



Catholic Diocese of Evansville

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Date: August 14, 2018
To: Pastors, PCLs
From: Matt Miller, Office of Worship
RE: Changes to Confirmation Masses

The following are the highlights of the changes to the bishop's celebration of Confirmation Masses, starting this September. Even if you have been planning Confirmation Masses for years, please read through the prep booklet for more information on the changes as well as to refresh yourself on the practices that will remain the same.

- Which proper prayers/readings to use ["What color is it?"]
 - Sundays of Lent/Easter & Solemnities – Mass of the day/color of the day
 - Sundays of OT, Feasts, Memorials, weekdays – ritual Mass (prayers and readings) for Confirmation/red vestments
- Dress for Candidates
 - In addition to "Sunday best," simple white or red robes may be worn by the candidates if the parish wishes
 - But not stoles
- Confirmation names
 - Candidates without a Christian name should choose a Confirmation name from the canonized saints
 - Candidates w/ Christian name may keep it or pick a new one
- Candidates and ministers for the Mass
 - Candidates should not act as readers, servers, greeters, etc.
 - This is opportunity for community to support them by their prayer
 - A few of the newly Confirmed may bring forward gifts
- Servers for the Mass
 - Encouraged to use processional cross/candles
- Music
 - Should reflect communal nature of the celebration
 - Instrumental music during anointing
- Rite of Sprinkling
 - Only during Sundays of Easter season

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- During the Rite of Confirmation
 - Candidates presented as group by pastor using provided text
 - Candidates should queue up in center aisle, as for Communion
 - Have an usher or catechist in place to help move people
- Half a lemon instead of lemon juice
 - Lemon cleans better than just the juice
- Prayer of the Faithful
 - Please use at least some from the ritual (included in prep booklet)
- Holy Communion
 - Ensure there are enough ministers
 - Do not plan to use from the tabernacle
- Pictures
 - Bishop available after Mass for group photo or individual photos
 - For individual photos – have designated place set up, with small rug or mat, and someone to coordinate the line up
 - For group photo – make sure the group can be put into place in timely manner
 - For photos inside church after the Mass – it may make better sense for the newly confirmed to stay in place rather than process
- Prep form
 - All new
 - Fillable
 - Old forms will not be accepted