

MEMORANDUM

To: All pastors and confirmation program coordinators
From: Rev. Christopher Singer, JCL
Date: December 30, 2016
Re.: Confirmation Packet for 2017 [Updated, December 29, 2016]

Greetings to you all!

Please find enclosed the complete Confirmation Packet for 2017. Please print out all pages and, if you have any questions, feel free to contact the Office of Worship (814-824-1270 or mclark@eriercd.org). Many thanks!

Please note the following important items for confirmation celebrations in 2017:

1. Group or individual photos with Bishop Persico will take place **only in the Church immediately following the Confirmation Mass**. Please organize photos accordingly. Bishop Persico will visit the reception afterward, but will not remain vested for formal pictures.
2. Most confirmations will be celebrated by Bishop Persico. A few will be done by Bishop Trautman. The bishop scheduled for your confirmation will not be known until closer to the actual date.
3. Bishop Persico intends to arrive at the confirmation site approximately one hour prior to the start of the Mass. It is asked that the parish please have a private room or office designated for him to vest and prepare for Mass.
4. So that he may recognize and acknowledge them appropriately, Bishop Persico requests that pastors convey to him prior to the confirmation, the names of any particular parishioners, religious, or public officials in attendance whom the Bishop should greet. This information can be communicated through the Worship Office.
5. If you are planning a meal for the Bishop, please note it in the Liturgy Planning Sheet. A meal is not required. For weekday confirmations (Monday-Friday), if a dinner is held, it is to please begin at 5:30 pm. Lunches or dinners for weekend confirmations can be scheduled individually through the Worship Office. This is assist the Bishop with his travel plans.
6. Pastors and administrators are asked to review this packet before giving it to their confirmation coordinator. Likewise, pastors and administrators are asked to review the Liturgy Preparation Sheet for accuracy and completeness before it is submitted to the Worship Office.

Contents of the 2017 Packet:

1. Liturgy planning notes
2. Server contact information form
3. Note on recording Confirmations
4. Complete Confirmation schedule

****This Confirmation Packet will be available online in the Office of Worship section of the diocesan website. Please refer to the online version for the most recent information.****

CONFIRMATION 2017: Liturgy Planning Notes

- The Confirmation liturgy planning sheet is found at <http://www.eriescd.org/liturgy.htm>. **Please use the version of the Liturgy Sheet found at this site, as it may be updated throughout the year.** Please note that, with the new Roman Missal, it is critical to specify your selected options by giving section titles and section letters as appropriate. (e.g. “For the Conferral of Confirmation, C”) Page numbers are not required. **Pastors, please check the liturgy sheets before they are submitted.**
- **Mass:** The Bishop will use the text of the **Ritual Mass for Confirmation** with red vestments whenever possible. This would apply to all confirmations in 2017 except for the following days (and the anticipated Masses which precede them):
 - all Sundays of Lent
 - all Sundays of Easter
 - Annunciation of the Lord (March 25)
 - Ascension of the Lord (May 25)
 - Christ the King (November 26)
- **Readings:** The readings for the Ritual Mass should be chosen from those available for the Ritual Mass for Confirmation, (Lectionary # 764-768). During the Easter season, following the ancient custom, the first reading is taken from the Acts of the Apostles and the Gospel is taken from St. John.
- **Servers:** Parishes are asked to schedule **three to five** (five is preferred, if possible) altar servers who should be at the church **at least 30 minutes prior** to the start of Mass. If fewer than three servers are available, please let the MC or Worship Office know ahead of time. In the absence of student servers, adult servers are welcome.
- A lector (even a candidate for confirmation) carries the Book of the Gospels only in the absence of a deacon, since the ministry of proclaiming the Gospel (and carrying the Book) belongs properly to deacons.
- Using the Rite for Blessing and Sprinkling of Holy Water in place of the Penitential Rite is reserved solely to Sundays and anticipated Masses as per the instruction in the Roman Missal. The Rite of Blessing and Sprinkling of Holy Water and the *Gloria* are not to be combined.
- The *Gloria* is now required for **all** Confirmation Masses according to the Roman Missal (Roman Missal Ritual Masses #1, 4. Conferral of Confirmation).
- In planning the method by which candidates with their sponsors will approach the Bishop for the anointing with chrism, please avoid having people standing in the pew, since this blocks the view of those sitting behind them.
- Prayers of the Faithful (Universal Prayer) are to include at least one intercession for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.
- The Bishop requires that students choose confirmation names which can be found in *Butler's Lives of the Saints*, or saints who have been named by the Church since 1900.

Students should be led to choose names of saints whose lives are grounded in fact, not in legend. Please see Religious Education Policy 631.12 for a full explanation of saint-selection criteria.

- Music during Confirmation should follow the 2008 guidelines established by the United States Bishops as published in *Sing to the Lord*, nos. 137-199. Of special note, during the distribution of Communion, **the music begins when the Bishop receives the Eucharist** and continues for as long as the Eucharist is being distributed (189). The U.S. Bishops recommend using Communion songs with easily memorized refrains or sung in the style of a responsorial psalm (192). If a parish wishes to have a song of praise following Communion, that song should be sung by the entire congregation, rather than by a soloist or by the choir alone (196).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of Worship. Please know our gratitude for your attention to these important details.

CONFIRMATION 2017

Server Contact Information

The Bishop sends vocation prayer cards to the servers for Confirmation, and often, it is not possible to tell from the servers' names if they are male or female. Please indicate the gender of the server by circling M (male) or F (female).

Parish where Confirmation was celebrated: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City & Zip: _____

Gender: M F

Name: _____

Address: _____

City & Zip: _____

Gender: M F

Name: _____

Address: _____

City & Zip: _____

Gender: M F

Name: _____

Address: _____

City & Zip: _____

Gender: M F

Name: _____

Address: _____

City & Zip: _____

Gender: M F

Name: _____

Address: _____

City & Zip: _____

Gender: M F

Please complete the above information and give this form to the Bishop at the time of Confirmation or mail it to:

The Office of the Bishop
St. Mark Catholic Center
P.O. Box 10397
Erie, PA 16514-0397



NOTICE

ON THE RECORDING OF THE RECEPTION OF CONFIRMATION

With the increase of combined-parish celebrations of the sacrament of confirmation, the question of how to record reception of the sacrament has become increasingly complicated.

In accord with the decree issued by Bishop Trautman on May 23, 2005 concerning the method by which confirmations are to be recorded in the Diocese of Erie, pastors should make note of the following:

1. Each pastor is to record in full the reception of the sacrament of confirmation by his own parishioners, including reference to the place of confirmation if the reception of the sacrament takes place outside of that pastor's parish church.
2. Furthermore, the pastor of the place of confirmation is to note in the confirmation register the names of all those confirmed at that place, being sure to include at least their names, the date, the name of the minister of confirmation, and the parish where the complete record can be found.
3. Each pastor should make the appropriate notation for his own parishioners in the baptismal register of his parish, and should send notification of confirmation to the place of baptism for those baptized elsewhere.

Anything to the contrary notwithstanding.

December 29, 2011

The Rev. Christopher J. Singer, J.C.L.
Chancellor

Signature and seal are on file in the Chancery

2017 CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE FOR THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

(Last updated January 6, 2017)

DAY OF WEEK	DATE	TIME	LOCATION OF CONFIRMATION	PARISHES INCLUDED IN CONFIRMATION
Monday	February 13	7:00 pm	OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL ERIE	Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Erie St. Boniface, Erie St. Thomas, Corry
Thursday	February 23	7:00 pm	ST. JAMES ERIE	St. James, Erie St. Gregory Thaumaturgus, North East
Sunday	March 19	2:00 pm	ST. LUKE	St. Luke, Erie East Side Catholic Faith Formation: Holy Rosary, St. John, St. Patrick, St. Stanislaus, Holy Trinity, Our Mother of Sorrows
Sunday	March 26	3:00 pm	ST. JOSEPH LUCINDA	St. Joseph, Lucinda St. Mary, Crown and St. Ann, Marienville St. Charles, New Bethlehem St. Michael, Emlenton St. Michael, Fryburg
Saturday	April 1	11:00 am	ST. TOBIAS BROCKWAY	St. Tobias, Brockway St. Catherine, DuBois St. Michael, DuBois St. Joseph, DuBois St. Bernard, Falls Creek
Thursday	April 6	7:00 pm	HOLY REDEEMER WARREN	Holy Redeemer, Warren St. Anthony, Tionesta St. Joseph, Warren St. Luke, Youngsville
Friday	April 7	7:00 pm	ST. MICHAEL GREENVILLE	St. Michael, Greenville
Saturday	April 8	4:00 pm	ST. PETER CATHEDRAL ERIE	St. Peter Cathedral, Erie Immaculate Heart of Mary, Mercer St. Bartholomew, Sharpville St. Joseph Bread of Life, Erie

Friday	April 21	7:00 pm	BELOVED DISCIPLE GROVE CITY	Beloved Disciple, Grove City St. Columbkille, Stoneboro
Sunday	April 23	1:00 pm	ST. LEO RIDGWAY	St. Leo, Ridgway Holy Rosary, Johnsonburg St. Ann, Wilcox
Sunday	April 23	5:00 pm	ST. BERNARD BRADFORD	St. Bernard, Bradford Our Mother of Perpetual help, Lewis Run St. Elizabeth, Smethport St. Eulalia, Coudersport St. Francis of Assisi, Bradford St. Gabriel, Port Allegany St. Raphael, Eldred
Friday	April 28	7:00 pm	SS. COSMAS AND DAMIAN PUNXSUTAWNEY	SS. Cosmas and Damian, Punxsutawney Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Sykesville Immaculate Conception, Brookville St. Mary, Reynoldsville
Saturday	April 29	11:00 am	QUEEN OF THE WORLD ST. MARYS	Queen of the World, St. Marys Sacred Heart, St. Marys St. Boniface, Kersey St. Joseph, Force St. Mary, St. Marys
Thursday	May 4	7:00 pm	ST. GEORGE ERIE	St. George, Erie
Friday	May 5	7:00 pm	CHRIST THE KING HOUTZDALE	Christ the King, Houtzdale Holy Trinity, Ramey Immaculate Conception, Osceola Mills St. Agnes, Morrisdale St. Mary of the Assumption, Frenchville St. Basil, Coalport St. Bonaventure, Grampian St. Francis, Clearfield Ss. Peter and Paul, Grassflat Ss. Peter and Paul, Hark Run St. Severin, Drifting St. Timothy, Curwensville
Thursday	May 11	7:00 pm	HOLY CROSS FAIRVIEW	Holy Cross, Fairview St. John the Evangelist, Girard St. Lawrence the Martyr, Albion

Friday	May 12	7:00 pm	OUR LADY OF PEACE ERIE	Our Lady of Peace, Erie
Tuesday	May 16	7:00 pm	ST. AGATHA MEADVILLE	St. Agatha, Meadville Our Lady Queen of the Americas, Conneaut Lake St. Anthony of Padua, Cambridge Springs St. Brigid, Meadville St. Hippolyte & Our Lady of Lourdes, Guys Mills St. Mary of Grace, Meadville St. Peter, Conneautville St. Philip, Linesville St. Titus, Titusville
Thursday	May 18	7:00 pm	ST. FRANCIS XAVIER McKEAN	St. Francis Xavier, McKean All Saints, Waterford Our Lady of the Lake, Edinboro St. Theresa, Union City
Friday	May 19	7:00 pm	ST. STEPHEN OF HUNGARY ERIE	St. Stephen of Hungary, Erie
Sunday	May 21	11:00 am	BLESSED SACRAMENT ERIE	Blessed Sacrament, Erie Sacred Heart, Erie St. Andrew, Erie
Tuesday	May 23	7:00 pm	ST. STEPHEN OIL CITY	St. Stephen, Oil City Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Oil City Our Lady Help of Christians, Oil City St. Joseph, Oil City St. Patrick, Franklin St. Venantius, Rouseville
Thursday	May 25	7:00 pm	ST. JOSEPH SHARON	St. Joseph, Sharon Good Shepherd, West Middlesex Notre Dame, Hermitage St. Adalbert, Farrell
Sunday	September 10	12:00 pm	ST. JUDE ERIE	St. Jude St. Julia
Sunday	September 17	11:00 am	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CLARION	Immaculate Conception, Clarion
Sunday	October 15	11:00 am	OUR LADY OF MERCY HARBORCREEK	Our Lady of Mercy, Harborcreek St. Mark the Evangelist, Lawrence Park

Sunday	October 29	1:00 pm	ST. CALLISTUS, KANE	St. Callistus, Kane St. Mark, Emporium
--------	------------	------------	---------------------	---