



Confirmation

Christ Episcopal Church Eureka CA



CONFIRMATION INFORMATION AND APPLICATION

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation is the sacramental rite in which the candidates “express a mature commitment to Christ, and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop” (Book of Common Prayer [hereafter BCP], p. 860). Those who were baptized at an early age and those baptized as adults are expected to make a mature public affirmation of their faith, recommit themselves to the responsibilities of their baptism, and receive the laying on of hands by a bishop (BCP, p. 412).

The Prayer Book rite for Confirmation includes forms of Reception and the Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows. Those who have already made a mature Christian commitment in another denomination (Roman Catholic Church, Eastern Orthodox Church, etc.) are recognized as members of the one holy catholic and apostolic church, and received into the fellowship of the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion.¹ Those who have returned from a time of religious inactivity to an active practice of faith may publicly reaffirm their baptismal vows. Others who have experienced a renewal of faith or desire to renew their Christian commitment may also reaffirm their baptismal vows. Reaffirmation may be repeated, depending on the pastoral needs of the person. In preparation for Confirmation, candidates are expected to review the baptismal covenant (BCP, pp. 416 – 417) and An Outline of the Faith (BCP, pp. 845 – 862).

PRESENTERS / SPONSORS

Candidates are encouraged to have individual presenters (up to 3) who will present them to the bishop and support them in their Christian life by prayer and example. The presenters do not need to be clergy.

¹ If someone is a member of a church with which the Episcopal Church is in full communion, they would also be received (as opposed to confirmed). The Episcopal Church is currently in full communion with the following churches: Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; The Moravian Church – Northern and Southern Provinces; Mar Thoma Syrian Church of Malabar, India; Old Catholic Churches of the Union of Utrecht; Philippine Independent Church; Church of Sweden; Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria (ELKB); Churches Beyond Borders.

THE CONFIRMATION SERVICE

In the Confirmation service, the candidates reaffirm their renunciation of evil, and renew their commitment to Jesus Christ. They reaffirm the promises made by them or for them at the time of baptism. Those present in the congregation promise to do all in their power to support the candidates in their life in Christ. The bishop leads the congregation in renewing the baptismal covenant. The Prayers for the Candidates from the baptismal liturgy may be used as the Prayers of the People (BCP, p. 417). The bishop lays hands on each candidate for Confirmation. The BCP provides specific prayers to be said by the bishop for Confirmation, Reception, and Reaffirmation.

CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTION PER THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

Q. What is Confirmation?

A. Confirmation is the rite in which we express a mature commitment to Christ, and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and laying on of hands by a bishop.

Q. What is required of those to be confirmed?

A. It is required of those to be confirmed that they have been baptized, are sufficiently instructed in the Christian Faith, are penitent for their sins, and are ready to affirm their confession of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

The Confirmation application form on the following page should be completed and returned to the Church office as soon as possible.

We hope this information will give you a better understanding of our approach to Confirmation at Christ Church, and we hope this will help you with your application. Please complete the following application and return it to the Church office at christchurcheureka@gmail.com. Please contact me if you have any questions! The Rev. Dr. Daniel DeForest London Rector of Christ Church Eureka. 707-442-1797. eureka.rector@gmail.com

Catechesis

Confirmation includes the renewal of the baptismal vow to “continue in the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers” (BCP, p. 304). This is a promise to participate in the Holy Eucharist on a regular (i.e. weekly) basis, to the best of one’s ability. Also, Bishop Megan wants to know more about you and your spiritual journey, using one or more questions from the Confirmation Questionnaire below for guidance. In preparation for Confirmation, please watch (or review if you have already watched) the following videos that provide a broad overview of the Bible, Church History, Theology, Liturgy, and Ethics from the Episcopal / Anglican perspective. In order to complete the class, please download and print the Lesson Notes and fill in the blanks for the following sessions: *The Bible*, *Church History*, *Theology*, *Introduction to the Book of Common Prayer*, *Sacraments*, and *Ethics*.

The Bible

The Bible (Part One): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IHXf9sSJSvs>

The Bible (Part Two): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RU0Jt7wDfsI>

The Bible (Lesson Notes): <https://christchurcheureka.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/confirmation-bible.pdf>

Church History

Church History (Part One): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nh3PVxU9s2o>

Church History (Part Two): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v7fR1_DSvVI

Church History (Lesson Notes): <https://christchurcheureka.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/church-history.pdf>

Theology

Theology (Part One): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0i3VMIA2C7A>

Theology (Part Two): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n7eDBKkhUcc>

Theology (Lesson Notes): <https://christchurcheureka.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/theology-lesson-notes.pdf>

Book of Common Prayer

BCP (Part One): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9NpGJK3CrUI>

BCP (Part Two): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qZbQIpBrlO0>

BCP (Part Three): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gXQW-ixaNh4>

BCP (Lesson Notes): <https://christchurcheureka.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/bcp-conf-20-1.pdf>

Sacraments

Sacraments (Part One): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UHKcIhNkIcY>

Sacraments (Part Two): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q1YC_Yu7QQM

Sacraments (Lesson Notes): <https://christchurcheureka.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/sacraments.pdf>

Ethics

Ethics (Part One): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BGPaDOjS3VY>

Ethics (Part Two): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S7mdMPjL9Ms>

Ethics (Lesson Notes): <https://christchurcheureka.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/ethics.pdf>

CONFIRMATION (BCP p. 303 – 305)

Presenters I present *these persons* for Confirmation.

Or I present *these persons* to be received into this Communion.

Or I present *these persons* who *desire* to reaffirm *their* baptismal vows.

The Bishop asks the candidates

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil?

Candidate I do.

Bishop

Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

Candidate

I do, and with God's grace I will follow him as my Savior and Lord.

After all have been presented, the Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support *these persons* in *their* life in Christ?

People We will.

The Celebrant then says these or similar words

Let us join with *those* who *are* committing *themselves* to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

People I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and
fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the
prayers?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever
you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good
News of God in Christ?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People I will, with God's help.



CONFIRMATION APPLICATION

Date of Application: _____

Proposed Date of Confirmation: _____ Proposed Time: _____

Full Name: _____

Age: _____ Sex: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Parent 1 Full Name: _____

Parent 1 Address: _____

Parent 1 Church Affiliation: _____

Parent 2 Full Name: _____

Parent 2 Address: _____

Parent 2 Church Affiliation: _____

Parents Telephone – Home _____ Cell _____

E-mail: _____

Church parent (s) now attend? _____

How long have you attended? _____

Why do you wish to be Confirmed at Christ Church? _____

Other Relevant Family
Information _____

Please list your Presenter(s)/Sponsor(s): Name & Church Affiliation:

Please email this to christchurcheureka@gmail.com and eureka.rector@gmail.com



CONFIRMATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Bishop Megan wants to know more about you and your journey to Christ. The written word can be a powerful tool, as seen in our own scriptures. You are encouraged to write a letter to Bishop Megan in your own words, using one or more of the questions below for guidance.

NOTE: Please email to eureka.rector@gmail.com. The Rector will forward your response to the Bishop.

Tell me about your spiritual journey that has led you to confirmation.

When have you felt God's presence in your life?

What about the Bible most challenges you? Puzzles you? Encourages you?

What steps will you take to keep growing in your faith after Confirmation?

Why do you desire to be confirmed?