

# Tridentine Community News

July 1, 2012

## *Confirmations in the Extraordinary Form To Be Held on October 14, 2012*

For only the second time in twenty years, the Sacrament of Confirmation will be offered in our region in the Extraordinary Form, during the usual 2:00 PM Tridentine Mass on Sunday, October 14, 2012 at Windsor's Assumption Church. The Sacrament will be administered by retired Bishop Eugene LaRocque, who has attended our Mass in the past. A reception for our confirmandi will follow the Mass.

Those receiving Confirmation must be baptized Catholics age 13 and above and must have received First Holy Communion. Candidates from both sides of the border are welcome. For further information or to register a candidate, please see Fr. Peter Hrytsyk, e-mail [info@windsorlatinmass.org](mailto:info@windsorlatinmass.org), or call (519) 734-1335.

Below we reprint an updated version of a previous column detailing the Extraordinary Form version of the Sacrament.

### *The Classic Form of Confirmation*

A bishop is the ordinary minister of the Sacrament of Confirmation. The Holy See has issued regulations permitting a priest to administer Confirmation under certain circumstances, such as if a person is at the point of death. In some dioceses, the

Ordinary has even authorized priests to celebrate the Sacrament as a matter of course, due to the lack of availability of bishops. For the purposes of this discussion, we will assume that a bishop confers the Sacrament.



The Sacrament of Confirmation imparts an indelible seal on the soul. It imparts the Seven Gifts of the Holy Ghost: Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel,

Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety, and Fear of the Lord. The candidate must have been baptized and should be in the state of grace. The place of the ceremony, inside or outside of Mass, is not specified, and thus is left to local custom.

The bishop begins by admonishing those present that the confirmed may not leave until the blessing has been given which will be administered after each has been confirmed. If an infant for good reason should be confirmed, the child is to be held in the right arm of the sponsor. The sponsor should place his right hand on the right shoulder of the candidate.

The candidates kneel while the bishop begins, "May the Holy Ghost come down upon you, and may the power of the Most High keep you from sin." With his hands extended over the candidates, he says a prayer invoking the Seven Gifts of the Holy Ghost. Each sponsor and candidate comes forth; the candidate kneels before the bishop.

Dipping his thumb into the Holy Chrism and tracing the Sign of the Cross onto the brow of the candidate, the bishop recites the essential form of the Sacrament: "*N., signo te signo Cru~~x~~cis et confirmo te Chrismate salutis. In nomine Pa~~x~~tris, et Fi~~x~~lii, et Sp~~x~~ritus ~~x~~ Sancti.*" (N., I seal thee with the sign of the Cross and I confirm thee with the Chrism of salvation. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.) The confirmed responds: "*Amen.*" The bishop lightly strikes the confirmed upon the cheek, saying: "*Pax tecum*" (Peace be with thee).

In some places it is the custom to fasten a linen band around the forehead of the newly confirmed. If this is not done, the bishop wipes the brow of the confirmed with cotton after the anointing. This cotton is later burned and the ashes disposed of in the *sacrarium* of the church, or into the soil outside.

The bishop then washes his hands as the following antiphon is said or sung: "Confirm, O God, what Thou hast wrought in us, from Thy holy temple which is in Jerusalem."

While the confirmed all kneel, the bishop recites a prayer asking that the Holy Ghost "may come and abide in the hearts of them whose brow we have anointed with Holy Chrism and sealed with the sign of the Holy Cross." He says a concluding prayer, followed by a special blessing.

The bishop sits down, puts on his mitre, takes his crosier, and addresses the confirmandi on their duties. The confirmed then recite aloud the Apostles' Creed, the Our Father, and the Hail Mary. The bishop gives the Pontifical Blessing, after which the *Te Deum* or Psalm 112 (*Laudate Pueri*) is customarily sung.

The Ordinary Form of Confirmation, in comparison, begins with a reading from the Acts of the Apostles. A brief homily is given, followed by the Renewal of Baptismal Promises. The Laying on of Hands and the Anointing are similar, although no posture is specified for the candidates. In practical matters, this usually means that the candidates stand before the bishop. Some General Intercession-like prayers follow, then the confirmed recite the Our Father, and the bishop imparts a blessing.

Compared to the other Sacraments, the content of the Sacrament of Confirmation is rather similar between the Ordinary and Extraordinary Forms. Perhaps this is why one sees less debate about the wording of the two forms.

### *Tridentine Masses This Coming Week*

Mon. 07/02 7:00 PM: High Mass at *St. Josaphat* (Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

Tue. 07/03 7:00 PM: Low Mass at *Assumption-Windsor* (St. Irenaeus, Bishop & Martyr)

Fri. 07/06 7:00 PM: Low Mass at *St. Josaphat* (Votive Mass of the Sacred Heart of Jesus) [First Friday Mass with Devotions to the Sacred Heart and Prayers for Vocations]