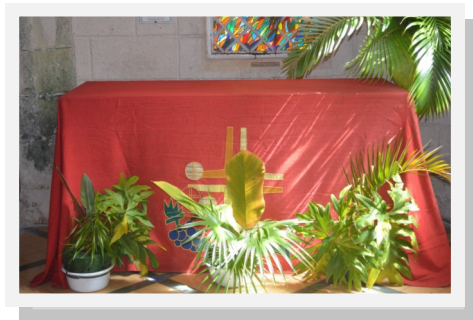


ST. JAMES PARISH CHURCH

Holetown, St. James, Barbados

TO BE A BEACON RADIATING GOD'S LOVE AMONG ALL PEOPLE



The Sacrament of Holy Confirmation

Rector: The Reverend Beverley Sealy-Knight

CONFIRMATION

THE SENTENCES

One or more of the following shall be said by the Bishop

If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Counsellor, to be with you for ever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; you know Him, for He dwells with you, and will be in you. *John 14:15-17*

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. *II Corinthians 13:14*

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call, one Lord, one faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of us all, who is above all and through all and in all. *Ephesians 4:4-6*

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth. *Acts 1:8*

THE GREETING

V. Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

R. **And blessed be His Kingdom now and for ever. Amen.**
Allelnia! Alleluia!

THE DECLARATION

In Baptism we became members of Christ, children of the Heavenly Father, inheritors together of the Kingdom. This was the work of God who adopted us as His children and made us members of the family of God. We are to continue to grow in grace and in faith, to worship with the family and to respond to the living Word.

Through the laying on of hands in Confirmation, the indwelling Spirit enlightens, frees, transforms and sanctifies those who in Baptism were made God's children.

Let us therefore pray that those who now come for Confirmation may be strengthened by the power of the Holy Spirit; and that they may live in righteousness and true holiness all their days.

BISHOP: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

Let us pray

Grant, Almighty God, that we, who have been redeemed from the old life of sin by our baptism into the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, may be renewed in your Holy Spirit, and live in righteousness and true holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Then shall follow the Collect of the Day

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The readings are those of the Sunday or Feast Day of the Confirmation takes place at the principal service. At the discretion of the Bishop two or three of the following readings may be used instead.

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 61:1-9
 Jeremiah 31:31-34
 Ezekiel 36:22-27
 Ezekiel 37:1-10

PSALMS

1
 15
 27
 139:1-9

NEW TESTAMENT

Romans 8:18-27
 Romans 12:1-8
 Galatians 5:15-25
 Ephesians 4:7, 11-16
 Acts 8:4-6, 14-17
 Titus 3:4-8a

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1-12
 Matthew 16:24-25
 Luke 4:16-22
 John 14:15-21

THE SERMON

THE PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION

PRIEST:

Reverend Father in God, I present unto you these persons who have been duly baptized to be confirmed.

BISHOP:

Have you examined them and found them ready and desirous to be confirmed?

PRIEST:

I have examined them and found them so to be.

The Bishop then addresses the confirmands

BISHOP:

You who have come to be confirmed must now renew the solemn promise and vow that you made, or was that was made, in your name at your baptism, and must pledge to believe and to do all those things which you or your Parents and Godparents then undertook.

Do you declare and promise that you will, with the help of God, live your life in the faith of Christ into which you were baptized?

ANSWER: I do.

BISHOP:

Do you commit yourself in love to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit?

ANSWER: I do.

BISHOP:

Will you continue in the Apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and in the prayers?

ANSWER: I will.

BISHOP:

Will you persevere in resisting evil and repent whenever you fall into sin?

ANSWER: I will.

BISHOP:

Will you be a witness in your daily life to God's saving work in Christ?

ANSWER: I will.

BISHOP:

Will you seek and serve Christ by loving your neighbour as yourself remembering that every person is loved and valued by God?

ANSWER: I will.

BISHOP:

Do you put your whole trust in His grace and love?

ANSWER: I do, and with God's help I will follow Christ as my Saviour and Lord.

The Bishop then addresses the congregation:

BISHOP:

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

ALL: We will.

THE PROFESSION OF FAITH

BISHOP:

Let us join with those who are to be confirmed in the profession of our Faith.

ALL:

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ,

His only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the
Holy Spirit and**

born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried.
 He descended to the dead.
 On the third day He rose again.
 He ascended into heaven, and is seated
 at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again to judge
 the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Act of Penitence may follow.

All may kneel to say or sing the "Veni Creator Spiritus" or some other hymn to the Holy Spirit.

PRAYER FOR THE CONFIRMANDS

The congregation remains kneeling during the prayers.

BISHOP:

Let us pray for these persons to be confirmed, and for all the baptized everywhere.

The Bishop or a person appointed leads the following litany.

LEADER:

That they may be filled with your Holy and life-giving Spirit.
 Lord in your mercy;

ALL: Hear our prayer.

LEADER:

That the Holy Spirit may open their hearts to your grace and truth.

Lord in your mercy;
ALL: Hear our prayer.

LEADER:
 That they may be redeemed from all evil and rescued
 from the way of sin and death.
 Lord in your mercy;
ALL: Hear our prayer.

LEADER:
 That they may be kept in the faith and communion of
 your Holy Church.
 Lord in your mercy;
ALL: Hear our prayer.

LEADER:
 That they may go out into the world to witness to your
 love and transforming power.
 Lord in your mercy;
ALL: Hear our prayer.

LEADER:
 That they be brought to the fullness of your peace and
 glory.
 Lord in your mercy;
ALL: Hear our prayer.

*Silence may be kept. Then the Bishop says the
 following, stretching out his hands towards the
 confirmands, all kneeling:*

Father, in your Son Jesus Christ you have given to
 these your servants new birth in baptism by water and
 the Holy Spirit, and have given them forgiveness of all
 their sins. Let your Holy Spirit strengthen them now:

The Spirit of wisdom and understanding;
 The Spirit of counsel and inward strength;
 The Spirit of knowledge and true godliness;

The Spirit of reverence and true religion;
and graft in their hearts the love of your most Holy Name:
Through Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you
and the same Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE CONFIRMATION

Then all of them in order, kneeling before the Bishop, he shall lay his hand upon the head of each of them saying:

Confirm, O Lord, your servant N- with your heavenly grace that *he/she* may continue yours for ever, and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more until *he/she* comes to your everlasting kingdom.

or

Strengthen, O Lord, your servant N- with your Holy Spirit that *he/she* may continue yours forever, and daily increase in Your Holy Spirit more and more until *he/she* comes to your eternal kingdom.

And each one answers:

Amen.

The Bishop may sign each one on the forehead with the Holy Chrism saying:

The seal of the Spirit, the promise of the Father.

FOR RECEPTION

N_, we recognize you as a member of the one holy catholic and apostolic church, and we receive you into the fellowship of this Communion. God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you. **Amen.**

FOR REAFFIRMATION

N, may the Holy Spirit, who has begun a good work in you, direct and uphold you in the service of Christ and his kingdom. **Amen.**

The Bishop concludes with this prayer:

Almighty and everliving God we pray for these your servants upon whom after the example of your Holy Apostles we have now laid our hands. Let your fatherly hand ever be over them, let your Holy Spirit ever be with them and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of your word that they may faithfully serve you in this life and dwell with you in the life to come through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREETING OF PEACE

BISHOP: Christ is our peace, He has reconciled us to God in one Body by the cross.

ALL: **We meet in His name and share His Peace.**

BISHOP: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

ALL: **And also with you.**

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Christian Initiation

Because in Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your sons and daughters, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth.

POST-COMMUNION

One of the usual Post-Communion Prayers shall be said.

One or more of the following prayers may be added.

Almighty Father, we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith with all those who have been baptized in your Name. Keep us faithful to our baptism, and so make us ready for that day when the creation shall be made perfect in your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Almighty God, whose Holy Spirit equips the Church with a rich variety of gifts: Grant that we may use them to bear witness to Christ by lives built on faith and love. Make us ready to live

His Gospel and eager to do His will, that we may share with all your Church in the joys of eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

We thank you, our God and Father for those who in Confirmation have made a confession of their faith and have been welcomed into the communicant life of the Christian Family. Help us to encourage them in the way of Christ by our prayers, our friendship and our example that they may fully grow up into Him and continue steadfastly in the worship and fellowship of the Church to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

BISHOP:

The Holy Spirit of God lead you into all truth, give you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord and to proclaim the word and works of God:

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you for ever.

Amen.

or

May the God of all grace and power through the Holy Spirit empower you for His Service and sustain you unto Eternal Life:

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you for ever.

Amen.

NOT TO BE TAKEN AWAY



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