



*Diocese of Galway, Kilmacduagh & Kilfenora*

**Guidance for the Celebration of the  
Sacrament of Confirmation 2023**

**IN GENERAL**

- The Confirmation liturgy booklet is to be followed exactly as it is – nothing should be added to it or taken from it.
- Only sacred music should be chosen to accompany the liturgy.
- Readers are required for:
  - (1) The first reading;
  - (2) The second reading;
  - (3) The Prayer of the Faithful;
  - (4) Post-Communion reflection, if one is chosen.
- If desired, symbols/art work may be used to decorate the church beforehand. If gifts/symbols are to be brought forward this should be done before the liturgy begins.
- Only the bread and wine should be brought forward at the offertory.
- Candidate, parents, family members and sponsor should sit as decided locally.

**PHOTOGRAPHY**

- Mobile phones, tablets, or cameras are not permitted during the ceremony.
- Group photographs should be kept to a minimum and preferably be taken outside the church.



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### **Norms for Confirmation or First Holy Communion Candidates coming from outside the Diocese**

- (1) Responsibility for the adequate catechesis of such candidates rests with the Parish Priest (Moderator) where the sacrament is to be celebrated.
- (2) Such candidates should join the already arranged parish ceremonies.
- (3) The Parish Priest (Moderator) should request a copy of the candidate's baptismal certificate and make contact with the Parish Priest of the parish where the candidate lives to receive, in writing, an account of what catechesis the candidate has undertaken and confirmation that the candidate has received their First Holy Communion.
- (4) If no catechesis has been undertaken or catechesis that the Parish Priest (Moderator) deems lacking in some way, then arrangements should be made to rectify this situation to an appropriate standard.
- (5) Candidates should apply using the diocesan application form and make whatever commitments are required within the Diocese of Galway.
- (6) In the case of Confirmation, the diocesan office should be informed that the above has been completed and the candidate will now be part of the parish Confirmation ceremony.

### **Norms for Candidates switching Confirmation or First Holy Communion ceremonies from other schools/parishes within the Diocese for exceptional reasons**

- (1) This practice should take place only in exceptional circumstances (e.g. death, grave illness, etc.) as judged and agreed by both Parish Priest (Moderator) of the parish where the school/candidate resides and the Parish Priest (Moderator) for the confirmation ceremony they are now joining.
- (2) In the case of Confirmation, the diocesan office should be informed that the above has been completed and the candidate will now be part of the parish Confirmation ceremony.

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