



The Roman Catholic Diocese of
BATON ROUGE

GENERAL LITURGICAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE CELEBRATION OF CONFIRMATION

Revised 13 August 2025

- The pastor or his designate is responsible for setting up for the ceremony. Check all preparation in church, making sure all the necessary vessels and books are in place and correctly marked. Check the microphones. If possible, there should be a deacon for the ceremony. *Remember that the chalices used for communion under both species should be filled appropriately before Mass and brought to the altar as the altar is prepared from the credence table. Only the celebrant's chalice is filled at the altar with the wine brought to the altar in the Offertory Procession.*
- *The bishop will bring his alb, crozier, crozier stand, and the Chrism for the Confirmation. He will expect to use the parish's Chasuble. If there are not enough Red/White Chasubles for the Bishop and concelebrants let the bishop know to bring his own*
- Please make every effort to start the ceremony on time.
- All concelebrants will reverence (kiss) the altar at the beginning. *Only the priests and deacons in the sanctuary will reverence (kiss) the altar with the bishop at the end of Mass.*
- The candidates and their sponsors should be in place before Mass starts. If they are to process in, it should be in two straight uninterrupted lines. Mitre and crosier bearers walk last behind the bishop. Concelebrating priests walk immediately in front of the bishop. All concelebrants and servers are to sit off to the side. The bishop's chair is by itself (except for the deacon, if present, who sits on the bishop's right.) *If the seating in the sanctuary cannot be altered because of space, the pastor should sit to the bishop's right unless there is a deacon, then the pastor will sit at the bishop's left.* When the bishop gets to the sanctuary entrance, he will hand the crosier and mitre to the mitre and crosier bearers who are behind the bishop. As the bishop goes to the altar to reverence it, the crosier and mitre bearers go to their places.
- When the bishop sits for the readings, he wears the mitre.
- When the bishop stands for the "Alleluia," take the mitre and give him the crosier. The deacon or a priest proclaims the Gospel. Take the crosier after the gospel.
- A server is needed to hold the Confirmation Ritual book for the Renewal of

Baptismal Promises and the prayer over the candidates (the latter during which all priests impose hands with the bishop). *After the prayer over the candidates, the bishop will lay aside the book, and the chrism should be brought to him for the anointing.*

- *After the actual Confirmation ritual, the bishop returns to the chair to wash his hands. A bowl of water with lemon juice or a few wedges of lemon with a towel is all that is needed. In absence of lemons, plain water/towel will suffice. I prefer not to use soapy water.*
- The bishop will introduce the Universal Prayer (General Intercessions). When the intercessions begin, the gift bearers should immediately proceed to the station of the gifts in preparation for the procession of the gifts to the altar after the Universal Prayer (General Intercessions).

Universal Prayer (General Intercessions)

- Make sure that the person reading the petitions is prepared to read the Universal Prayer (General Intercessions) immediately after the Confirmations are complete.

Preparation of the Gifts

- The bishop with the servers (and deacon) goes to receive the gifts.
- The pastor or deacon assisted by the servers prepares the altar - corporal, the chalice(s), the purificator, and the Roman Missal. *The bishop prefers the Missal to the left of the corporal*
- The bishop (and deacon) alone is/are at the altar for the preparation of the gifts.
- For the presentation of the gifts to the altar procession, proper liturgical practice dictates that only the bread and wine (and collection proceeds, where applicable) should be brought up. *Do not bring forward the water cruet or extraneous materials. The water container should already be on the altar during the preparation of the table before the gifts procession.*
- Those in procession should go to the place of these gifts immediately as the Universal Prayer (General Intercessions) begin. The procession begins immediately after the Universal Prayer (General Intercessions).
- Where advisable, at the Lamb of God, the pastor or deacon may bring a ciborium from the tabernacle to the main altar for use if the number of hosts consecrated at that Mass is insufficient.
- The mitre and crosier are needed for the last blessing after the communion prayer. After the post communion prayer, the pastor thanks various people (by name or category). The bishop thanks the pastor (and vicar, where

applicable).

- All process out in the order in which they entered.
- *If pictures are to be taken after Mass in the Church, those just Confirmed, and their sponsors, should remain in their places so pictures can begin immediately after the closing hymn has ended.*