

MEMORANDUM

To: All pastors and confirmation program coordinators
From: Rev. Christopher Singer, JCL
Date: January 5, 2018
Re.: Confirmation Packet for 2018 [Updated, January 5, 2018]

Greetings to you all!

Please find enclosed the complete Confirmation Packet for 2018. 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 2018:

1. 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.
2. Group or individual photos with the Bishop will take place **only in the Church immediately following the confirmation Mass**. Please organize photos accordingly. The Bishop will visit the reception afterward, but will not remain vested for formal pictures.
3. The Bishop 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, the Bishop 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, 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 2018 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 2018: 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 2018 except for the following days (and the anticipated Masses which precede them):
 - all Sundays of Lent
 - all Sundays of Easter
 - Annunciation of the Lord (April 9)
 - Ascension of the Lord (May 10)
 - Christ the King (November 25)
- **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 2018

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

2018 CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE FOR THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

(Last updated January 5, 2018)

| DAY OF WEEK | DATE | TIME | LOCATION OF CONFIRMATION | PARISHES INCLUDED IN CONFIRMATION |
|-------------|-------------|---------|----------------------------------|---|
| Monday | February 19 | 7:00 pm | OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL ERIE | Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Erie St. Boniface, Erie |
| Tuesday | February 27 | 7:00 pm | ST. JAMES ERIE | St. James, Erie St. Gregory Thaumaturgus, North East |
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| Sunday | March 11 | 3:00 pm | ST. MARY CROWN | St. Mary, Crown St. Charles, New Bethlehem St. Joseph, Lucinda St. Michael, Emlenton St. Michael, Fryburg |
| Friday | March 16 | 7:00 pm | ST. STEPHEN OIL CITY | St. Stephen, Oil City St. Joseph, Oil City St. Patrick, Franklin St. Titus, Titusville |
| Tuesday | March 20 | 7:00 pm | ST. JOSEPH WARREN | St. Joseph, Warren Holy Redeemer, Warren St. John, Tidioute |
| Friday | March 23 | 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, Hawk Run St. Severin, Drifting St. Timothy, Curwensville |
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| Saturday | April 7 | 11:00 am | ST. TOBIAS BROCKWAY | St. Tobias, Brockway Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Sykesville Immaculate Conception, Brookville St. Bernard, Falls Creek St. Catherine, DuBois St. Mary, Reynoldsville St. Michael, DuBois Ss. Cosmas and Damien, Punxsutawney |
| Sunday | April 8 | 11:00 am | ST. MICHAEL GREENVILLE | St. Michael, Greenville |
| Sunday | April 8 | 4:00 pm | NOTRE DAME HERMITAGE | Notre Dame, Hermitage Good Shepherd, West Middlesex Our Lady of Fatima, Farrell St. Joseph, Sharon |
| Tuesday | April 10 | 7:00 pm | HOLY ROSARY ERIE | East Side Catholic Faith Formation: Holy Rosary, Holy Trinity, Our Mother of Sorrows, St. John the Baptist, St. Patrick, St. Stanislaus St. Luke, Erie |
| Monday | April 16 | 7:00 pm | ST. THERESA OF AVILA UNION CITY | St. Theresa of Avila, Union City St. Thomas, Corry |
| Wednesday | April 18 | 7:00 pm | OUR LADY OF PEACE ERIE | Our Lady of Peace, Erie |
| Sunday | April 22 | 1:00 pm | ST. LEO, RIDGWAY | St. Leo, Ridgway Holy Rosary, Johnsonburg |
| Sunday | April 22 | 5:00 pm | ST. BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX BRADFORD | St. Bernard of Clairvaux, Bradford St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Smethport St. Eulalia, Coudersport St. Francis of Assisi, Bradford St. Gabriel the Archangel, Port Allegany St. Raphael, Eldred |
| Tuesday | April 24 | 7:00 pm | BLESSED SACRAMENT ERIE | Blessed Sacrament, Erie Sacred Heart of Jesus, Erie St. Andrew, Erie |
| Wednesday | April 25 | 7:00 pm | HOLY CROSS FAIRVIEW | Holy Cross, Fairview St. John the Evangelist, Girard St. Lawrence the Martyr, Albion |

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| Tuesday | May 8 | 7:00 pm | ST. GEORGE ERIE | St. George, Erie |
| Wednesday | 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 |
| Saturday | May 19 | 4:00 pm | ST. PETER CATHEDRAL ERIE | St. Peter Cathedral, Erie St. Joseph Parish/Bread of Life Community, Erie Beloved Disciple, Grove City Immaculate Heart of Mary, Mercer St. Bartholomew, Sharpsville |
| Sunday | May 20 | 2:00 pm | 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 |
| Monday | May 21 | 7:00 pm | ST. JUDE ERIE | St. Jude, Erie St. Julia, Erie |
| Wednesday | May 30 | 7:00 pm | OUR LADY OF THE LAKE EDINBORO | Our Lady of the Lake, Edinboro All Saints, Waterford St. Francis Xavier, McKean |
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| Sunday | September 9 | 11:00 am | IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CLARION | Immaculate Conception, Clarion |
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| Sunday | October 21 | 1:00 pm | ST. MARK EMPORIUM | St. Mark, Emporium St. Callistus, Kane |
| Sunday | October 28 | 11:00 am | OUR LADY OF MERCY HARBORCREEK | Our Lady of Mercy, Harborcreek |