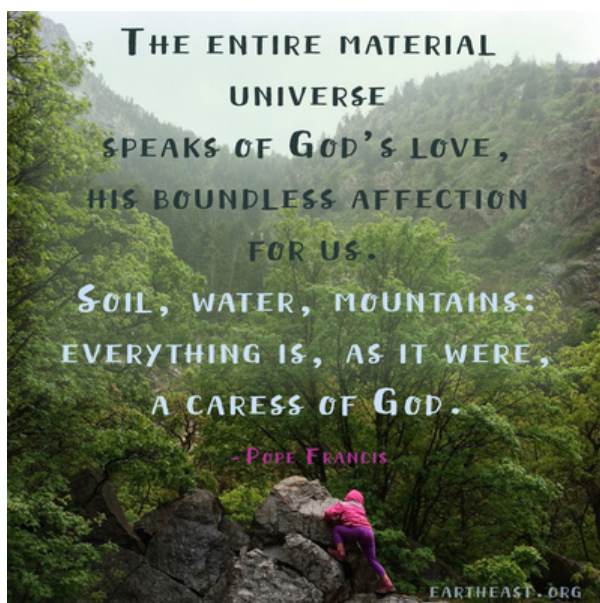
A PRAYER TO SAY

AS YOU JOURNEY TOWARDS
CONFIRMATION, TAKE TIME TO
PRAY EACH DAY.
YOU CAN USE THIS PRAYER:



Loving Father we
praise you:
For the beautiful sun,
For the rain which
makes things grow,
For the bush and the
paddocks,
For the sea
and the sky,
For the flowers
and the birds,
And for your
gifts to us.
Everything around us
sings with joy.
With all you made we
sing for joy too!
Amen.

A MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS



Work with your Confirmation leaders & Parish Pastoral Council to find space in your church grounds to plant some pollinator-friendly plants to help the bees and our environment.





Session 9: A Spirit of Service

In the Sacrament of Confirmation the Holy Spirit will make you more like Jesus, bind you more closely to the family of the church and strengthen you for a life of service.

“

There are different kinds of gifts: but they are all from the same Spirit. There are different ways to serve; but all these ways are from the same Lord. And there are different ways that God works in people; out all these ways are from the same God. God works in us all in everything we do. Something from the Spirit can be seen in each person, to help everyone.

The Spirit gives one person the ability to speak with wisdom. And the same Spirit gives another the ability to speak with knowledge. The same Spirit gives faith to one person. And that one Spirit gives another gifts of healing. The Spirit gives to another person the power to do miracles, to another the ability to prophesy. And he gives to another the ability to know the difference between good and evil spirits. The Spirit gives one person the ability to speak in different kinds of languages and to another the ability to interpret those languages. One Spirit, the same Spirit, does all these things. The Spirit decides what to give each person.

”



There are many people in our society today living out a life of service, inspired by the Holy Spirit, to help in all different areas of need in our society. One area where there are many people doing great work is that of homelessness. Over the last number of years, we have had high numbers of people experiencing homelessness and people of faith have been responding to God's call to help.

Click on each image or scan the QR Code to watch a video to find out more about those answering God's call to service.



BR KEVIN CROWLEY

In 1969, Br Kevin Crowley, a Capuchin Friar, set up the Capuchin Day Centre. He set it up after he saw a man eating food out of the bins in the city centre. More than 900 meals are provided every day and 1,500 food parcels are handed out to those people most in need every Wednesday. The centre has grown over the years and now includes services like shower and medical facilities. Many people volunteer their time at the centre and the centre relies mostly on fundraising to keep the doors open.

SR STAN



Sr Stan Kennedy is a member of the Religious Sisters of Charity. In 1985 after moving to Dublin, she saw the needs for working with those who faced homelessness and as a result founded *Focus Point*, which is now known as *Focus Ireland*. *Focus Ireland* is the biggest national, voluntary organisation helping people to find, create and maintain a home. In 2001, Sr Stan established Young Social Innovators (YSI), a national showcase providing an opportunity for students to become involved in social issues.



FR PETER MCVERRY

Fr Peter McVerry, a Jesuit priest, has been working in inner-city Dublin since 1974. In 1979 he opened a hostel for homeless boys aged 12-16 but saw that when the boys reached 16 and needed to leave, they had few options and most ended up back living on the streets. This led him to set about providing services and accommodation for older youths. By the end of 1983 he had founded a charity to tackle homelessness. This charity, the Peter McVerry Trust, is one of the country's largest organisations. In 2020, the charity supported 7,800 individuals experiencing homelessness.

A PRAYER TO SAY



AS YOU JOURNEY TOWARDS
CONFIRMATION, TAKE TIME TO
PRAY EACH DAY.
YOU CAN USE THIS PRAYER
FROM CARDINAL NEWMAN:

Lord our God you have created me
to serve you in a special way.

You have given me some work which no one else can do.
You have given me my mission,
I never may know it in this life,
but I shall be told it in the next.
Somehow I know I am necessary for your purposes.

Lord, thank you, for giving me a part in this great work.
Help me to realise that I am a link in a chain,
a bond of connection between persons.

You have not created me for nothing.
Help me to do good, help me do Your work,
Then I shall be an angel of peace,
a preacher of truth in my own place, while not intending it,
if I keep Your commandments and serve You in my calling.



A MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS



THINK ABOUT



How you can get involved in service opportunities in your parish.

- Invite someone from the organisations mentioned to give a talk in your parish.
- Use Confirmation to create a fundraising to support the work of the organisations mentioned.

Rite 3:

Presentation of the Creed

Presider: Today we welcome our children who are preparing for Confirmation, and their parents and guardians.

We give thanks for the faith passed on to these children by their parents and guardians.

I now invite our candidates to come forward and to stand while we pray that they will grow strong in faith.....

Each child is called forward by name

Candidates come forward and stand in front of the altar

Presider:

My dear friends listen carefully to the words of that faith that we believe.

These words are few, but the mysteries they contain are great.

Receive them with a sincere heart and be faithful to them by your Christian way of life.

THE APOSTLES CREED is now SUNG or RECITED by the
WHOLE ASSEMBLY



I believe

Presider; Dear children we have just listened to the Creed which sums up what we believe in as Christians.

As you continue your final preparations for Confirmation I ask you to say your yes to all that we believe and invite you to stand around the altar.....

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

Children: I do

**Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord,
Who was born of the Virgin Mary,
Was crucified, died, and was buried,
rose from the dead,
and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?**

Children: I do

**Do you believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?**

Children: I do

Presider:

Children, parents and catechists I invite you to repeat after me:

This is our Faith

This is the Faith of the Church

We are proud to profess it

In Christ Jesus our Lord.



Help for the Journey...



Confirmation Keywords

Advocate: an advocate is someone who helps and supports another person, particularly through difficult times

Anoint: to mark someone or something by making the Sign of the Cross with holy oil

Baptismal Promises: promises made for a child at Baptism and renewed at Confirmation, First Eucharist, and every year at Easter

Chrism: holy oil made of olive oil and balsam, blessed by the bishop on Holy Thursday and provides the strength to be a witness of God

Confer: to give

Confirmation: Confirmation is the final Sacrament in the Sacraments of Initiation, following on from Baptism and Eucharist. Confirmation is a person saying 'Yes' to their faith, taking ownership of their faith, and having the Holy Spirit activated in their lives as their advocate throughout life.

Confirmation Name: a name chosen that has significance for you (i.e. a saint or an important person in your life) and those characteristics of the person is what you want to follow in life

Disciple: a follower of Jesus

Dismissal: the part of the Mass/Liturgy where we are called to go forth to spread the Good News of the Gospel

Fruits of the Holy Spirit: characteristics that result from living by the gifts and power of the Holy Spirit: charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, chastity

Confirmation Keywords

Gifts of the Holy Spirit: seven gifts received in fullness in Confirmation: Wisdom, Understanding, Knowledge, Right Judgement (Counsel), Reverence (Piety), Courage (Fortitude), and Wonder and Awe (Fear of the Lord)

Good News: the message of God's love; the message of the Gospel

Holy Spirit: the Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Holy Trinity – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – and is sent at Confirmation to be a helper and guide throughout life. The Holy Spirit is activated in each person and brings the Gifts and the Fruits

Initiation: to begin something. The Sacraments of Initiation helps bring a person into full membership of the church

Laying on of Hands: the raising of the bishop's/priest's hands in prayer over all to be confirmed

Pentecost: celebrated 50 days after Easter. Pentecost commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles and other followers of Jesus. It is often called the birthday of the church, and the first Confirmation

Sacrament: a Sacrament is an encounter where we meet Jesus in various ways e.g. in the Eucharist, in forgiveness at Reconciliation. There are 7 Sacraments in the church in 3 different categories.

- Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist
- Sacraments of Healing: Reconciliation and Sacrament of the Sick
- Sacraments of Vocation: Marriage and Holy Orders

Sponsor: someone who is an example of faith and will support and guide you on the journey of faith

Symbol: something that stands for something else

Witness: someone who sees or experiences an event and tells others about it

Confirmation Name

Now you are drawing nearer to the time of your Confirmation you will need to think about choosing a saint's name.

Think of qualities or gifts you admire. Now think of people who inspire you.

Do a Google search to find the right saint for you.

Choose a saint who was inspired by the Holy Spirit to follow Jesus in a special way, and who will inspire you in your journey of faith.

My Name is:

The Saint's Name I have chosen is:

This Saint was inspired by Jesus to...

My Saint's Feast Day is Celebrated on...

The qualities that inspire me about this Saint are...

I can imitate this Saint by...

Confirmation Sponsor

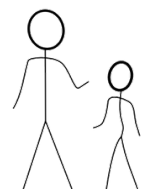
My Name:

My Confirmation Sponsor's Name:

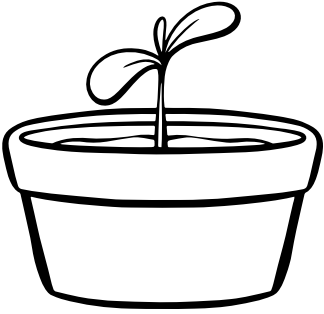
What is my connection with my Confirmation Sponsor:

Why is it important that this person will be my Confirmation Sponsor?

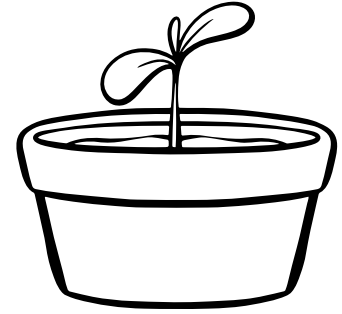
How can they be a part of my Confirmation journey and help me prepare for Confirmation?



Rite 1 - Gospel



Matthew 13: 1-9



Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such large crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables. He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up.



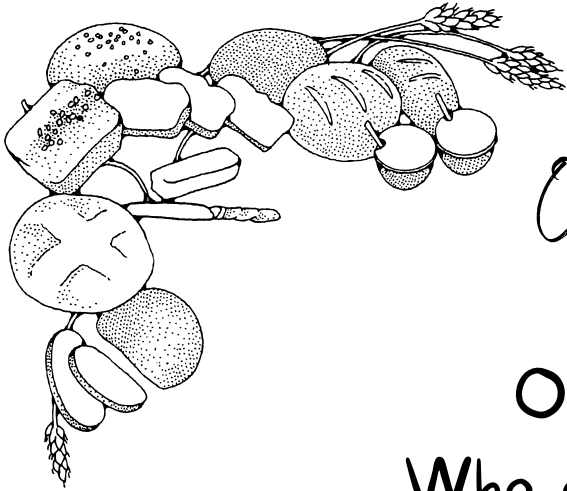
Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them.



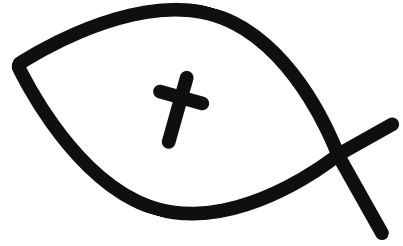
Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'



Rite 2 - Our Father



Our Father



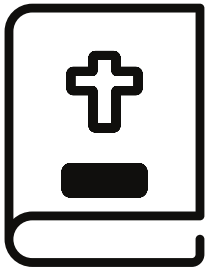
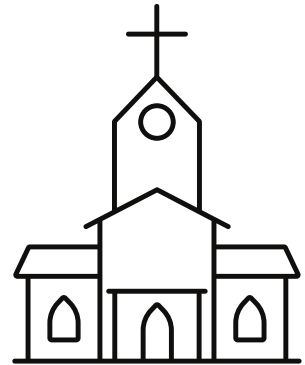
Our Father,

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;

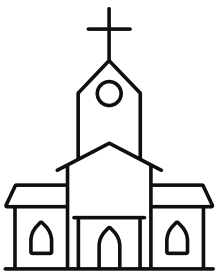
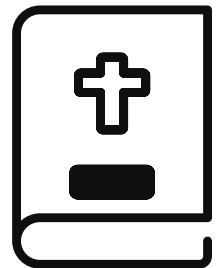
and forgive us our trespasses

as we forgive those

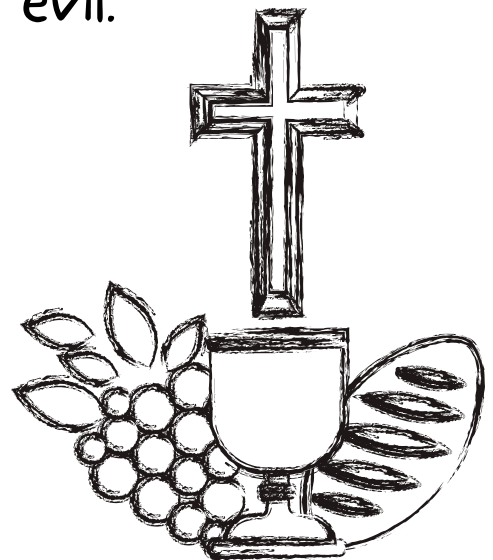
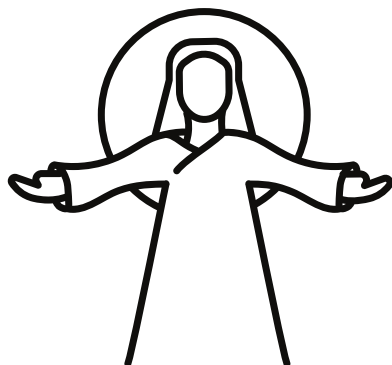
who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

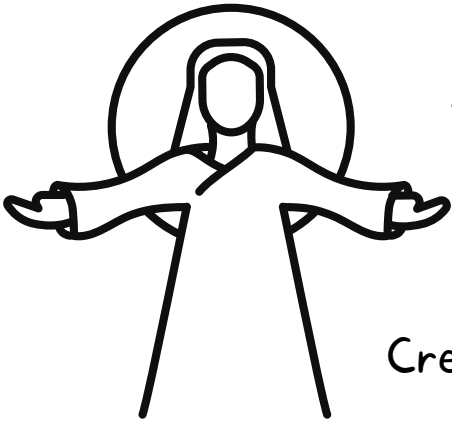
but deliver us from evil.



Amen.



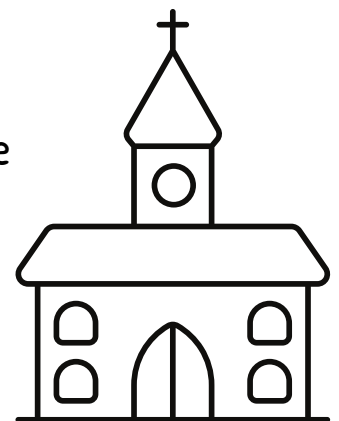
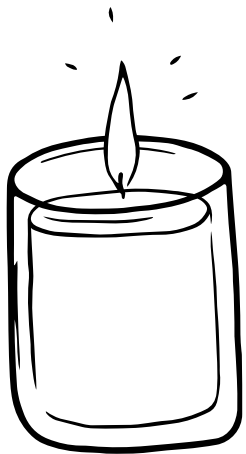
Rite 3 - Apostle's Creed



Apostle's Creed

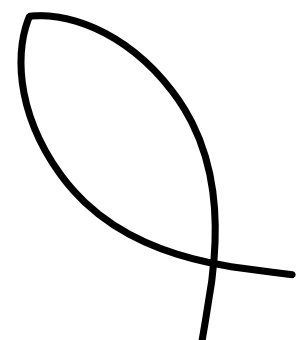


I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again
from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



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

Amen.





Archdiocese of Dublin

THE OFFICE FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY