



discussion  
questions



1. DO YOU BELIEVE THAT GOD HAS GOOD PLANS FOR YOU?

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2. WHAT CAN YOU DO TO FIND OUT THE PLANS GOD HAS FOR YOUR FUTURE?

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3. HOW HAS YOUR IDEA OF CONFIRMATION CHANGED SINCE WE BEGAN OUR TIME TOGETHER?

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What does it mean to be **anointed**?

To be anointed is to be set apart for God, to be chosen by God for a special mission.

**GOD CHOSE YOU FROM THE BEGINNING.**

**JUST AS GOD CHOSE JEREMIAH AND JOSHUA, MOSES AND ABRAHAM,**

**HE IS CHOOSING YOU AGAIN TODAY.**

Our lives change when our habits change. If you make daily prayer and regular Reconciliation habits in your life, I know you will grow in ways you never imagined, which in turn will open you up to opportunities you never dreamed about. Great spiritual habits connect you with the dreams God has for you, and God always has better dreams for us than we have for ourselves. I wonder what God is dreaming for you?

When I started working on this Confirmation program I made a commitment to pray every day for the people who will experience it. So I want you to know that I am praying for you.

Confirmation is getting close. Whether you are aware of it or not, the Holy Spirit is going to change you through Confirmation. But the more you prepare yourself and cooperate with God throughout this experience, the more powerful it will be. Allow the Holy Spirit to unleash his power in your life and you will be amazed by what happens.

What date were you **BAPTIZED**

What date did you receive

**First Holy Communion**



What advice do you think Mary would give you about preparing for Confirmation?



1. WHAT EVENT IN YOUR LIFE HAVE YOU PREPARED FOR MORE THAN ANY OTHER?

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2. WHO HAVE BEEN YOUR SPIRITUAL COACHES AND MENTORS THROUGHOUT YOUR LIFE?

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3. HOW HAS THE WAY YOU PRAY AND WHAT YOU PRAY FOR CHANGED OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS?

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# Discussion QUESTIONS

1. IN WHAT PRACTICAL WAYS DO YOU THINK CONFIRMATION WILL CHANGE YOU?

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2. WHICH OF THE SEVEN GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT COULD YOU MOST USE AT THIS TIME IN YOUR LIFE?

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3. WHEN DID YOU LAST PRAY TO THE HOLY SPIRIT, ASKING FOR HELP TO MAKE A DECISION?

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# WHO WAS John the Baptist?

John the Baptist was an itinerant preacher and one of the great religious figures of all time. Jesus and John the Baptist were cousins, through their mothers, Mary and Elizabeth. John was the child who danced for joy in Elizabeth's womb when Mary visited, which we remember in the Second Joyful Mystery of the Rosary (Luke 1:39-56). John challenged people to repent, to turn away from their sinful and selfish ways and turn back to God (Matthew 3:1-17). John's mission was to prepare the way for Jesus. What's your mission? We celebrate John the Baptist with two feast days: June 24 (birth) and August 29 (death).

After a short prayer the bishop will invite you and your sponsor to come before him for the **Laying on of hands and Anointing with chrism**. Your sponsor will place his or her hand on your right shoulder, you or your sponsor will tell the bishop your Confirmation name, then the bishop will trace the sign of the cross on your forehead with the sacred oil chrism and say, "Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit." You respond, "Amen." Then the bishop will extend to you a sign of peace, saying, "Peace be with you." You respond, "And with your spirit."

After all the candidates have stood before the bishop, the Mass continues with the **General Intercessions**. This is that time in the Mass when we pray for all the needs of every member of the community, and for the whole world.

You will experience a special unity as we pray together the **Lord's Prayer**, offer each other a **Sign of Peace**, and receive **Holy Communion**.

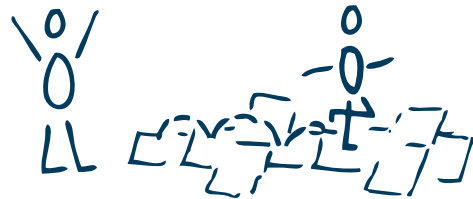
The bishop will then bring the Mass to a close with a **Solemn Blessing** and send you into the world to witness to God's love by living out the mission he has entrusted to you.



I want to encourage you in a special way to be mindful of that moment when the bishop lays his hands on you and anoints you with the chrism. That is going to be one of the most powerful moments of your life. Focus in that moment and ask God to open your heart, mind, and soul to every good thing he wants to bestow upon you.



How would you act differently if Mary was sitting next to you in class this week?



# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

## 1. IF YOU COULD ASK THE BISHOP ONE QUESTION, WHAT WOULD YOU ASK?

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## 2. ARE YOU NERVOUS ABOUT YOUR CONFIRMATION?

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## 3. HOW ARE YOU PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION?

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# JOURNAL

questions

1. HOW WILL THIS EXPERIENCE INFLUENCE YOU TEN YEARS FROM NOW?

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2. IN WHAT WAYS DO YOU SENSE PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION IS CHANGING YOU?

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3. HOW IS THIS EXPERIENCE HELPING YOU TO CLARIFY YOUR VALUES?

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