



# ST MICHAEL'S PARISH

Under the Care of the Michaelite Fathers  
10 Croydon Road Hurstville NSW 2220  
Phone: 02 9587 2166 Fax: 02 9588 3591



Email: [office@stmichaelhurst.org.au](mailto:office@stmichaelhurst.org.au) Web: [www.stmichaelhurst.org.au](http://www.stmichaelhurst.org.au)

## 2018 Confirmation Mass Instructions

**\*\*PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR CHILDREN RECEIVE THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION PRIOR TO THEIR CONFIRMATION\*\***

- 1) Attire (smart casual to formal):  
boys – collared shirts with trousers (no shorts, no jeans)  
girls – dresses/skirts and no spaghetti straps (unless has a cardigan/scarf)
- 2) Seat allocation: Candidates will sit (along the aisle) two to a pew with their sponsor next to them plus 1-2 other members of their family. The first 24 pews from the front will be occupied as described and the rest of the children's families and friends may sit in the remaining pews towards the back.
- 3) The whole order of the Mass will be on power point so all can participate fully by consulting the screens for the responses.
- 4) Please remind family members and friends of the conditions under which the reception of Holy Communion should occur: **Catholics who have made the proper spiritual and sacramental preparation may come forward in the procession to receive Holy Communion. Please remember to show reverence for our Lord in the Blessed Eucharist by bowing or kneeling before reception. Communion may be received on the tongue or on the hand but the Sacred Host must be consumed in the presence of the communion minister. Those who are not receiving Holy Communion may come up for a blessing with arms crossed over their chest.**
- 5) Order of Mass
  - A. Candidates, families and friends should be seated 15 minutes prior to the commencement of Mass.
  - B. Candidates who are part of the entrance procession should locate the pews allocated for them and make sure their sponsors are seated. They then pick up their candles/bible then wait in the vestibule area of the Church for the liturgy team (priest, acolytes, altar servers).
  - C. As soon as the **Entrance Hymn** starts the entrance procession commences: Crucifix, 2 altar servers with candles, seven candidates in a line carrying candles signifying the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, the candidate carrying the Bible, acolytes, Fr Kenneth, Fr Janusz, then Bishop Umbers. Upon reaching the Sanctuary, the children go around the altar servers with the Crucifix and candles to the foot of the Altar and place their candles/Bible in the allocated space in front of the Altar. The children come back down the Altar steps; four to the left and four to the right of the liturgy team and face the Altar. The children and the liturgy team bow toward the Tabernacle. The liturgy team goes up to the Altar and the children go to their seats and remain standing for the opening prayers.

- D. When the priest is praying the last line of the Collect, the children doing the First Reading, Responsorial Psalm and Second Reading make their way to the front and fan out across the Altar and bow all together. They then make their way to the left side of the church (facing the Altar) and line up by the wall **in order**. Having read his/her piece, each child leaves the ambo on the Altar side and goes to the back of the line along the wall. After the Gospel Acclamation, the children walk across the front of the Altar fanning out, bow all together and then go back to their seats.
- E. Presentation of candidates: Fr Janusz, the parents then the sponsors present the children to Bishop Umbers. The sacramental coordinator calls the children's name out and as their names are called out, the children stand and remain standing until instructed to sit.
- F. All sit for the Homily.
- G. All stand for the Renewal of Baptismal promises and follow the responses.
- H. Anointing with Chrism: The candidates, with their sponsors, queue up in 2 lines along the middle aisle. Those candidates seated along the outer aisles will queue up behind those seated along the middle aisle. They will approach the bishop one by one and kneel before him to be confirmed. The sponsor places his/her right hand on the candidate's shoulder and says the saint's name (or present the saint's name card) of the candidate. The sponsor may kneel as well.

**Bishop:** Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

**Newly-confirmed:** Amen.

**Bishop:** Peace be with you.

**Newly-confirmed:** And with your spirit.

All stand after all the children have been confirmed for the Prayer of the Faithful.

- I. The children doing the Prayer of the Faithful make their way to the front and fan out across the Altar and bow all together. They then make their way to the left side of the church and line up by the wall **in order**. (remind acolyte: no need for the step for the children) Note: all readers should say with the people: "Lord, hear our prayer". Having read his/her piece, each child leaves the ambo on the Altar side and goes to the back of the line along the wall. When all the children have had their turn reading, they walk across the front of the Altar fanning out, bow all together and then go back to their seats.
- J. The Offertory is straight after the Prayer of the Faithful. The altar servers will walk down to the back of the church with lighted candles and as they pass the children doing the offertory these children will get up and follow them. One child will pick up the hosts and the other the wine. They will then follow the altar servers back towards the Sanctuary, at the steps of which the priest/bishop is waiting. The wine is handed over first followed by the hosts. The children will bow to the priest/bishop then return to their seats.
- 6) The certificate presentation will be held straight after the recessional hymn so please remain in your seats.
- 7) Photos may be taken during and after the certificate presentation only.