

RITE of WELCOMING

of Confirmation Candidates



**“I am the way, and the truth, and the life;
no one comes to the Father, but by me.”**

- *John 14:6*

Rite of Welcoming of Confirmation Candidates

(after homily)

Celebrant: Candidates and parents, please stand. Parents, place your right hand on your child's right shoulder. Candidates, please answer the following questions:

Jesus told us that he is "the Way, the Truth, and the Life." Are you prepared to reflect more deeply on the *Way* God has adopted you-through your Baptism- and has given you a new life in Christ?

Candidates: I am.

Celebrant: Are you prepared to listen with us to the *Truth* of the apostles' instruction?

Candidates: I am.

Celebrant: And are you prepared to join with us in the *Life* of prayer and service as you prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation?

Candidates: I am ready and willing to follow the Gospel.

Celebrant: Candidates, the way of the Gospel lies open before you. Set your feet firmly on that path. Walk in the light of Christ. Commit your lives daily to his care, so that you may come to believe in him with all your heart.

Parents, are you ready to help your candidate find and follow Christ?

Parents: We are. We promise to undertake with generous hearts and souls whatever God may ask of us.

Celebrant: Blessed be God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who, in his great mercy has given you a new birth, a living hope that draws its life from Christ's resurrection from the dead. In Baptism, this hope of glory became your own. Through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, God frees you from slavery to sin.

In reception of the Holy Eucharist, you grow in strength. Christ has opened for you the way that leads to eternal life. Now under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, your desire to continue that journey of faith through the Sacrament of Confirmation will complete the Christian initiation begun at your Baptism.

Signing of the Candidates with the Cross

Celebrant: Candidates and parents, please face each other.

Dear candidates, you have expressed your desire to share fully in the life of the Catholic Church. I now mark you with the Sign of Christ's Cross and call upon your parents to do the same.

Then the celebrant makes the Sign of the Cross over all, as a cross is traced by the parent on his or her candidate for each prayer.

The celebrant says:

- † Receive the Sign of the Cross on your forehead as a reminder of your Baptism into Christ's saving death and resurrection.
- † Receive the Sign of the Cross over your heart, that Christ may dwell there by faith.
- † Receive the Sign of the Cross on your hands, that Christ may be known in the work that you do.

Candidates and parents, please face forward. Parents, please place your right hand on your candidate's right shoulder.

The celebrant then blesses the candidates saying:

Candidates, I sign you with the sign of eternal life in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Candidates: Amen

End of Rite (Mass then continues with the Profession of Faith)