

Have you received the Sacrament of Confirmation? Strengthen your Christian Identity this year.

Confirmation has been called a sacrament of new beginnings. It is meant to represent a time of inner change or a change of heart. This inner change of heart or conversion offers a new beginning in the way we live out our lives as disciples. In the sacrament we are more intentionally configured into the image of Christ – doing what Jesus did in his own life. It was the Spirit of God that led Jesus into the desert and supported him during Jesus’ temptation to choose alternative values for his life. It was this same Spirit that empowered Jesus to carry out the Father’s mission.

It is in Confirmation that the most fundamental aspect of our Christian identity is able to come alive. This time of conversion - offers us a renewed way of being a disciple of Christ. Becoming more like Christ in our attitudes, values, work and identity there is less distance between what we claim we are as Catholic Christians and the actuality of our daily lives - in our thoughts, words and actions. It is through the power of the Holy Spirit, that we are empowered to grow into a healthy community of faith, a people centered on Jesus as *the* model of commitment and a people faithful to God’s way of life.

The Catechism of the Catholic Faith states that in the Sacrament of Confirmation , **“the baptized are more perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit...they are as true witnesses of Christ more strictly obliged to spread the faith by word and deed.”**

What are the patterns of our Community Life? Do we as a faith community live what we claim we believe in the profession of faith? Do we create new beginnings for God’s people both inside and outside the walls of our church building? Do we allow God to reach out to sinners, lifting them up and welcoming them as God’s Beloved? Do we inhale grown up breaths of God Spirit into our lives and exhale the Spirit of love, forgiveness and compassion into the thoughts, words and actions of our community as Servants of Christ?

If you have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation, please call the parish office. We will provide the formation necessary to receive the sacrament at this coming Easter Vigil.