

# The Sacrament of Confirmation

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2021.



Main Celebrant  
Bishop Patrick McKinney

## Introduction & Welcome

(Welcome given by a Rachel)

## Processional Hymn

(Sung by the music group only)

### Ten Thousand Reasons

**Bless the Lord oh my soul**

**Oh my soul**

**Worship His Holy name**

**Sing like never before**

**Oh my soul**

**I'll worship Your Holy name**

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning

It's time to sing Your song again

Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me

Let me be singing when the evening comes

### Chorus

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger

Your name is great and Your heart is kind

For all Your goodness I will keep on singing

Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

### Chorus

And on that day, when my strength is failing

The end draws near and my time has come

Still my soul will sing Your praise unending

Ten thousand years and then forevermore

### Chorus

### Chorus

Yes I'll worship Your Holy name

Lord I'll worship Your Holy name

## Introductory Rite

**The Bishop:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

**All:** Amen.

**The Bishop:** Peace be with you.

**All:** And with your spirit.

**The Bishop:** Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins,

And so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries



## Penitential Rite

**All:** I confess to almighty God  
And to you my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned,  
in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in  
what I have failed to do,  
though my fault, through my fault, through my most  
grievous fault;  
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,  
All the Angels and Saints,  
And you my brothers and sisters,  
To pray for me to the Lord our God.

**The Bishop:** May almighty God have mercy on us,  
Forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life.

**All:** Amen

## Gloria

*(Said)*

**All:** Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.  
We praise you,  
we bless you,  
we adore you,  
we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.  
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen

## Opening Prayer

**The Bishop:** Let us pray.

Almighty ever-living God,  
lead us to a share in the joys of heaven,  
so that the humble flock may reach  
where the brave Shepherd has gone before.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever

**All:** Amen

## Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: *Read by Vesta*

**A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said:  
'Rulers of the people, and elders! If  
you are questioning us today about  
an act of kindness to a cripple, and  
asking us how he was healed, then I  
am glad to tell you all, and would indeed  
be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that  
it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one  
you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no  
other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your  
presence, today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but  
which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world  
given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.'



The word of the Lord

**All:** Thanks be to God

## Responsorial Psalm ~ sung response.

*(Sung by the Niamh & Aoife only)*

Come Holy Spirit fill the hearts of your faithful,  
and light up in them the fire of your love.  
Send out your Spirit and they shall be created  
and you will renew the face of the earth.

**Come Holy Spirit fill the hearts of your faithful,  
and light up in them the fire of your love.  
Send out your Spirit and they shall be created  
and you will renew the face of the earth.**

Second Reading: *Read by Peter*

**A reading from the first letter of St John**

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us,  
by letting us be called God's children;  
and that is what we are.  
Because the world refused to acknowledge him,  
therefore it does not acknowledge us.  
My dear people, we are already the children of God  
but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed;  
all we know is, that when it is revealed  
we shall be like him  
because we shall see him as he really is.

The word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

*Gospel Acclamation*

**All: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**  
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;  
I know my sheep and my own know me.

**All: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

*Gospel*

**Deacon:** The Lord be with you.

**All:** And with your Spirit.

**Deacon:** A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

**All:** Glory to you Lord.

**Deacon:** Jesus said:

'I am the good shepherd;  
the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep.  
The hired man, since he is not the shepherd  
and the sheep do not belong to him,  
abandons the sheep and runs away  
as soon as he sees a wolf coming,  
and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep;  
this is because he is only a hired man  
and has no concern for the sheep.  
'I am the good shepherd;  
I know my own  
and my own know me,  
just as the Father knows me  
and I know the Father;



and I lay down my life for my sheep.  
And there are other sheep I have  
that are not of this fold,  
and these I have to lead as well.  
They too will listen to my voice,  
and there will be only one flock,  
and one shepherd.  
'The Father loves me,  
because I lay down my life  
in order to take it up again.  
No one takes it from me;  
I lay it down of my own free will,  
and as it is in my power to lay it down,  
so it is in my power to take it up again;  
and this is the command I have been given by my Father.'



The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Homily*

*(After the Homily, everyone remains seated,  
Two of the catechists and Fr. David will then present the candidates to the Bishop)*

*The Rite of Confirmation.*

Fr David: Most Reverend Father,  
I present to you the following parishioners who wish to receive  
the Sacrament of Confirmation. I invite each candidate to stand,  
along with their sponsor, when their name is read out.

*(The Catecharist reads out the candidates' names; when their names are read, each candidate, together with  
their sponsor, stands in their place.*

*Once the names have been read, the Parish Priest sits down and one of the catechists, standing at the Ambo,  
addresses the Bishop, while the candidates and their sponsors remain standing)*

**Stuart:** Most Reverend Father,  
We have been commissioned by our parish to prepare these  
young people to be confirmed. We have done our best to help  
them to grow in their Christian faith. In doing so, we have shared  
the joys and struggles of our own faith, along with our  
experiences of forgiveness, peace and community.

**Olivia:** We find that they are ready and worthy to receive the sacrament  
of Confirmation. We thank them, because our faith has been  
deepened by sharing their journey with them, and we thank their  
parents and sponsors for their support and cooperation.  
On behalf of our parish, we recommend that these young people  
receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

**The Bishop:** Dear catechists, thank you for your generosity in preparing your fellow parishioners to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. I accept your recommendation that they are ready and worthy to be confirmed.

**The Bishop:** Dear candidates for Confirmation,  
I now invite you,  
in front of your families, sponsors and friends,  
to make for yourselves the promises  
which your parents and godparents made for you  
when they brought you to be baptised.  
And so I ask you:

Do you reject Satan,  
and all his works and empty promises?

**Candidates:** I do.

**The Bishop:** Do you believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth?

**Candidates:** I do.

**The Bishop:** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death and was buried,  
rose again from the dead and is seated at the  
right hand of the Father?

**Candidates:** I do.

**The Bishop:** Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who today through the Sacrament of Confirmation is given to you  
in a special way just as he was given to the Apostles  
on the day of Pentecost?

**Candidates:** I do.

**The Bishop:** Do you believe in the holy Catholic Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?

**Candidates:** I do.

**The Bishop:** This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church.  
We are proud to profess it in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

*(The candidates kneel.)*

**The Bishop:** Dearly beloved,  
let us pray to God the almighty Father,  
for these, his adopted sons and daughters,  
already born again to eternal life in Baptism,  
that he will graciously pour out the Holy Spirit upon them



to confirm them with his abundant gifts, and through his  
anointing conform them more fully to Christ, the Son of God.

*(All pray in silence for a short while. Then, the Bishop, together with those other priests present,  
extends his hands over the candidates.)*

**The Bishop:** Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who brought these your servants to new birth  
by water and the Holy Spirit, freeing them from sin:  
send upon them, O Lord, the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete;  
give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and fortitude,  
the spirit of knowledge and piety;  
fill them with the spirit of the fear of the Lord.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

*(The candidates sit down. Each candidate comes forward to be confirmed, accompanied by their  
sponsor, who places their right hand on the candidate's right shoulder. The Bishop makes the Sign  
of the Cross with the Sacred Chrism on the candidate's forehead.)*

**The Bishop:** ... be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

**Confirmed:** Amen.

**The Bishop:** Peace be with you.

**Confirmed:** And with your spirit.

*(After Veni Sanctus Spiritus has finished, we stand for the Prayer of the Faithful.)*

## *Universal Prayer*

**The Bishop:** Let us pray to God our Father, who in his love has entrusted us to  
the care of his son Jesus Christ, The Good Shepherd.

**Clare:** For these sons and daughters of God, confirmed by the gift of  
the Spirit, that they may give witness to Christ by lives built upon  
faith and love.

Lord, in your mercy

**All:** Hear our prayer.

**Clare:** For their parents and sponsors who are called to guide them in  
faith; that by word and example they may always encourage  
them to follow the way of Jesus Christ.

Lord, in your mercy

**All:** Hear our prayer.

**Clare:** For young people looking for a purpose in life; that they may be  
attentive to the voice of the Lord, who may be calling them to  
serve in the priesthood or Religious Life.

Lord in your mercy

**All:** Hear our prayer.

**Clare:** We pray for our own intentions in a few moments of silence  
*(longer pause).*

Lord in your mercy

**All:** **Hear our prayer.**

**Clare:** Let us seek the prayerful intercession of Mary, Mother of the Church and Mother of our Saviour:

**All:** **Hail Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with thee.**

**Blessed art thou among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.**

**Holy Mary, mother of God,  
pray for us sinners  
now and at the hour of our death.**

**The Bishop:** Father, hear our prayers and may your goodness and mercy be poured into our hearts through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit until we arrive at the eternal pastures of heaven, led by your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns for ever and ever...

**All:** **Amen**

### *Preparation of the gifts.*

*(Izabella & Louise will bring the bread and wine to the altar.)*

### *Offertory Hymn*

*(Sung by the music group only)*

**Take, O take me as I am  
Summon out what I should be  
Set your seal upon my heart  
And live in me.**

**The Bishop:** Pray brethren,  
that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God,  
the almighty Father.

**All:** **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands,  
For the praise and glory of his name,  
For our good, and the good of all his holy Church.**



## *Prayer over the Offerings.*

**The Bishop:** Grant, we pray, O Lord,  
that we may always find delight in these paschal mysteries,  
so that the renewal constantly at work within us  
may be the cause of our unending joy.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**All:** **Amen**

**The Bishop:** The Lord be with you.

**All:** **And with your spirit.**

**The Bishop:** Lift up your hearts.

**All:** **We lift them up to the Lord.**

**The Bishop:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All:** **It is right and just.**



## *Preface*

**The Bishop:** It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.  
For, when your children were scattered afar by sin,  
through the Blood of your Son and the power of the Spirit,  
you gathered them again to yourself,  
that a people, formed as one by the unity of the Trinity,  
made the body of Christ and the temple of the Holy Spirit,  
might, to the praise of your manifold wisdom,  
be manifest as the Church.  
And so, in company with the choirs of Angels,  
we praise you, and with joy we proclaim:

## *Sanctus*

**All:** **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## *Eucharist Prayer II*

**The Bishop:** You are indeed Holy, O Lord, the fount of all holiness.  
Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray,  
By sending down your Spirit upon them like the dewfall,  
So that they may become for us  
the Body and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ.



At the time he was betrayed  
and entered willingly into his Passion,  
he took bread and, giving thanks, broke it, and gave it to his  
disciples, saying:

**Take this, all of you, and eat of it:  
For this is my body which will be given up for you.**

In the same way, when supper was ended,  
he took the chalice  
and, once more giving thanks,  
he gave it to his disciples, saying:

**Take this, all of you, and drink from it,  
For this is the chalice of my blood;  
the blood of the new and eternal covenant,  
which will be poured out for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this in memory of me.**

### *Eucharistic Acclamation*

The mystery of faith

**All: Save us Saviour of the World, for by your  
cross and resurrection you have set us free**

**The Bishop:** Therefore, as we celebrate the memorial of his  
Death and Resurrection, we offer you, Lord,  
the Bread of life and the Chalice of salvation,  
giving thanks that you have held us worthy  
to be in your presence and minister to you.

Humbly we pray that, partaking of the Body and Blood  
of Christ, we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit.

Remember, Lord, your Church,  
spread throughout the world,  
and bring her to the fullness of charity,  
together with Francis our Pope and Patrick our Bishop  
and all the clergy.

Remember also, Lord, your servants whom you have been  
pleased to confirm today by bestowing the Holy Spirit,  
and keep them in your grace.

Remember also our brothers and sisters  
who have fallen asleep in the hope of resurrection,  
and all who have died in your mercy:  
welcome them into the light of your face.

Have mercy on us all, we pray,  
That with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God,  
With the Blessed Apostles, and all the Saints  
who have pleased you throughout the ages,  
we may merit to be coheirs to eternal life,  
and may praise and glorify you  
through your Son, Jesus Christ.

### *The Great Amen*

Through him and with him and in him,  
O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
All glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever.

**All Amen**

**The Bishop:** At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching,  
we dare to say

**All Our Father...** *(Said)*

**The Bishop:** ...as we await the blessed hope  
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**All For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever.**

### *Sign of Peace*

**The Bishop:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**All: And with your spirit.**

**Deacon:** Let us offer each other the sign language of peace.

### *Agnus Dei*

**All: Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world,  
Have mercy on us  
Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world,  
Have mercy on us  
Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world,  
Grant us peace**

**The Bishop:** Behold the Lamb of God,  
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.  
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**All: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but  
only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

**The Bishop:** The Body of Christ.

**All: Amen.**

*(For Communion, please follow the directions from the ushers)*

## Communion Hymn

*(Sung by the music group only)*

Light of the world, you stepped down into darkness,  
opened my eyes, let me see.  
Beauty that made this heart adore you,  
hope of a life spent with you.

**So here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,  
Here I am to say that you're my God:  
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,  
altogether wonderful to me.**

King of all days, oh so highly exalted,  
glorious in heaven above.  
Humbly you came to the earth you created,  
all for love's sake became poor.

### Chorus

And I'll never know how much it cost,  
to see my sin upon that cross.  
And I'll never know how much it cost,  
to see my sin upon that cross.

### Chorus



## Post Communion Prayer

**The Bishop:** Look upon your flock, kind Shepherd,  
and be pleased to settle in eternal pastures  
the sheep you have redeemed  
by the Precious Blood of your Son.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**All:** Amen.

## The Concluding Rites

**The Bishop:** The Lord be with you

**All:** And with your spirit.

**Deacon** Bow down for God's blessing.

**The Bishop:** Confirm, O God,  
what you have brought about in us,  
and preserve in the hearts of these young people  
the gifts of the Holy Spirit: may they never be ashamed  
to confess Christ crucified before the world  
and by devoted charity may they ever fulfil his commands.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**All:** Amen.

**The Bishop:** And may the blessing of almighty God,  
the Father, + and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit, +  
come down on you and remain with you for ever.

**All** Amen.

## Dismissal

**Deacon:** Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

## Final Hymn

*(Sung by the music group only)*

Men of faith, rise up and sing  
of the great and glorious King.  
You are strong when you feel weak,  
in your brokenness complete.

Shout to the North and the South,  
sing to the East and the West.  
Jesus is Saviour to all,  
Lord of heaven and earth.

Rise up, women of the truth,  
stand and sing to broken hearts.  
Who can know the healing pow'r  
of our awesome King of love?

### Chorus

We've been through fire, we've been through rain,  
we've been refined by the power of his name.  
We've fallen deeper in love with you,  
you've burned the truth on our lips.

### Chorus

Rise up, church with broken wings,  
fill this place with songs again.  
Of our God who reigns on high,  
by His grace again we'll fly.

### Chorus

Thank you everyone, especially Bishop Patrick, for making today a very special celebration for our young people.

Thank you, especially, to the parents for your support in their preparation and to the catechists, who have enjoyed preparing them for this moment on their faith journey.



## *Please continue to pray for*

Confirmation name given in brackets

Arianna (St Sophia) Congiu  
Olivia (St Veronica) Drummond  
Niamh (St Cecilia) Eagles  
Isabella (St Jadwiga) Indyk  
Vesta (St Irene) Jankauskaite  
Ellie-Grace (St Mary) Johnson  
Aoife (St Cecilia) Leavesley  
Louise (St Maria) Rice  
Francesca (St Catherine) Ross  
Tia (St Pelagia) Thompson  
Noah (St Patrick) Turner  
Rachel (St Rose of Lima) Wilson  
Joseph (St Francis) Woodward  
William (St Ferdinand) Woodward

