



CONFIRMATION

Information Evening

Thursday, 29th February, 2024.

@ 6.30pm



Welcome

- You are all very welcome to our Information Meeting about Confirmation. Thank you very much for coming and supporting your child as they make preparations for the Sacrament of Confirmation. I hope you will find tonight both informative and enjoyable.

Aims

- To inform parents of the true meaning and purpose of the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- To give parents an insight into the work being carried out in school in preparation for Confirmation.
- To remind parents of their responsibility to guide and support their child in preparation for Confirmation.
- To explain what happens during the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- To provide opportunity for parents to ask questions about Confirmation.

Overview

- The Meaning Of Confirmation
- Confirmation In Context
- The Purpose Of Confirmation
- Preparations For Confirmation
- Home Support
- The Confirmation Ceremony
- Question And Answer Session

The Meaning Of Confirmation

■ Confirmation

To **confirm** means to 'prove to be true' or 're-affirm'.

At Baptism our parents make promises to God on our behalf. They promise that we will follow God's commandments and lead a spirit-filled life.

Confirmation is a Christian Rite that admits a baptized person to full church membership. At Confirmation, pupils 'prove to be true' or 're-affirm' the promises made at their Baptism.

We receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in Baptism and in Confirmation the presence of the Holy Spirit is 'confirmed' in us.

The 'Holy Spirit' is the spirit of God which lives within each of us. The gifts of the Holy Spirit (Wisdom, Understanding, Right-Judgement, Courage, Knowledge, Reverence and Wonder-In Awe in God's Presence) are given to us at Baptism.

These gifts are the tools we need to help us lead a good Christian life. We use these gifts to help us demonstrate the fruits of the Holy Spirit (Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Gentleness, Faithfulness and Self-Control) in our lives.

Confirmation In Context

- Pentecost was the first Confirmation

Pentecost- Pentecost occurred 50 days after Jesus rose from the dead.

At Pentecost the apostles received the gifts of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit appeared to them as tongues of fire.

Having received the **gifts** of the Holy Spirit- Wisdom, Understanding, Right-Judgement, Courage, Knowledge, Reverence and Wonder-In Awe in God's Presence- the apostles possessed the strength and courage to spread the Word of God.

The apostles were empowered to demonstrate the **fruits** of the Holy Spirit in their lives- Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Gentleness, Faithfulness and Self-Control.

The Purpose Of Confirmation

- Through the **laying on of the hands** and the **anointing of Chrism**, at Confirmation, pupils receive the courage and strength (from the Holy Spirit) to carry out their baptismal vocation to witness to Christ and be the light of the world.
- Through Confirmation pupils become more aware of the Spirit within. In Baptism we are chosen as members of the Body of Christ to witness God's love to the world. In Confirmation the ability to do that through the Holy Spirit is celebrated.

Preparations For Confirmation

- Personal journey

Souvenir Workbook - Pupil Profile, My School, My Family, My Friends, Where I Live, Favourite Things, My Talents, Morning Prayer, Night Prayer, The People I Most Admire, My Baptism, My First Holy Communion, The Sacraments, Pentecost, Ceremony Of Light, Gifts, Fruits, Commandments, Beatitudes, Confirmation Ceremony.

- Part Of A Faith Community - **Filled With Joy Book**

Pupils are aware that they are part of a faith community. They learn about their Diocese, the Pope, modern day prophets and reflect upon special occasions they have celebrated within their community.

- Pupils learn the Our Father in Irish.

- **Service of Light:** Thursday, 7th March @ 7pm in St. Patrick's Church, Eskra. Please bring Baptismal Candle.

Pledge takes place at this ceremony.

- **Confirmation Retreat:**

Lough Derg - Wednesday, 10th April .

Home Support

- Confirmation homework is very important, particularly learning homework.
- Pupils are required to learn the following off by heart.

Morning and Night Prayers

Prayer To The Holy Spirit

The Seven Sacraments

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

The Fruits of the Holy Spirit

The Ten Commandments

Pupils will be tested on learning work each week.

- Parents' Book – can complete at home with your child.

Home Support Continued

- Confirmation Card and Certificate of Baptism
- Sponsor's Name
- Confirmation Name: Saint's Name
- Pledge - various ages. Takes place at Service of Light.
- Attend Practice - **Thursday, 11th April @ 7pm in St. Macartan's Church, Augher (The Forth).**
- Attendance - There will be practices in school.

The Confirmation Ceremony

- Confirmation name - Saint's name
- Sponsor
- Questions by **Monsignor Peter O'Reilly**.
- The Bishop will anoint each pupil with the **Oil of Chrism** as a sign that the Holy Spirit will strengthen them so that they can share more fully in Jesus' work.
- In Confirmation the Bishop will **stretch his hands** over those he is confirming. It is a sign that God is blessing them with the gift of the Holy Spirit. It is a sign that they are being chosen for a special mission.

- Pupils are being asked to use the gifts of the Holy Spirit that they receive at Confirmation to lead a Christian life, profess God's message and to make good choices as they embark on the next stage of their life.
- **Renewal Of Baptismal Promises-** At Confirmation, in the presence of the parish community, the Bishop will invite pupils to stand and renew their Baptismal Promises themselves. In this pupils are saying that they want to follow the Christian way of life and the community are saying that they are going to support the pupil.
- Confirmation is on **Sunday, 14th April @ 3.00pm** in **St. Macartan's Church, Augher (The Forth)**.
- Seating arrangements - Reserved for pupils and sponsors.
- Arrival – Be seated by 2.45pm
- Display in chapel
- Photographs - Arranged by Canon McGahan
- Photographs to be taken on the altar before leaving the Church.
- Awaiting confirmation regarding refreshments afterwards.

Question And Answer Session

- Please feel free to ask any questions concerning Confirmation.
- Evaluation
- Thank you for coming.
- See you all at Confirmation.

