

The Sacrament of Confirmation

Parent Information Meeting

Wednesday 28th February, 2024



*Prayer to the
Holy Spirit*

Come Holy Spirit

Come Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
And You shall renew the face of the earth.

O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit,
did instruct the hearts of the faithful,
grant that by the same Holy Spirit
we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations,
Through Christ Our Lord,
Amen.

What is the Sacrament of Confirmation?



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Confirmation is one of the seven sacraments of the Church.

Through receiving gifts of the Holy Spirit, it is hoped that children will, through their thoughts, words and actions, bear the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit: *love, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, self-control and joy.*

The candidate is showing their commitment to becoming a full member of the church.

Preparations

Children learn in detail about the Sacrament of Confirmation throughout their RE learning, workshops and discussion time.

Followers of Christ

Baptism and Confirmation

Pentecost

Sharing in the life of the Church

Celebrating the life of Mary and the Saints

Role of the Parent

- Parents are a child's first educators. It is the duty of parents, who are bringing their child up in the Catholic faith, to support them in their journey.
- At Confirmation, children are showing their own commitment to becoming a full member of the Catholic Church and need help to continue this after receiving the Sacrament.
- Parents are seen as role-models in this and should seek ways to ensure that children are given the opportunity to attend Mass regularly at the weekend and at other special times throughout the year.

Confirmation Names

Children should now have a chosen Saint name after spending a period of time researching and reflecting. It should be someone they admire and would aspire to be like and someone to whom they can offer their prayers of intercession.

Choosing a Saint's name is reaffirming the fact that the candidate is choosing and committing to becoming a full member of the Church.

Role of the chosen Sponsor

- Each child will need to choose a sponsor. A sponsor must be a baptised Catholic over the age of 14. Parents cannot be sponsors for their own children.
- It is usual that sponsors seek an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation before the day of, or close to the day of, the Confirmation Mass. There will be an opportunity for this after our Whole School Mass on **Thursday 14th March**, starting at **9.30am**.
- When the candidate goes forward to be confirmed, their sponsor will go with them. As the candidate kneels before Canon Paul, the sponsor stands behind them with their right hand placed on their right shoulder.
- The sponsor is present to provide spiritual support to the candidate.

Sponsor card

CANDIDATE FOR CONFIRMATION

Candidate's Name

Date of Birth

Baptism: Date

Place

Confirmation Date

Sponsor

Confirmation Name

PROMISE OF SPONSOR

I accept the privilege of being Sponsor at Confirmation.
I understand that the chief duty of a sponsor is to give a good example.
I intend, by God's grace, to be regular
in my attendance at Holy Mass and the Sacraments.

Signed Sponsor

Date

NOTE:
**Both the sponsor and the candidate should prepare for Confirmation
by going to Confession and Holy Communion.**

Please return to school by Monday 18th March

The Confirmation Mass

- The Rite of Confirmation will take place during the celebration of Mass.
- Candidates will have the chance to renew their Baptismal promises. Through this, they are professing their faith.
- Each candidate will be invited to the front where they will kneel before Canon Paul. The sponsor will join them. They will be addressed by their chosen Saint's name and will be anointed with the oil of chrism.

"Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit."

The Confirmation Mass

Date: Tuesday 19th March Time: 6.00pm

Location: Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Tunstall

- Led by Canon Paul
- Children need to arrive at the Church no later than 5.30pm
- Benches will be reserved for families from the front of the Church
- Children will need to sit on the end by the aisle, with their Sponsor next to them
- Children should wear their school uniform
- A photographer has been booked for after the Mass

Parish Masses

Sunday Mass: **10.30am** at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Tunstall

Saturday evening Mass: **5.pm** at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Burslem

Family Masses this year:

Sunday 17th March

Sunday 19th May

Sunday 14th July

Key Summary and Questions

- After Whole School Mass on Thursday 14th March, Confirmandi will stay behind for Confessions with Father George.
- During the day of Confirmation, the candidates will be visited by Canon Paul, who will lead the Mass in the evening.

Key Summary and Questions

- Arrive by 5.30pm for the Confirmation Mass
- School Uniform to be worn
- Photographs to be taken after the Mass
- A small celebration for the children will take place in school on Thursday 21st March



Thank you.