



The coming of the Holy Spirit.

Saint Joseph
CONFIRMATION BOOK

WITH CATECHETICAL INSTRUCTIONS,
RITE OF CONFIRMATION, HIGHLIGHTS
FROM THE GOSPELS, AND PRAYERS
TO THE HOLY SPIRIT AND JESUS CHRIST

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Illustrated



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FOREWORD

THIS book is intended to be both a manual for preparation for the sacrament of confirmation and a remembrance of this important event in the spiritual life of the confirmed Catholic.

In order to make this book as useful as possible to the teacher as well as to the candidate for confirmation, I would like to make the following suggestions:

1. Read over carefully the instruction on confirmation given in Part One. These ideas can be conveyed to the candidates for confirmation in simple terms at various stages of the catechetical course.

2. The catechism in Part Three concerns only the sacrament of confirmation. Each question should be carefully read, and, if possible, memorized, since it is the minimum that is expected as a preparation for the reception of this sacrament.

3. If time permits, it would be advisable to make a brief review of the entire catechism, found in Part Eight. Further material for such a review can be found in my *St. Joseph New American Catechism*—the Middle Edition or, at least, the Primary Edition.

4. The special feature of this book is the “Highlights from the Gospels” (Part Six) which will enable you to refer to the sections of the Gospels that can be used as a scriptural accompaniment for each question of the Confirmation

41. Why is confirmation a sacrament?

Confirmation is a sacrament because it is an outward sign of grace made by Christ.

H.G. 127, 170

42. How do we know that confirmation was “made by Christ”?

We know that confirmation was “made by Christ” because (1) Jesus often spoke of sending the Holy Spirit upon his followers, and because (2) the Book of Acts of the Apostles tells of the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

H.G. 134, 135, 170; E.A. 1, 2, 3

43. Did the Apostles ever give the Holy Spirit to the people?

The Apostles Peter and John placed their hands upon the people who were baptized to give them the Holy Spirit, and the other Apostles did so also.

H.G. 135; E.A. 4, 5, 7

44. What did the bishops of the Catholic Church do?

Following the example of the Apostles, the bishops of the Catholic Church, in union with the Bishop of Rome, the successor of Peter, used various prayers and actions to give the Holy Spirit.

H.G. 34, 168, 179



THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Made ready by reflection on God's word, we enter now into the Eucharistic Sacrifice itself, the Supper of the Lord. We celebrate the memorial which the Lord instituted at his Last Supper. We are God's new people, the redeemed brothers and sisters of Christ, gathered by him around his table. We are here to bless God and to receive the gift of Jesus' Body and Blood so that our faith may be transformed.

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

SIT

The bread and wine for the Eucharist, with our gifts for the Church and the poor, are gathered and brought to the altar. We prepare our hearts by song or in silence as the Lord's table is being set.

The Priest, standing at the altar, takes the paten with the bread and holds it slightly raised above the altar with both hands, saying in a low voice:

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,
for through your goodness we have received
the bread we offer you:
fruit of the earth and work of human hands,
it will become for us the bread of life.

If the Offertory Chant is not sung, the Priest may speak these words aloud; at the end, the people may acclaim:

People: **Blessed be God for ever.**



Coming up behind Jesus, she touched the fringe of his cloak, and her bleeding stopped immediately. Jesus then asked, “Who was it who touched me?” When everyone denied doing so, Peter said, “Master, the crowds are surrounding you and pressing closely upon you.” But Jesus said, “Someone touched me, for I could sense power going out from me.” When the woman realized that her action had not escaped notice, she came forward, trembling and knelt down before Jesus. In the presence of all the people, she related why she had touched him and how she had been healed immediately. Jesus said to her, “Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace.”

(Lk 8:42-48)

57. The Ruler's Daughter Raised to Life

THEN a man named Jairus, a leader of the synagogue, came forward. Throwing himself at the feet of Jesus, he earnestly pleaded with him to come to his house, because he had an only daughter, about twelve years old, who was dying. While he was still speaking, someone came from the