



The Diocese of Knoxville

Office of Christian Formation

Confirmation Masses 2018

Cathedral of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Directions for Candidates and Sponsors

- Only candidates and sponsors will sit in the reserved pews. Family members and other guests will sit in the non-reserved pews. The Confirmations will average about 180 candidates for each Mass. The new Cathedral will seat 984 people. Please be mindful of this when inviting guests to the Mass.
- **Dress Code**
 - **Boys:** Preferably a button down shirt (with a tie, if possible), long pants and dress shoes (no shorts, no jeans, no T-shirts, no tennis shoes, no sandals). If, for a particular reason, this is not possible, please dress in accord with what is possible, keeping in mind the occasion and how special it is (i.e. jeans should not be torn, T-shirts should not have any words or graphics on them, tennis shoes, if necessary, should be clean, etc.).
 - **Girls:** Preferably a modest dress with sleeves (not too short—preferably to the knees, no strapless, no backless, nothing low cut in the front, no midriff tops, no jeans, no tennis shoes, shoes or sandals with a full backing or a back strap should be worn—no thongs, no flip flops). If, for a particular reason, the above is not possible, please dress in accord with what is possible, keeping in mind the occasion and how special it is (i.e. dress pants instead of a dress, T-shirts should not have any words or graphics on them, tennis shoes, if necessary, should be clean, etc.).
- Please no individual photographs during the Mass. A professional photographer has been hired to take photographs during the Mass. Bishop Stika/Cardinal Rigali will be available for individual photographs after the Mass.
- Please review the Rite of Confirmation below and familiarize yourself with the responses.

Rite of Confirmation

- A. Following the homily, the Bishop will return to the presider's chair and invite the candidates to stand for the renewal of baptismal promises. The candidates' response to each promise is "**I do.**"
- B. The Bishop will then move to the altar for the laying on of hands and accompanying prayer. The Bishop will impose hands upon all of the candidates simultaneously by extending his hands over them.
- C. Following the laying on of hands, the anointing with holy chrism begins at the designated place.
- D. The candidates come forward with their sponsors, who place their right hand on the candidates' right shoulder. The candidates should announce their Confirmation name to the Bishop in a clear and distinct

voice. Confirmation names should be Saints names. The candidates will wear name tags with their Confirmation name (nametags will be given to you by your parish). The name tags are to be worn on the left side and easily visible (Size 14 font). As the Bishop anoints each candidate, he will say **“N., Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.”** Each candidate responds, **“Amen.”** Next, the Bishop will say, **“Peace be with you.”** Each candidate responds, **“And with your spirit.”** Candidates should look at the Bishop when he anoints them and make all responses loudly.

Additional Directions for Parishes

- The Cathedral staff will plan all Confirmation Masses. Readers for Mass can come from the parishes and servers from the parish may also supplement the Cathedral servers. Please submit names of those interested in reading or serving at least 2 weeks in advance to Peggy at phumphreys@dioknox.org and folks will be chosen as needed on a first come first serve basis. The music will be the same for all Masses. Other choirs are welcome to join the Cathedral choir. This should be coordinated with Glenn Kahler (gkahler@shcknox.org), director of music at the Cathedral.
- Letters to Bishop Stika are due to the Office of the Bishop no later than March 1, 2018.
- Please make sure that name tags are worn on the left side and easily visible (Size 24 font).
- The sacrament will be recorded in parish registers with reference that it occurred at the Cathedral. Parishes will be responsible for sending notice of the Confirmation to the parish of baptism.
- Those who have been baptized, but have not made their First Communion, can do so at the Confirmation Mass. For those being Confirmed and making their First Communion, please ensure that these candidates have been properly catechized regarding the Eucharist and have made their first confession.