

Bishops and Baptism or Confirmation (2016)

1. The Bishop prefers that Confirmation services be held on a Deanery basis. Requests for parish confirmation services will only be considered if there is a significant pastoral reason for such a service. A cleric, who may or may not be the Rector/Priest-in-Charge of the parish where the confirmation is being held, shall be responsible for organizing the service and communicating with the Bishop's Office.
2. Please provide a convenient parking place for the bishop and alert someone (e.g. the bishop's chaplain) to assist with luggage.
3. At the Eucharist, the bishop will be the celebrant and preacher.
4. The cleric in charge of the service is responsible for the rehearsal of candidates and the preparation of candidates for the receiving of holy communion. This will help to overcome undue nervousness and avoid embarrassing confusion.
5. A copy of the service leaflet must be sent to the Bishop's Office **before it is put into print**. Names of confirmands and candidates, will have been submitted to the Bishop's Office at least one week before the service.
6. If the bishop is to sit for the confirmation, a suitable chair for the bishop should be placed at the chancel steps in ample time before the service. If possible, the moving of a heavy chair from the chancel steps to the sanctuary during the service should be avoided.
7. Announcements should be made prior to the beginning of the service.
8. The cleric in charge of the service will arrange for a chaplain (a server) to assist the bishop, hold the bishop's pastoral staff and mitre when the bishop is not using them, etc.
9. It is desirable and helpful, that a candidate for the laying-on-of-hands, when kneeling before the bishop, be wearing a clearly marked nametag his/her name on it (e.g. Mark/Mary).
10. Confirmation candidates may process with the choir; or if it is preferable, they may be brought to their pews by the incumbent shortly before the beginning of the service.
11. The candidates will usually be confirmed singly, according to the number of those to be confirmed. It is permissible for pairs of candidates, such as husband and wife, mother and daughter, father and son, to be confirmed together. Any such requests must be sent to the bishop no later than one week before the confirmation service.
12. Persons to be received from the Roman Catholic or Orthodox churches are presented after the presentation of the confirmation candidates.
13. The permitted forms of the liturgy are from the *The Book of Common Prayer* and *The Book of Alternative Services*. The *Book of Alternative Services* orders for baptism and/or confirmation may be used within either the *Book of Common Prayer* or the *Book of Alternative Services* orders for the Eucharist.



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14. If the service is entirely from the *Book of Common Prayer*, it will follow one of the orders given on the following pages:
- i) Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, p. 65-71
 - ii) Baptism, Eucharist, p. 59-64
 - iii) Confirmation, Eucharist, p. 73-76
17. The names of those who have been confirmed are to be entered in a special register. The usual custom is that the Rector/Priest-in-Charge of a parish presenting candidates will bring their register to the Deanery Confirmation service so that it may be signed by the bishop.

