

ARCHDIOCESE OF DUBLIN 2018
A SAMPLE TEXT FOR A MASS WITH THE CONFERRAL
OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

PREAMBLE: Thank you for all the effort and preparation you put into making your parish celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation something beautiful each and every year. It is hoped that this 'template' of some of the texts available to us in the 2011 Roman Missal may be of help to you and ease the burden of your work.

*[Please note: there are a number of choices included and advice offered in the template below indicated by **blue text** which is not designed to appear in your text or booklet]*

One of the first tasks we have before us to **ensure that each candidate being presented for Confirmation is eligible** – that they are baptised, belong to the full communion of the Roman Catholic Church, are presenting themselves freely and have not been confirmed before.

The active and fruitful participation of the candidates on their Confirmation Day does not mean that they all must have 'something to do' during the ceremony. **The Sacrament of Confirmation is primarily about what God is doing for us and in us**, especially what the Lord is gifting to the candidates, as they are sealed with the gift of God's Holy Spirit. We would not expect a bride to have to sing a song or play a 'solo' during their own wedding ceremony. No child should be under any pressure to 'perform' on the day God's Spirit is gifted to them. It's more about **how can we assist and facilitate the openness of everyone who is present to what God is giving us and our worship and praise in response.**

One of the most effective ways of achieving this is to **choose and promote music that everyone can sing** or that the candidates can help lead from their places in the congregation. We hope our list of suggested hymns from a wide variety of sources may be of assistance to you. If your school is unfamiliar with more recent Mass settings perhaps your local parish choir, their directors and cantors might be able to give you some help and even assist you on the day of your Confirmation ceremony. Perhaps you could include the Anthem for the World Meeting of Families 2018 in the hymns to be sung.

Some people present on the day may not be familiar with **posture during the Liturgy**. The celebrants may give simple directions to help with this. Many parishes have found it very helpful if a parent makes a short announcement 3 minutes before Mass begins: to **encourage everyone to join in the hymns and responses, asking everyone there to pray for each child as they are being anointed and to try to keep a respectful atmosphere during that time, during communion and indeed during the course of the whole ceremony**. It can also be a good moment to remind people to make sure their mobile phones are switched OFF so as not to disturb the prayer. Wishing every grace and blessing upon you, the candidates and all your work of preparation for Confirmation 2018.

ALL STAND AND SING THE ENTRANCE HYMN AS THE MINISTERS AND CELEBRANTS ENTER

Celebrant: In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

Celebrant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And with your spirit

Or if a Bishop presides:

Bishop: Peace be with you

All: And with your spirit

If the candidates have symbols to present of their giftedness or of their work and preparation for receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation - now is the ideal time in which to bring them forward to the sanctuary as they can set a good context for the celebration. They work well as symbols of the life and talents of those upon whom we are invoking the Holy Spirit.

Have a space/table arranged in the sanctuary or to one side of it where these symbols can be placed and be visible, but preferably not in front of the altar or ambo and definitely not on top of the altar. If a commentary accompanies the bringing forward of these symbols, make sure it is scripted and brief.

PENITENTIAL RITE: *(the responses can be sung)*

Celebrant: Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life:

Lord have mercy or: *A Thiarna déan trócaire*

Celebrant: Lord Jesus, you forgive us our sins:

Christ have mercy *A Chríost déan trócaire*

Celebrant: Lord Jesus, you feed us with your body and blood:

Lord have mercy *A Thiarna déan trócaire*

Or:

Celebrant: Lord Jesus, you healed the sick

Lord have mercy or: *A Thiarna déan trócaire*

Celebrant: Lord Jesus, you forgave sinners.

Christ have mercy *A Chríost déan trócaire*

Celebrant: Lord Jesus, you give us yourself,
to heal us and bring us strength.

Lord have mercy *A Thiarna déan trócaire*

Then:

Celebrant: May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen

The Gloria may now be sung or said by everyone (but not during Lent)

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

COLLECT

Celebrant: Grant we pray, almighty and merciful God,
that the Holy Spirit, coming near
and dwelling graciously within us,
may make of us a perfect temple of his glory.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen

Or:

Celebrant: Fulfill for us your gracious promise, O Lord, we pray,
so that by his coming
the Holy Spirit may make us witnesses before the world
to the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen

Or:

Celebrant: May the Paraclete who proceeds from you, we pray,
O Lord, enlighten our minds and lead us into all truth,
just as your Son has promised.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen

We now sit to listen to God's Word

LITURGY OF THE WORD *see the accompanying Document on recommended Scripture readings for Confirmations in 2018.*

First Reading

Responsorial Psalm (usually SUNG)

A Second Reading is possible but optional

Gospel acclamation

(we stand to welcome Christ's words and SING the acclamation)

GOSPEL

We sit to listen to the Homily

RITE OF CONFIRMATION:

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES:

The candidates stand and the celebrant questions them:

Do you renounce Satan?

Candidates: I do.

And all his works?

Candidates: I do.

And all his empty show?

Candidates: I do.

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth?

Candidates: I do.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death and was buried,
rose again from the dead
and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

Candidates: I do.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who came upon the apostles at Pentecost
and today is given to you sacramentally in Confirmation?

Candidates: I do.

Do you believe in the holy Catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?

Candidates: I do.

Celebrant: This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church.
We are proud to profess it in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Candidates: Amen.

LAYING ON OF HANDS

Celebrant: My dear friends, in baptism,
God our Father gave the new birth of eternal life
to His chosen sons and daughters.
Let us pray to our Father that he will pour out the Holy Spirit
to strengthen these His sons and daughters
with His gifts and anoint them to be more like Christ, the Son of God.

*[All pray in silence-
the celebrants stretch out their hands over the candidates in prayer]*

Celebrant: All powerful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
by water and the Holy Spirit, you freed your sons and daughters from sin
and gave them new life.
Send your Holy Spirit upon them to be their helper and guide.
Give them the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of right judgement and courage,
the Spirit of knowledge and reverence.
Fill them with the Spirit of wonder and awe in your presence.
We ask this through Christ our Lord, *Amen.*

ANOINTING WITH CHRISM

Celebrant: (___Name___) Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The newly confirmed replies: Amen.

Celebrant: Peace be with you.

The newly confirmed replies: And with your spirit.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL: ALL STAND

Sample Introduction by the Celebrant:

The Holy Spirit come to help us to pray. With confidence then we bring our
needs and the needs of God's family, the Church, throughout the world
before the Lord.

5-6 intentions now follow.

*They are written as intentions announced to the people asking their prayer to
God (i.e. in the way they are written, they do not directly address God). At
the end of each one the people are invited to lift these prayers up with the
invocation:*

Lord hear us: **Lord graciously hear us**

or

Let us pray to the Lord: **Lord hear our prayer**

or

A Thiarna éist linn: **A Thiarna bí ceannsa agus éist linn.**

The prayers follow the following format:

Let us pray for...that... *or* We pray for ...that... *or* For... that

*Eg. We pray for the parents, teachers and the parish team who helped prepare
these boys and girls for Confirmation. May the Holy Spirit help them in their*

*work of teaching the ways of faith, hope and love. Lord hear us.
For those who are sick or struggling. May the Spirit give them healing
comfort and strength. Lord hear us.
For our loved ones who have died especially all those we miss very much
today. Through the loving mercy of our God may they rest in peace.
Lord hear us.*

*Try and keep them brief and remember to pray for the wider human family
and not just those present.*

Sample conclusion by the Celebrant:

God our Father, in your loving kindness, listen to our prayers.
May the life-giving work of the Holy Spirit,
which began at the first Pentecost,
continue to grow in the hearts of those confirmed here today
and in the hearts of all of us who believe.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*The gifts of bread and wine to be offered, what the Lord Jesus took into his
hands at the Last Supper, are now brought forward and presented.*

Celebrant: Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours
may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

All: **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory
of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Celebrant: Pour out upon these gifts the blessing of your Spirit,
we pray, O Lord, so that through them your Church may be imbued
with such love that the truth of your saving mystery
may shine forth for the whole world.
Through Christ our Lord. **All: Amen**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER - PREFACE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT I

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: **And with your spirit.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right and just.**

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Christ our Lord.

Ascending above all the heavens
and sitting at your right hand,
he poured out the promised Holy Spirit on your adopted children.

Therefore, now and for ages unending,
with all the host of Angels,
we sing to you with all our hearts
crying out as we acclaim:

Or:

PREFACE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT II

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: **And with your spirit.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right and just.**

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.
For you bestow gifts suited to every season
and guide the governing of your Church in wonderful ways.
By the power of the Holy Spirit
you come unfailingly to her aid,
so that with a heart always subject to you
she may never fail to seek your help in time of trouble
nor cease to give you thanks in time of joy,
through Christ our Lord.
And so, in company with the choirs of Angels,
we praise you, and with joy we proclaim:

The people sing or say aloud:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER II

Celebrant: You are indeed Holy, O Lord, the fount of all holiness.
Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray,
by sending down your Spirit upon them like the dewfall,
so that they may become for us
the Body + and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

At the time he was betrayed and entered willingly into his Passion,
he took bread and, giving thanks, broke it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT:

FOR THIS IS MY BODY WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.

In a similar way, when supper was ended,
he took the chalice and, once more giving thanks,
he gave it to his disciples, saying:

**TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT:
FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD,
THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT
WHICH WILL BE Poured OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY
FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.
DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.**

Celebrant: The mystery of faith.

And the people sing or say:

**We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection
until you come again.**

Or:

**When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.**

Or:

**Save us, Saviour of the world,
for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.**

Or:

My Lord and my God.

Then the celebrant, with hands extended, says:

Therefore, as we celebrate the memorial of his Death and Resurrection,
we offer you, Lord, the Bread of life and the Chalice of salvation,
giving thanks that you have held us worthy
to be in your presence and minister to you.
Humbly we pray that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ,
we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit.

C1: Remember, Lord, your Church, spread throughout the world,
and bring her to the fullness of charity,
together with Francis our Pope and Diarmuid our Bishop,
his assistant bishops and all the clergy.
Remember also, Lord, your servants
whom you have been pleased to confirm today
by bestowing the Holy Spirit, and keep them in your grace.

C2. Remember also our brothers and sisters
who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection,
and all who have died in your mercy:
welcome them into the light of your face.
Have mercy on us all, we pray,
that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God,
with blessed Joseph her spouse,

with the blessed Apostles, and all the Saints
who have pleased you throughout the ages,
we may merit to be coheirs to eternal life,
and may praise and glorify you through your Son, Jesus Christ.

*The Celebrant takes the chalice and the paten with the host and,
raising both, he sings:*

Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours,
for ever and ever.

All: Amen!

*Alternatively you may wish to use the following
Eucharistic Prayer for Children:*

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER FOR CHILDREN I

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

All: It is right and just

Priest: God our Father, you have brought us here together so that we can give
you thanks and praise for all the wonderful things you have done.

We thank you for all that is beautiful in the world and for the happiness you
have given us. We praise you for daylight and for your word which lights up
our minds. We praise you for the earth, and all the people who live on it, and
for our life which comes from you. We know that you are good. You love us
and do great things for us.

Father, you are always thinking about your people; you never forget us.
You sent your Son Jesus, who gave his life for us and who came to save us.
He cured sick people; he cared for those who were poor and wept with those
who were sad. He forgave sinners and taught us to forgive each other.
He loved everyone and showed us how to be kind.
He took children in his arms and blessed them.

God our Father, all over the world your people praise you. So now we pray
with the whole Church: with Francis our pope and Diarmuid our bishop.
In heaven the blessed Virgin Mary, the apostles and all the saints always sing
your praise. Now we join with them and with the angels to adore you as we
sing (*say*):

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Priest: God our Father, you are most holy and we want to show you that we
are grateful. We bring you bread and wine and ask you to send your Holy

Spirit to make these gifts the + body and blood of Jesus your Son.
Then we can offer to you what you have given to us.
On the night before he died, Jesus was having supper with his apostles. He took bread from the table. He gave you thanks and praise. Then he broke the bread, gave it to his friends, and said:

**TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT:
FOR THIS IS MY BODY WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.**

When supper was ended, Jesus took the cup that was filled with wine. He thanked you, gave it to his friends, and said:

**TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT:
FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD,
THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT
WHICH WILL BE Poured OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY
FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.**

Then he said to them: **DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.**

We do now what Jesus told us to do. We remember his death and resurrection and we offer you, Father, the bread that gives us life, and the cup that saves us. Jesus brings us to you; welcome us as you welcome him.

The mystery of faith:

All: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

Or:

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

Or:

Save us, Savior of the world,
for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

Or:

My Lord and my God.

Priest: Father, because you love us, you invite us to come to your table. Fill us with the joy of the Holy Spirit as we receive the body and blood of your Son. Lord, you never forget any of your children. We ask you to take care of those we love, especially those for whom we now pray and we pray for those who have died. Remember everyone who is suffering from pain or sorrow. Remember Christians everywhere and all other people in the world. We are filled with wonder and praise when we see what you do for us through Jesus your Son, and so we sing:

Priest: Through him and with him, and in him, O God almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever.

All: Amen!

THE COMMUNION RITE

The celebrant introduces the *Our Father* or the *Ár nAthair*

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come, thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

Or:

Ár n-Athair atá ar neamh, go naofar d'ainm,
go dtaga do ríocht, go ndéantar do thoil ar an talamh
mar a dhéantar ar neamh.
Ár n-arán laethúil tabhair dúinn inniu,
agus maith dúinn ár bhfiacha
mar a mhaithimidne dár bhféichiúna féin
Agus ná lig sinn i gcathú, ach saor sinn ó olc.

Celebrant: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory
are yours now and forever.

Celebrant: Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles:
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you;
look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church,
and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will.
Who live and reign for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

As the consecrated bread is broken the Lamb of God is sung or said:

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Celebrant: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of
the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Communion hymns begin.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant: Pour on us, O Lord, the Spirit of your love and, in your kindness, make those you have nourished by this one heavenly Bread one in mind and heart. Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

A brief word of thanks can take place here.

SOLEMN BLESSING :

The Celebrant, with hands extended over the newly confirmed, says:

The Lord be with you

All: And with your spirit

May God the Father almighty bless you,
whom he has made his adopted sons and daughters
reborn from water and the Holy Spirit,
and may he keep you worthy of his fatherly love.

All: Amen.

May his Only Begotten Son,
who promised that the Spirit of truth would abide in his Church,
bless you and confirm you by his power in the confession of the true faith.

All: Amen.

May the Holy Spirit, who kindles the fire of charity in the hearts of disciples,
bless you and lead you blameless and gathered
as one into the joy of the Kingdom of God.

All: Amen.

Or: (The Blessing of St Columba)

May the Lord be a sure path beneath your feet,
a bright light before you, a kindly shepherd behind you;
this day, this night and always.

All: Amen.

And he blesses all the people, adding:

And may almighty God bless all of you, who are gathered here,
the + Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

All: Thanks be to God.

ALL SING THE RECESSIONAL HYMN