

CONFIRMATION PARENT INFO NIGHT

September 20th, 2022



OPENING PRAYER

Fr. Juan Pablo

THE THEOLOGY OF CONFIRMATION



“Confirmation perfects Baptismal grace; it is the sacrament which gives the Holy Spirit in order to root us more deeply in the divine filiation, incorporate us more firmly into Christ, strengthen our bond with the Church, associate us more closely with her mission, and help us bear witness to the Christian faith in words accompanied by deeds.”

Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1316.

THE THEOLOGY OF CONFIRMATION



This sacrament of initiation, administered by the bishop, the successor of the Apostles [Cf., Acts 8:14-17], involves:

- The *matter* of sacred chrism, blessed last Holy Week at the Cathedral,
 - *Oil*: a symbol of strength, healing, and office
 - *Balm*: a symbol of the sweet “fragrance of Christ.”
- The *form* consists of the prayer: “Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

THE THEOLOGY OF CONFIRMATION



“The Church teaches that the Sacrament increases the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, which “are permanent dispositions which make man docile in following the promptings of the Holy Spirit.”

Catechism of the Catholic Church, CCC 1303, 1830.

WHAT CONFIRMATION IS & THE EASTERN CATHOLIC CHURCHES

Features of Confirmation:

- A continuation of the Faith, rather than a Graduation from it
- A development of one's Spirituality, rather than a rite of passage where Catholic accept the Faith for themselves
- An opportunity to continue learning and developing one's Faith, rather than the end of knowledge
- Confirmation is a completion of one's Baptism, which further draws out the gifts of the Holy Spirit

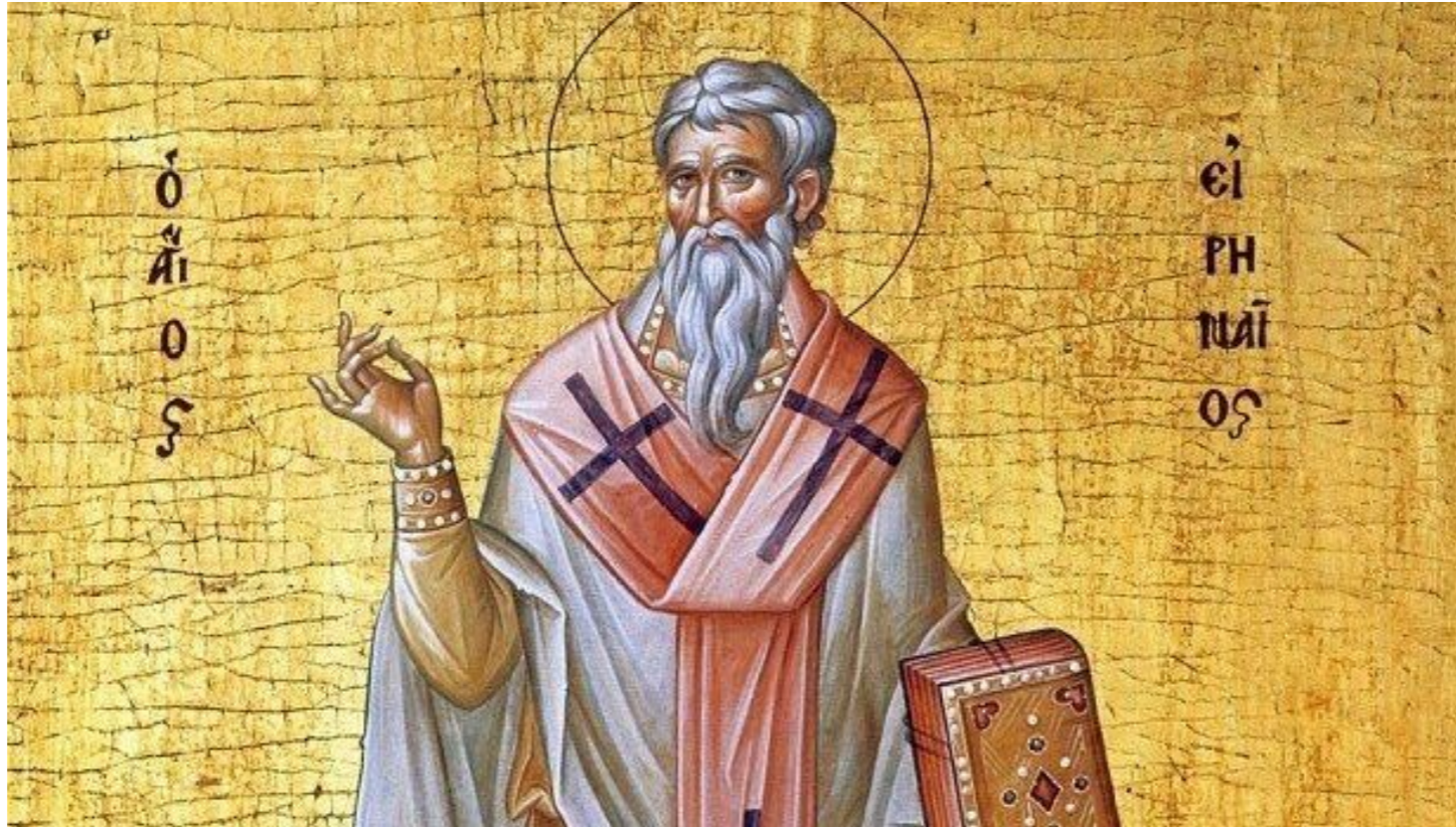


WHAT CONFIRMATION IS & THE EASTERN CATHOLIC CHURCHES

Baptism & Confirmation as one single celebration
(CCC1290)

- St. Cyprian: “double sacrament”
- West: Importance of the Bishop in Confirmation
(See Philip in Samaria, Acts 8:4–25)
- The Eastern Rite of Christian Initiation for infants:
Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist





“As dry flour cannot be united into a lump of dough, or a loaf, but needs moisture; so we who are many cannot be made one in Christ Jesus without the water which comes from heaven... For our bodies have received the unity which brings us to immortality, by means of the washing [of baptism]; our souls receive it by means of [the gift of] the Spirit. Thus both of these are needed, for together they advance man’s progress towards the life of God.”

–St. Irenaeus (c.130–202), *Adversus Haereses* 3.17.2

SPIRITUAL COMBAT



“In the sacrament of Confirmation man is given a spiritual power in respect of sacred actions other than those in respect of which he receives power in Baptism. For in Baptism he receives power to do those things which pertain to his own salvation, forasmuch as he lives to himself: whereas in Confirmation he receives power to do those things which pertain to the spiritual combat with the enemies of the Faith. This is evident from the example of the apostles, who, before they received the fullness of the Holy Ghost, were in the "upper room . . . persevering . . . in prayer" (Acts 1:13,14); whereas afterwards they went out and feared not to confess their faith in public, even in the face of the enemies of the Christian Faith.

Saint Thomas Aquinas - Summa Theologiae 3.72. 5

“INDELIBLE SPIRITUAL MARK” CCC 1304

“Like Baptism which it completes, Confirmation is given only once, for it too imprints on the soul an *indelible spiritual mark*, the “*character*,” which is the sign that Jesus Christ has marked a Christian with the seal of his Spirit by clothing him with power from on high so that he may be his *witness*” (Cf. Lk 24:48-49).

This “*character*” can be translated in Latin as “*branded*”; like a cow is branded or a soldier was in the Roman army.

Being a soldier implies mission



MISSION (CCC 1816)

What does it mean to “witness” to our faith? “It is not enough that we believe in Christ; we must bring him to everyone”! - St. Pope John Paul II



“The disciple of Christ must not only keep the faith and live on it, but also profess it, confidently bear witness to it, and spread it” (CCC 1816; Cf Mt 10:32-33)

In the dismissal of the congregation during Mass, the priest or deacon give us words indicative of our mission: “Go...” (Cf. Mt 28:16-20)

IMPORTANCE OF SPONSOR

Who is Eligible?

Can a parent be a Confirmation Sponsor?

Can Godparents from Baptism be a Sponsor?

What are the responsibilities of the Sponsor?

Why Do we have Confirmation Sponsors?

Can other students be Sponsors?

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday February 24th, 2023 | 8:30am - 12:30pm — Confirmation Retreat at Holy Spirit Catholic Church

TBD On Confession Day

Tuesday March 21st, 2023 | 3:30 - 4:00pm Confirmation Rehearsal at HSCC

Wednesday March 22nd, 2023 at 10am — Confirmation Mass and Ceremony at HSCC

- No School for 10th Grade or siblings of Confirmandi

PAPERWORK & FORMS

DUE BY END OF WEEK - SEPT 23, 2022

- Parent Letter of Intent/Interest Form

- <https://forms.gle/s2tSo4J9ascWQsYZA>
- Gives us an idea of your child's next steps with Confirmation
- Please fill out tonight if possible!

DUE BY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16th, 2022

- Copy of Baptismal Record** (not just the Baptismal Certificate) from parish where student was baptized
 - Reach out to Church of Baptism ASAP so you can meet the deadline!
 - Upload electronic copies into the Candidate Information Form

Candidate Information Form

- <https://forms.gle/QPDzYrz2CffNmN647>
- Includes upload of Baptismal Record, church of Baptism information, Sponsor name/email etc.

Sponsor Form

- Print, sign, upload electronically, or fill out and sign electronically
- Email back to mathaide@holyspiritprep.org

JANUARY 2023

- Confirmation Name/Patron Saint through Mr. Gaines Theology Project
- Paper turned into Theology Teacher

DAY OF CONFIRMATION!

☐ **Wednesday March 22nd, 2023 at 10am at Holy Spirit Catholic Church**

☐ 8:45am arrival time Sponsors & Confirmandi

☐ Parents and guest arrive before 10am

☐ **Dress Code:** Sunday best attire

☐ We will have all students wearing red confirmation robes

☐ Light Refreshments in the lower library after the ceremony

☐ Students and siblings can leave for the rest of the day to celebrate!