

# The Sacrament of Confirmation in the Context of the Holy Eucharist

♪♪ **Processional Hymn:**

**62 – Veni Emmanuel**

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath:

## **THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: JOY**

Officiant: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel,

**All: And ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here,  
until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Reader: Today is the third Sunday of Advent - the Sunday of Joy.

Reader: This is how one should regard us, as servants of  
God;

**All:** And stewards of the mysteries of God.

### *The Lighting of the Third Candle*

Reader: Behold, I send my messenger before thy face,

**All:** Which shall prepare thy way before thee.

Officiant: As we stand, let us pray

**All: Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works  
of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the  
time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to  
visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall  
come again in his glorious majesty, to judge both the quick  
and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him  
who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and  
ever. Amen.**

**A candle is burning, a candle of joy.  
A candle to welcome brave Mary's new boy.  
Our hearts fill with wonder, and eyes light and glow  
as joy brightens winter like sunshine on snow.**

"A Candle is Burning" is by Sandra Dean, 1986. Music is "Cradle  
Song" [Hymn Book 734] by W. J. Kirkpatrick.

## **PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES**

*The Candidates for Confirmation will assemble at the front of the Nave  
for the Presentation.*

*Minister:* Reverend Father in God, I present unto you these  
persons to receive the laying on of hands.

*Bishop:* Take heed that the persons whom ye present be duly  
prepared and meet to receive the laying on of hands.

*Minister:* I have instructed them and inquired of them and believe  
them so to be.

## **PREFACE**

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, these are they to whom we  
purpose, God willing, to administer the Apostolic rite of the laying  
on of hands.

The Church has thought good to order that none shall be  
confirmed, but such as can say the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and  
the Ten Commandments, and are further instructed in the Church  
Catechism, set forth for that purpose.

We are assured that these persons present, being by baptism  
members of Christ's Church, are prepared as aforesaid, and we are  
assembled here to bless them by the laying on of hands with prayer.

This order is very convenient to be observed.

First. Because it is evident from sundry places in holy Scripture  
that the Apostles prayed for and laid their hands upon those who  
were baptized; and the same is agreeable with the usage of the  
Church since the Apostles' time. This holy rite is reckoned in the

Epistle to the Hebrews to be one of the first principles of Christ.

Secondly. In order that persons, having come to the years of discretion, may acknowledge openly the vows made at their baptism and dedicate their lives to the will of God.

Thirdly. In order that by prayer and laying on of hands they may be strengthened by the Holy Spirit, bravely to fight under the banner of Christ crucified, against sin, the world, and the devil, and to continue Christ's faithful soldiers and servants unto their life's end.

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesu Christ, who at thy first coming didst send thy messenger to prepare thy way before thee: Grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight; who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*The congregation may be seated.*

First Lesson: Acts 8:4-8, 12, 14-17

Now those who were scattered went about preaching the word. Philip went down to a city of Samaria, and proclaimed to them the Christ. And the multitudes with one accord gave heed to what was said by Philip, when they heard him and saw the signs which he did. For unclean spirits came out of many who were possessed, crying with a loud voice; and many who were paralysed or lame were healed. So there was much joy in that city. But when they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit; for it had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they

laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.

R. This is the Word of the Lord.

C. **Thanks be to God.**

♪♪ **Psalm:** *please see the last page of the bulletin*

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 4:1-5

Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required in stewards that a man be found faithful. But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged of you, or of man's judgement: yea, I judge not mine own self. I know nothing against myself, yet am I not hereby justified; but he that judgeth me is the Lord. Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts; and then shall every man have praise of God.

R. This is the Word of the Lord.

C. **Thanks be to God.**

♪♪ **Gradual Hymn:** **321 – St. Cecilia**

Holy Gospel: St. Matthew 11:2-10

*People:* **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Now when John had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples, and said unto him, Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another? Jesus answered and said unto them, Go and show John again those things which ye do hear and see: the blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the Gospel preached to them. And blessed is he whosoever shall not be offended in me. And as they departed, Jesus began to say unto the multitudes concerning John, What went ye out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken with the wind? But what went ye out for to see? A man clothed in soft raiment? Behold, they that

wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. But what went ye out for to see? A prophet? Yea, I say unto you, and more than a prophet. For this is he of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.

*People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.*

♪♪ **Gospel Acclamation:**

**Alleluia**

The Apostles Creed:

**I BELIEVE** in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen.

The Homily:

The Rt. Revd. David Edwards

*10<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Fredericton*

## THE EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES

*The Candidates will again assemble at the front of the Nave.*

*Bishop:* Do you here, in the presence of God and of this Congregation, renounce the devil and all his works, the pomps and vanity of this wicked world, and all the sinful lusts of the flesh?

*Answer: I do.*

*Bishop:* Do you believe the Christian faith as it is set forth in the Apostles' Creed?

*Answer: I do.*

*Bishop:* Will you endeavour to keep God's holy will and commandments, and to walk in the same all the days of your life?

*Answer: I will, God being my helper.*

## THE CONFIRMATION

*Bishop:* Our help is in the Name of the Lord.;

*People: Who hath made heaven and earth.*

*Bishop:* Blessed be the Name of the Lord;

*People: Henceforth, world without end.*

*Bishop:* Lord, hear our prayer;

*People: And let our cry come unto thee.*

*Bishop:* Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who hast vouchsafed to regenerate these thy servants by Water and the Holy Spirit, and hast given unto them forgiveness of all their sins: Confirm and strengthen them, we beseech thee, O Lord, with the Holy Spirit the Comforter, and daily increase in them thy manifold gifts of grace; the spirit of wisdom and understanding; the spirit of counsel and might; the spirit of knowledge and true godliness; and fill them, O Lord, with the spirit of holy fear, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Then the candidates in order kneeling before the Bishop, together with any family members or friends who wish to support them, he shall lay his hand upon the head of every one, saying:*

**DEFEND,** O Lord, this thy servant with thy heavenly grace, that *he/she* may continue thine for ever; and daily increase in thy Holy Spirit, more and more, until *he/she* come unto thy everlasting kingdom. **Amen.**

*After all have been confirmed, the Bishop shall say:*

**ALMIGHTY** and everliving God, who makest us both to will and to do such things as be good and acceptable unto thy Divine Majesty: We make our humble supplications unto thee for these thy servants, upon whom, after the example of thy Apostles, we have now laid our hands, to certify them, by this sign, of thy favour

and gracious goodness towards them. Let thy fatherly hand, we beseech thee, ever be over them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of thy Word, that in the end they may obtain everlasting life; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

O ALMIGHTY Lord, and everlasting God, vouchsafe, we beseech thee, to direct, sanctify, and govern, both our hearts and bodies, in the ways of thy laws, and in the works of thy commandments; that through thy most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## THE OFFERTORY

*Advent.* As we have opportunity, let us do good unto all; and especially unto them that are of the household of faith. *Galatians 6. 10.*

♪♪ **Offertory Hymn:**

**812 – St. Patrick**

*At the Presentation of the Gifts:*

Blessed be thou, Lord God of Israel, for ever and ever.

**All that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine. All things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee.**

Intentions:

The Prayers of the People:   R. Lord, in thy mercy;  
  C. **Hear our prayer.**

*The Celebrant will offer the prayers of the Church as follows:*

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

*Then shall the Deacon say:*

YE that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead the new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and take this

holy Sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to Almighty God, meekly kneeling upon your knees.

*Then shall this general Confession be made by all those that are minded to receive the Holy Communion humbly kneeling.*

**ALMIGHTY God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men: We acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we from time to time most grievously have committed, By thought, word, and deed, Against thy Divine Majesty. We do earnestly repent, And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, to the honour and glory of thy Name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

*Then shall the bishop stand up, and turning himself to the people, pronounce this Absolution:*

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him: Have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Then shall the bishop say,*

Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all that truly turn to him.

Come unto me all that labour and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *Matthew 11.28*

God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. *St. John 3.16*

Hear also what Saint Paul saith:

This is a true saying, and worthy of all to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Timothy 1.15*

Hear also what Saint John saith:

If anyone sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins. *1 St. John 2.1,2*

## THANKSGIVING AND CONSECRATION

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you;

*People:* **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts;

*People:* **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God;

*People:* **It is meet and right so to do.**

*Then shall the Celebrant turn to the Lord's Table, and say:*

IT is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God, Creator and Preserver of all things.

THROUGH Jesus Christ our Lord; according to whose most true promise, the Holy Spirit came down as at this time from heaven, lighting upon the disciples to teach them, and to lead them into all truth; giving them both the gift of tongues, and also boldness with fervent zeal constantly to preach the Gospel unto all nations; whereby we have been brought out of darkness and error into the clear light and true knowledge of thee, and of thy Son Jesus Christ.

THEREFORE with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee and saying:

**HOLY, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts, Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.**

**Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest.**

*Then shall the Celebrant proceed with the Prayer of Consecration and the Breaking of the Bread before the people.*

BLESSING and glory and thanksgiving be unto thee Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memorial of that his precious death, until his coming again.

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee; and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took Bread; and, when he had given thanks, he brake it; and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me. Likewise after supper he took the Cup; and, when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins: Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.

Wherefore, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, we thy humble servants, with all the holy Church, remembering the precious death of thy beloved Son, his mighty resurrection, and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again in glory, do make before thee, in this sacrament of the holy Bread of eternal life and the Cup of everlasting salvation, the memorial which he hath commanded; And we entirely desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, most humbly beseeching thee to grant, that by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion; And we pray that by the power of thy Holy Spirit, all we who are partakers of this holy Communion may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; through Jesus

Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

*And all the people shall answer:*

**Amen.**

And now as our Saviour Christ hath commanded and taught us, we are bold to say:

**OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.**

*After a short period of silence the Celebrant shall say:*

The peace of the Lord be always with you;  
*People. And with thy spirit.*

*Then shall the Celebrant kneel down at the Lord's Table, and shall, together with all that shall receive the Communion, humbly say this prayer following:*

**WE do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, Trusting in our own righteousness, But in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy So much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, Whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, So to eat the Flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, And to drink his Blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his Body, And our souls washed through his most precious Blood, And that we may evermore dwell in him, And he in us. Amen.**

*Then shall be sung:*

**O LAMB of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant**

**us thy peace.**

## HOLY COMMUNION

*The Congregation is invited to receive the Sacrament of our Lord's Body and Blood. All those who are baptized and communicant members of other denominations are welcome to receive at the Lord's Table.*

♪♪ **Hymn during Communion:** **247 – Eisenach**

Anthem: M. Hudson & T. Weed, *Countless Prayers of Faithful People*

## POST-COMMUNION

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee that thou dost graciously feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; assuring us thereby of thy favour and goodness towards us; and that we are living members of his mystical body, which is the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs through hope of thy everlasting kingdom.

**And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee. And although we are unworthy, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.**

*Then the Bishop shall let them depart with this Blessing.*

THE peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always.

♪♪ **Recessional Hymn:**

**67 – Winchester New**

*Please join us in the Hall following this morning's  
Celebration for Coffee and Conversation.*



### *A Note regarding Holy Trinity Church* \_\_\_\_\_

Following conversations over the past year regarding the condition and care of Holy Trinity Church in Lower St. Mary's, it is the intention of our Diocesan Bishop, the Rt. Revd. David Edwards, to adjust the parish boundaries to remove Holy Trinity Church, and the two lots upon which the church building sits, from the boundaries of the Parish.

The result of this action will give legal foundation to the decision made by the then diocesan bishop in 1988 in which it was agreed that the bishop would be the assumed owner of the building. It will also remove any confusion that may exist as to ownership of the property. In recent conversations it has become obvious that the assumptions under which both the diocese and the parish have been operating for nearly 30 years have not had strong legal foundations. This change will ensure that the parish will not be encumbered by the care of the building, either now or in the future, as was the intention of the 1988 arrangement. It will also allow the bishop the freedom he needs to negotiate a lease agreement with parties that may wish to restore and care for the building.

As a result of the terms of an original deed, one small section of the cemetery will remain the property of this parish, so we will continue to be responsible to care for that. We have also indicated to the bishop that the Parish of St. Mary (York) would be willing to care for the other (larger) portion of the cemetery on his behalf, if that is his wish. To that end, we expect to have some form of written agreement to authorise our use of the funds designated for the care of the Holy Trinity cemetery.

In accordance with the Bishop's wishes, and in compliance with Canon Six, s. 11(2) a copy of the bishop's statement of intention has been posted in the Narthex; it has also been posted to the Parish website ([www.stmarysfredericton.ca/](http://www.stmarysfredericton.ca/)). We have also been directed by the Bishop to read the document at each worship service in the parish for a four week period.

In effect, the result of this decision by the bishop will be to codify the actions taken in 1988. Please speak to me if you have any questions regarding the Bishop's intentions.



### *Parish Notices and Updates* \_\_\_\_\_

The newest copy of *The Tidings*, our parish newsletter, is available in the Narthex. Please pick up a copy or we can email one to you. Please speak to the Rector or Debbie Perry if you can't find one or if you'd like to receive it electronically.

**Church Calendars for 2017 are now available** on the table in the Narthex for a very reasonable \$6.00. These lovely calendars are an ideal way of keeping track of the Church Year and are excellent small gifts for friends at Christmas. Please speak to the Rector if you can't locate the calendars.

**St. Mary's weekly Bible Study "Faithful and True: a Look at the Women in Holy Scripture,"** has begun its Christmas break. Be sure to gather with us when resume in January.

**If you like to knit, St. Mary's Mothers' Union branch** invite you to share with them in a project that've recently started. They're knitting *Comfort Bears* to be given to children at the Dr. Everett Chalmers Regional Hospital. Instructions have been posted on the Mothers' Union bulletin board in the hall. Feel free to pick up a copy and get knitting!

**Flowers at Christmas:** Those who wish to place memorial flowers may do so by including a donation through the collection plate. Please ensure that your donation includes the names of those in whose memory the flowers are being placed, as well as complete information regarding the donor(s); and to help us to include that information in the Christmas bulletin, we'll need to know by Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>. For more information, please speak to the Rector.

**Allan Agnew, our Parish Treasurer,** is asking those who have changed their mailing address since the beginning of the year to let him know your new address so that he can correctly address your 2016 tax receipt. Please speak with him soon or email him at [allanagnew@bellaliant.net](mailto:allanagnew@bellaliant.net). He will also soon be preparing your 2017 envelopes, which are now available in the Hall. Those with 2016 envelopes will automatically be assigned the same number for next year. If you're not currently using the envelopes and would like a box for next year, please let Allan know.



## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

### **DECEMBER 14: ADVENT EMBER DAY**

6:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

7:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

### **DECEMBER 17: THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

5:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

### **DECEMBER 18: THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

9:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist

10:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist



3RD SUNDAY OF *Advent*

## The Sacrament of Confirmation

The Anglican Parish of St. Mary (York)

December 11, 2016