

MEMORANDUM

To: All pastors, administrators, and confirmation program coordinators
From: Rev. Matthew J. Kujawinski
Date: January 16, 2023
Re.: Confirmation Packet for 2023

Greetings to you all!

Please find enclosed the complete Confirmation Packet for 2023. Please print out all pages and note updates and changes throughout. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Office for Divine Worship at 814-824-1271 or Worship@ErieRCD.org. Many thanks!

Please note the following important items for confirmation celebrations in 2023:

1. 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.
2. The Bishop intends to arrive at the confirmation site approximately one hour prior to the start of the Mass. Please have a private room or office designated for him to vest and prepare for Mass.
3. 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 acknowledge. This information can be communicated through the Office for Divine Worship.
4. A meal is not required but if a dinner is held, please begin at 5:30 pm for weekday confirmations (Monday-Friday.) Lunches or dinners for weekend confirmations can be scheduled individually through the Office for Divine Worship. This is to assist the Bishop with his travel plans.
5. Pastors and administrators are asked to review this packet before giving it to their confirmation coordinator.

Contents of the 2023 Packet:

1. Liturgy planning notes
2. Server contact information form
3. Note on recording confirmations
4. Guide for collaboration in preparing confirmations
5. Complete confirmation schedule

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

CONFIRMATION 2023: Liturgy Planning Notes

- The Office for Divine Worship will prepare **all** Confirmation Liturgies and will contact the pastor of each place of celebration for the selected music, readers, servers, etc.
- **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 2023 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 Confirmation Liturgies (except for those days mentioned above) will be as follows:

Outside the Easter Season: Isaiah 11:1-4ab, Lectionary 764-1
1 Corinthians 12:4-13, Lectionary 765-9
Matthew 16:24-27, Lectionary 768-2

Easter Weekday: Acts 19:1b-6a, Lectionary 765-5
Romans 8:26-27, Lectionary 765-8
Matthew 16:24-27, Lectionary 768-2

- **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 Office of Divine Worship 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 Liturgies except for the Sundays of Lent (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.
- The Universal Prayer is 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 631.14 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. 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 use worship aids in your pews and/or are live streaming, remember to report all usage of the music used to your licensing company (OneLicense.net, CCLI, etc.) If live streaming, please be sure you have the proper subscription with your music licensing company.

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

CONFIRMATION 2023

Server Contact Information

The Bishop sends thank-you notes 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: _____

Grade level: _____

Gender: M F

Name: _____

Address: _____

City & Zip: _____

Grade level: _____

Gender: M F

Name: _____

Address: _____

City & Zip: _____

Grade level: _____

Gender: M F

Name: _____

Address: _____

City & Zip: _____

Grade level: _____

Gender: M F

Name: _____

Address: _____

City & Zip: _____

Grade level: _____

Gender: M F

Name: _____

Address: _____

City & Zip: _____

Grade level: _____

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

2023 CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE FOR THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

Edited 11.16.23

DAY OF WEEK	DATE	TIME	LOCATION OF CONFIRMATION	PARISHES INCLUDED IN CONFIRMATION
Thursday	February 23	7:00 pm	ST. JAMES CHURCH ERIE	St. James Parish, Erie Mount Calvary Parish, Erie St. Mark the Evangelist Parish, Erie
Monday	February 27	7:00 pm	OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH HARBORCREEK	Our Lady of Mercy, Harborcreek St. Gregory Thaumaturgus, North East
Monday	March 6	7:00 pm	BELOVED DISCIPLE CHURCH GROVE CITY	Beloved Disciple Parish, Grove City Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Mercer St. Michael Parish, Greenville
Tuesday	March 21	7:00 pm	BLESSED SACRAMENT CHURCH ERIE	Blessed Sacrament Parish, Erie
Monday	March 27	7:00 pm	ST. GEORGE CHURCH ERIE	St. George Parish, Erie
Tuesday	April 18	6:30 pm	CHRIST THE KING CHURCH HOUTZDALE	Christ the King Parish, Houtzdale St. Agnes Parish, Morrisdale St. Basil the Great Parish, Coalport St. Bonaventure Parish, Grampian St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Clearfield Immaculate Conception Parish, Osceola Mills St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Frenchville St. Timothy Parish, Curwensville
Wednesday	April 19	7:00 pm	HOLY REDEEMER CHURCH WARREN	Holy Redeemer Parish, Warren St. Joseph Parish, Warren
Saturday	April 22	4:00 pm	ST. PETER CATHEDRAL ERIE	St. Peter Cathedral Parish, Erie St. Bartholomew Parish, Sharpsville St. Joseph Parish/Bread of Life Community, Erie St. Lawrence the Martyr Parish, Albion
Sunday	April 23	1:30 pm	QUEEN OF THE WORLD CHURCH ST. MARYS	Queen of the World Parish, St. Marys Sacred Heart Parish, St. Marys St. Mark Parish, Emporium St. Mary Parish, St. Marys

Monday	April 24	7:00 pm	ALL SAINTS CHURCH WATERFORD	All Saints Parish, Waterford
Thursday	April 27	7:00 pm	ST. LUKE CHURCH ERIE	St. Luke Parish, Erie Holy Rosary Parish, Erie Holy Trinity Parish, Erie Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Erie Our Mother of Sorrows Parish, Erie St. Boniface Parish, Erie St. John the Baptist Parish, Erie St. Patrick Parish, Erie St. Stanislaus Parish, Erie
Saturday	April 29	11:00 am	ST. TOBIAS CHURCH BROCKWAY	St. Tobias Parish, Brockway Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, Sykesville Immaculate Conception Parish, Brookville St. Bernard Parish, Falls Creek St. Catherine of Siena Parish, DuBois Ss. Cosmas and Damian Parish, Punxsutawney St. Mary Parish, Reynoldsville St. Michael the Archangel Parish, DuBois
Thursday	May 4	7:00 pm	ST. LEO MAGNUS CHURCH RIDGWAY	St. Leo Magnus Parish, Ridgway Holy Rosary Parish, Johnsonburg St. Boniface Parish, Kersey St. Joseph Parish, Force
Monday	May 8	7:00 pm	ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH McKEAN	St. Francis Xavier, McKean Our Lady of the Lake Parish, Edinboro St. Teresa of Avila Parish, Union City St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Corry
Wednesday	May 10	7:00 pm	ST. PATRICK CHURCH FRANKLIN	St. Patrick Parish, Franklin St. John Parish, Tidioute St. Joseph Parish, Oil City St. Michael Parish, Emlenton
Thursday	May 11	4:30 pm	OUR LADY OF PEACE CHURCH ERIE	Our Lady of Peace Parish, Erie
Thursday	May 11	7:30 pm	OUR LADY OF PEACE CHURCH ERIE	Our Lady of Peace Parish, Erie
Monday	May 15	7:00 pm	ST. JOSEPH CHURCH SHARON	St. Joseph Parish, Sharon Good Shepherd Parish, West Middlesex Notre Dame Parish, Hermitage

Sunday	May 21	4:00 pm	ST. BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX CHURCH BRADFORD	St. Bernard of Clairvaux Parish, Bradford St. Bibiana Parish, Galeton St. Callistus Parish, Kane St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish, Smethport St. Eulalia Parish, Coudersport St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Bradford St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish, Port Allegany St. Raphael Parish, Eldred
Tuesday	May 23	7:00 pm	ST. AGATHA CHURCH MEADVILLE	The Epiphany of the Lord Parish, Meadville Our Lady, Queen of the Americas Parish, Conneaut Lake St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Cambridge Springs St. Hippolyte Parish, Frenchtown/Guys Mills St. Peter Parish, Conneautville St. Philip Parish, Linesville St. Titus Parish, Titusville
Thursday	May 25	7:00 pm	HOLY CROSS CHURCH FAIRVIEW	Holy Cross Parish, Fairview St. John Parish, Girard
Sunday	May 28	1:00 pm	ST. JOSEPH CHURCH LUCINDA	St. Joseph Parish, Lucinda St. Mary Parish, Crown St. Michael Parish, Fryburg
Wednesday	May 31	7:00 pm	ST. JUDE THE APOSTLE CHURCH ERIE	St. Jude the Apostle Parish, Erie, Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Erie St. Andrew Parish, Erie St. Julia Parish, Erie St. Paul Parish, Erie
Thursday	June 1	7:00 pm	LOCATION TO BE DETERMINED	Immaculate Conception Parish, Clarion St. Charles Parish, New Bethlehem St. Eusebius Parish, East Brady