

CONFIRMATION IN A NUTSHELL

The following instructions are from the Office of the Bishop along with special notes particular to St. John's.



Confirmation Attire

1. All Confirmation Candidates are to wear robes during the Mass, during the reception, and for all photographs before and after Mass. Please return the robes after the reception to the drop-off bin near elevator.
2. **Boys:** wear dress pants, dress shoes, a dress shirt, and a tie. Make sure your hair is off of your forehead.
3. **Girls:** wear a modest dress with dress shoes, or a blouse with a modest skirt or dress slacks. Makeup and jewelry should be kept at a tasteful and minimal level. Make sure your hair is off of your forehead.
4. **Sponsors:** Please dress modestly.

Procession

1. Before Mass, slowly proceed into the church about three feet behind the person in front of you, with your hands in a praying position. Girls first, with their sponsor next to them. Girls and their sponsors go around to the left (Blessed Mother side.) The boys are next, with their sponsors next to them. Boys go around to the right (St. Joseph side.)
2. Approach the altar and genuflect in pairs. Walk in front of the pews and around to the side to your seat, as you do after receiving Communion. Confirmation students in first three rows, sponsors in next three rows.
3. Waiting for all to arrive in their places, all will sit on cue. Stand as the Mass begins.

Rite of Confirmation

1. After the Bishop gives his homily, he will invite the Candidates to renew their Baptismal Promises. Respond in a loud, clear voice:

Do you reject Satan, and all his works, and all his empty promises?	"I DO."
Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of Heaven and earth?	"I DO."
Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered, died, and was buried, rose from the dead, and is seated at the right hand of the Father?	"I DO."
Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the dead, and life everlasting?	"I DO."

2. The Sacrament begins when the Bishop extends his hands over the Confirmandi.
3. When you approach the Bishop to receive Confirmation, hand your index card to the priest assisting the Bishop, place your toes against the step so the Bishop will not have to bend forward.
4. Make sure your hair is off of your forehead.
5. When it is your turn to be confirmed, your sponsor must place their right hand on your shoulder. You should look up at the bishop. He will say:

"Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit." You respond in a clear voice: "**AMEN.**"
When the Bishop says to the Confirmed, "Peace be with you," make eye contact and respond with "**and with your spirit.**"