

## CONFIRMATION GUIDELINES & INSTRUCTIONS

Please complete the *Confirmation Liturgy Planning Form* and return two weeks prior to Confirmation along with a copy of the readings (unless it is a Sunday Mass) and a list of the Candidates' names and chosen Confirmation names. If you would like Bishop Kihneman or Bishop Morin to sign certificates, please send them to the Office of the Bishop in sufficient time to be signed and returned prior to the celebration of Confirmation.

The liturgy is to be celebrated according to The Order of Confirmation.

Scripture Reading and Liturgical Prayers: The *Mass of Confirmation* will be used and the readings are to be selected from the Lectionary for the *Ritual Mass of Confirmation*, EXCEPT when within the Octave of Easter, on Solemnities, and on Sundays during the seasons of Lent and Easter – then the Mass **and** readings of that day must be used. If Confirmation is celebrated on a Sunday in Ordinary Time, prayers from the Sunday Mass are used, but you may select readings from the Lectionary for the *Ritual Mass of Confirmation*.

Please have the **Sacramental Registers** ready so that Bishop Kihneman or Bishop Morin may examine and sign the registers upon his arrival. Can.535§4.

Liturgical Items: The Bishop will ordinarily bring: Chrism in its stock, The Order of Confirmation, Mitre, Crozier, Alb and Chasuble.

Altar Servers: It would be helpful to have two additional servers (vimps) assigned to holding the mitre and crozier. These two servers walk behind the Bishop in both the entrance and recessional processions. The vimps should wear gloves. Bishop Morin will not bring a crozier; he will need one vimp for his mitre.

Deacons: Deacon Gayden Harper will work with you and/or the parish deacon to ensure a deacon is present to serve or act as MC. The deacon will proclaim the Gospel, if the deacon is acting as MC, the pastor or priest will proclaim the Gospel.

Prior to the Ceremony: Bishop Kihneman will meet with the Candidates prior to Mass. Please be sure the Candidates are available as a group before Mass. Allow 15 minutes for this meeting. Bishop Morin does not meet with the Candidates before the Mass begins. He will speak directly to the Candidates during the homily.

Presentation of the Candidates: After the Gospel, the Candidates are introduced. **Mention should be made of their preparation and readiness to receive the Sacrament.**

A formula such as the following may be used: \_\_\_\_\_ *Parish/Mission presents to you our Candidates for Confirmation. Their parents, their sponsors, their catechists, (and I) attest to their readiness to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, and they, the Candidates, freely ask to receive the sacrament.* The Candidates remain standing until the Bishop instructs them to be seated. The homily follows.

Renewal of Baptismal Promises: The renewal of baptismal promises is for the Candidates only. They stand for the renewal, which takes the place of the Creed.

Laying on of Hands: After the baptismal promises have been renewed, the Bishop will invite the concelebrants to stand near him and will invite all present to pray for the Candidates. After praying silently for a short time, the Bishop lays hands upon the Candidates by extending his hands over them as a group.

Anointing with Chrism: The Candidates with their sponsors approach the Bishop one at a time. During the anointing, the pastor stands at the Bishop's right. A server at the Bishop's left holds the chrism. Music should accompany the anointing.

The sponsor will bring the Candidate to the Bishop to receive the Sacrament. The Candidate, sponsor or pastor announces the name of the Candidate to the Bishop. Only the Confirmation name is given. **In addition to announcing the name, please be sure the Confirmation name is printed clearly on an index card for the Bishop to see, unless the Candidate is wearing a stole with their Confirmation name displayed.** The sponsor places his/her right hand on the Candidate's right shoulder. Because he is in the process of anointing, the Bishop does not shake the Candidate's hand, but says, "Peace be with you," to which the Confirmand responds audibly, "And with your Spirit."

At the conclusion of Mass, the newly confirmed are to remain in their places until the Bishop processes down the aisle. The newly confirmed may follow the Bishop in the recessional or may remain in the pews.

Photography: Please indicate if a group picture will be taken before or after Mass. Individual pictures will be taken following Mass. **Please have someone assigned to organize the photography so that it is orderly and concludes in a timely manner.** Inform Candidates, their parents, and photographers, prior to Confirmation, to be courteous during this process. Confirmands should line up and approach the Bishop individually on his right side. Bishop Kihneman will be holding his Crozier in his left hand.

## CONFIRMATION LITURGY PLANNING FORM

Please email: [bishop@biloxidiocese.org](mailto:bishop@biloxidiocese.org); mail: Office of the Bishop, 1790 Popps Ferry Road, Biloxi, MS 39532 or fax to 228.702.2139. Return completed form two weeks prior to Confirmation.

**Include a copy of your readings and a list of Candidates' names and their Confirmation names.**

PARISH: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ TIME: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHYSICAL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CSZ: \_\_\_\_\_  
CONTACT PERSON: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

### GENERAL INFORMATION

- # of Candidates: \_\_\_\_ # from other parishes: \_\_\_\_ # of Adults: \_\_\_\_ List additional Parishes below
- Where will Bishop park?: \_\_\_\_\_
- Where will Bishop review Sacramental Registers?: \_\_\_\_\_
- Where will Bishop vest? \_\_\_\_\_
- Where will Bishop Kihneman meet with Candidates?: \_\_\_\_\_
- Meal or Reception before Mass:            after Mass:            Where? \_\_\_\_\_
- Concelebrants: \_\_\_\_\_
- Deacon(s) and/or MC: \_\_\_\_\_
- Altar Servers & 2 Vimps: \_\_\_\_\_
- Color of Vestments:    red \_\_\_\_            white \_            purple (Lent Sunday)

**ORDER OF THE MASS**    Mass of: Confirmation:            Other: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Within Easter Octave, on Solemnities, and on Sundays of Lent and Easter, the Mass and readings of the day are used.
2. If Confirmation is being celebrated on a Sunday, outside of the Lent/Easter seasons and not on a Solemnity of the church, then you may select readings from the Rite of Confirmation.
3. For all other days, the Mass of Confirmation will be used and the readings are to be selected from the Lectionary for the Ritual Mass of Confirmation.

Entrance Song: \_\_\_\_\_  
Penitential Act: Choose Form: A \_\_\_\_ B \_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_    Glory to God: Sung: \_\_\_\_    Recited: \_\_\_\_    Omitted: \_\_\_\_

### LITURGY OF THE WORD (Please list the readings being used – the actual book, chapter and verse)

First Reading: \_\_\_\_\_ Reader: \_\_\_\_\_  
Responsorial Psalm: \_\_\_\_\_ Sung: \_\_\_\_\_ Recited: \_\_\_\_\_  
Second Reading: \_\_\_\_\_ Reader: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gospel Acclamation: *(always sung)*  
Gospel Reading: \_\_\_\_\_ Proclaimed by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Homilist: Bishop  
Presentation of Candidates by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Song following Baptismal Promises (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_  
Confirmation Name to be presented by: Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_ Pastor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Song(s) during anointing: \_\_\_\_\_  
Universal Prayers Presented by: \_\_\_\_\_

### LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of the Gifts Hymn \_\_\_\_\_  
Holy, Holy, Holy; Mystery of Faith and Great Amen: ***(Always Sung)***  
Lord's Prayer: Sung: \_\_\_\_\_ Recited: \_\_\_\_\_    Lamb of God: Sung: \_\_\_\_\_ Recited: \_\_\_\_\_  
Communion Song \_\_\_\_\_ Closing Song \_\_\_\_\_

### CONCLUDING RITE

Are there announcements                    Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_    Read by Whom: \_\_\_\_\_  
Is there a group photo planned?        Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_    Before \_\_\_\_ or After \_\_\_\_ Mass  
Additional Parishes represented: \_\_\_\_\_