



Executive Summary

2026 Diocese of Orange, Youth Confirmation Guidelines

Purpose: This summary serves to provide general information regarding the guidelines for celebration of the Rite of Confirmation in the Diocese of Orange, emphasizing the fundamental connection of this sacrament with Christian initiation. It is important to note that while this summary offers an overview, it is not a supplement to reading the guidelines in detail.

Confirmation Faculty:

- Confirmations will be presided over by bishops and scheduled through the Office of the Bishop (1a).
- Only one Confirmation Mass may be scheduled without explicit permission. Unauthorized extra Masses will be canceled. The Candidate Limits per Mass: Bishop Vann: max 75 candidates and Bishop Freyer and Bishop Nguyen: max 15% of church capacity (1b).
- Requests for a priest to confirm baptized Catholics must be made through the Office of the Bishop to ensure validity (1c).

Preparation:

- A Liturgy Sheet/Planner required one month prior to the scheduled liturgy (2a).
- Emphasis on full participation, particularly in music selection (2b).
- Special considerations include blessings for accompanying teens and those celebrating Eucharist for the first time, which should be noted in the Liturgy Sheet for the Master of Ceremonies (2c).
- Confirmation candidates are to focus their letters to the bishop on the given Gospel passage, express their desire to be confirmed, and what experiences led them to desire the sacrament (2d).
- It is imperative to note the Confirmandi should not assume liturgical functions (i.e. serving as lector, altar server, cantor, or any other role that may distract them from receiving the sacrament) (2e).
- The Master of Ceremonies and Deacons of the Mass will be assigned by Diocesan Offices (2f).
- The parish assumes responsibility for various logistical arrangements and liturgical ministers to ensure the smooth execution of the Confirmation Mass. This includes setting up items as per the provided "Confirmation Check List" and ensuring all necessary preparations are completed before the MC arrives (2g, 2h).
- Clear instructions regarding the color of vestments are provided: red for weekday Confirmations and the color corresponding to the liturgical celebration for Sunday, Solemnities, or Feast Days (2i).
- Candidates are encouraged to wear white garments, symbolizing their purity and new life in Christ, akin to the white garment given to the newly baptized (2l).
- It is essential to emphasize that stoles, typically worn by ordained ministers, are not to be used by Confirmation candidates. (2l).
- Photography and videography should be managed discreetly to ensure the solemnity of the event is maintained, and the view of the assembly is never obstructed (2n, 2o).
- **Attention to detail in these aspects contributes to the reverence and appropriateness of the Confirmation liturgy. Any deviation from the prescribed liturgical texts, readings, or rituals outlined in the Confirmation guidelines should be avoided.**



Beginning of the Mass:

- Instructions on the placement and procession of sacred chrism, as well as the use of the Blessing and Sprinkling of Water are provided (3a, 3b).
- Guidance on selecting appropriate readings is provided (3c).

Celebration of Confirmation:

- Detailed instructions for the presentation of candidates, the homily, Renewal of Baptismal Promises, Laying on of Hands, and Anointing with Chrism are provided (4b, 4c, 4d, 4e, 4f, 4i, 4j).
- It is required the pastor present the candidates when a Bishop confers the Sacrament, not the confirmation coordinator, catechist, deacon, or other representative (4b).
- Suggestions for candidate names and management of the anointing are provided (4f, 4g, 4h).
- The Patron Saint chosen must be the same sex as the confirmandi (4h).
- Guidance on the Universal Prayer is provided (4k).

Blessing and Dismissal:

- Concluding the Mass, a solemn blessing or prayers over the people should be used (5).

Appendices

- Confirmation Checklist, Dress Code, Photo Guidelines, Liturgy of the Word Options, Presentation of the Candidates Script, Saint Name examples, and Universal Prayer are provided.

Conclusion: This executive summary encapsulates the essential guidelines for the 2026 Liturgical Confirmation Mass in the Diocese of Orange, covering faculty, preparation, the order of the Mass, and specific instructions for each stage of the Confirmation ceremony.

For further inquiries, contact the Office of Worship.