

The Rite of Confirmation

The bishop: **Do you renounce Satan and all his works and all his empty show?**

The candidates (together): **I do.**

After the negative, now comes the positive:

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

The 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 now seated at the right hand of the Father?**

The candidates: **I do.**

Then the bishop will ask you if you are really serious about the Church:

The bishop: **Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who came upon the Apostles at Pentecost and today is given to you sacramentally in Confirmation?**

The 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?**

The candidates: **I do.**

Then the bishop confirms your profession of faith:

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

Now follows the invitation to all present to pray together. It is a little like that first Pentecost, when the infant Church gathered together around Mary and fervently prayed for the coming of the Holy Spirit. And as you know, moments later the tongues of fire descended upon them! So the bishop invites the whole congregation to pray together:

The bishop: **My dear friends, in Baptism God our Father gave the new birth of eternal life to his chosen sons and daughters. Let us pray to our Father that he will pour out the Holy Spirit to strengthen his sons and daughters with his gifts and anoint them to be more like Christ the Son of God.**

All pray in silence for a short time. Fervently and from their hearts. It's best if they kneel at this moment, since kneeling is a posture of especially intense prayer.

Then the bishop extends his hands over the candidates. By this gesture the bishop draws together and gives voice to the profound prayers of all present. He uses the following words:

