

When a Bishop Comes for Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion

1. Please provide a convenient parking place for the bishop and alert someone (e.g. the bishop's chaplain) to assist with luggage.
2. At the eucharist, the bishop will be the celebrant.
3. The pastor of the parish is responsible for the rehearsal of candidates and the preparation of candidates for the receiving of holy communion. This will help to overcome undue nervousness and avoid embarrassing confusion.
4. There are alternative rites for this liturgy. The bishop shall choose the rite after consultation with the incumbent.
5. As a courtesy, send in advance a copy of the service leaflet to the bishop **before it is put into print**. This would also be the time to take certificates to be signed.
6. If the bishop is to sit for the confirmation, a suitable chair for the bishop should be placed at the chancel steps in ample time before the service. If possible, the moving of a heavy chair from the chancel steps to the sanctuary during the service should be avoided.
7. Announcements should be made prior to the beginning of the service.
8. The incumbent will arrange for a chaplain (a server) to assist the bishop, hold the bishop's pastoral staff and mitre when the bishop is not using them, etc.
9. The bishop should be given an opportunity to greet all the candidates for baptism/confirmation individually with their families, after the service. Some of the bishops prefer to meet with the confirmation class some time prior to the service.
10. It is desirable and helpful, that a candidate for the laying-on-of-hands, when kneeling before the bishop, holds up a card with his/her name on it (e.g. Mark/Mary).
11. The practice of women and girls wearing veils will depend on the custom of the parish.
12. Confirmation candidates may process with the choir; or if it is preferable, they may be brought to their pews by the incumbent shortly before the beginning of the service.
13. The candidates should be confirmed singly or in pairs, according to the number of those to be confirmed. If there are ten or less, each should be confirmed singly. It is permissible for pairs of candidates, such as husband and wife, mother and daughter, father and son, to be confirmed together.
14. Persons to be received from the Roman Catholic or Orthodox churches are presented after the presentation of the confirmation candidates.



15. The permitted forms of the liturgy are listed in *Authorized Liturgies* (Green Book p. 1.1). *The Book of Alternative Services* orders for baptism and/or confirmation may be used within either the *Book of Common Prayer* or the *Book of Alternative Services* orders for the eucharist.

16. If the service is entirely from the *Book of Common Prayer*, it will follow one of the orders given on the following pages:

- i) Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, p. 65-71
- ii) Baptism, Eucharist, p. 59-64
- iii) Confirmation, Eucharist, p. 73-76

These orders ensure that a *Book of Common Prayer* service adheres to the guidelines for the development of baptismal discipline; in particular, they provide for:

- iv) Baptism and/or confirmation in the context of the eucharist (Guideline #11).
- v) Appropriate roles for the bishop (Guideline #3).
- vi) Baptism of children and adults within the same service (Guideline #10).

17. The names of those who have been confirmed should be entered in a special register.

