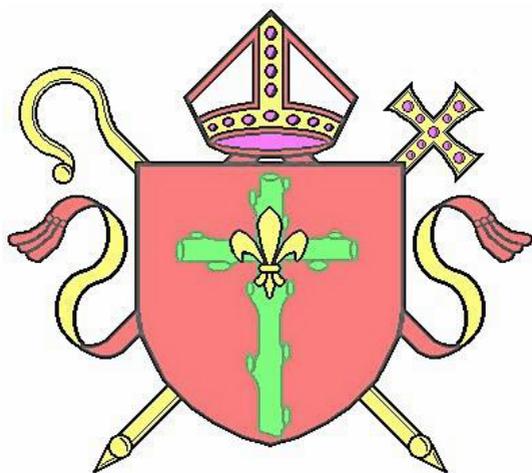


Celebration of the sacrament of Confirmation



**St. Anne's, Catholic Church,
BUXTON**

Thursday 31st May 2012



Gifts of the Holy Spirit
Wisdom, Understanding
Knowledge, Courage
Right Judgement, Reverence
Wonder & Awe in God's Presence

The sacrament of Confirmation continues the path of Christian initiation begun at Baptism. The confirmed are sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit, and are given the grace to witness to Christ by proclaiming the Good News, worshipping in spirit and truth, and serving their brothers and sisters.

INTRODUCTORY RITE

ENTRANCE: Candlelight Procession Background music

Prayer to the Holy Spirit (*Sr Gemma Corbett/CAFOD*)
(*Read by the candidates as the lights come on in church*)

Entrance Hymn: Walk in the Light (672)

Bishop: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: **Amen.**

Bishop: The grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
People: **And with your spirit.**

Bishop: Let us pray that the Spirit will work through our lives to bring Christ into our world. Father, Let the Spirit you sent to begin the teaching of your Gospel continue to work in our world, through our hearts and the hearts of all who believe.

PENITENTIAL RITE

Bishop: My brothers and sisters, to prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries, let us call to mind our sins.

Bishop: You were sent to heal the contrite:
Lord, have mercy.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Bishop: You plead for us at the right hand of the Father:
Lord, have mercy.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Bishop: May Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

People: **Amen.**

Bishop: Father, give us the confidence to challenge injustice and to nurture the flame of justice until it burns brightly. May the Spirit of justice and compassion accompany us and light our way. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People: **Amen**

Gloria Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo (25)

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes

Two are better off than one, because together they can work more effectively. If one of them falls down, the other can help him up. but if someone is alone and falls, it's just too bad, because there is no one to help him. If it is cold, two can sleep together and stay warm, but how can you keep warm by yourself? Two men can resist an attack that would defeat one man alone. A rope made of three cords is hard to break.

The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R The Lord comes to rule his people with fairness

1. Sing psalms to the lord with the harp
with the sound of music.
With trumpets, and the sound of the horn
Acclaim the King, the Lord. **R**
2. Let the sea and all within it, thunder;
the world and all its peoples.
Let the rivers clap their hands and the hills ring out their joy
at the presence of the Lord. **R**
3. For the Lord comes, comes to rule the earth.
He will rule the world with justice
And the peoples with fairness! **R**

SECOND READING

A reading from Colossians 3: 12-14

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you, and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love.

The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation Alleluia (37)

GOSPEL (Matthew 5: 13-16)

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

REFLECTION: - Candidates share their experience of the Confirmation programme.

THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION

Two of the catechists approach the Altar; having bowed to the Altar, they go to the lectern, after which they present the candidates to the Bishop.

Catechist: Most reverend Father, I present to you the following parishioners who wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

The catechist reads out the candidates' names; when their names are read, each candidate, together with their sponsor, stands in their place.

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

**CHARLOTTE TALBOT
CHARLES DENTON
DOMINIC LANGER
EMILY ALEXANDER
ESTHER MCGRATH
GEMMA LEAHY
GEORGE TAYLOR
HEATHER GERRARD
JAMIE CRISP
JASMINE FORSTER
LAURA TSUMA
LEAH PRESTON
MATT FEATHERSTONE
MICHAEL WITTBRODT
NICOLA TAYLOR
NICOLE MAY
PHILIP ETCHELLS
RYAN MORRIS
SIOBHAN PIERCY
TOM MARKHAM**

Catechist: Most reverend Father, We were commissioned by the Parish to help their parents prepare these young people to be confirmed. We have done our best to help them grow in the Christian faith. We have tried to share the joys and struggles of our faith, along with our own experiences of forgiveness, peace and community.

Catechist: We find that these young people are now ready to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation. We thank them, because our faith has been deepened by sharing their journey with them. We thank their parents and sponsors for their support and cooperation. On behalf of this parish community, we recommend that these young people are worthy to receive the sacrament of Confirmation.

Bishop: Dear catechists, I thank you for giving so generously of your time and talents to help these young parishioners to prepare to receive the Gift of the Holy Spirit in Confirmation. I thank you for giving practical support to their parents, as their children prepare to receive this sacrament. I accept your recommendation that these young people are ready and worthy to receive the sacrament of Confirmation.

Then, the catechists return to their places, and the Bishop invites the candidates to renew their baptismal promises.

Bishop: My dear friends, I ask you now, in front of your parents, sponsors and friends, to make for yourselves the promises which your parents made for you when they brought you to be baptised. And so I ask you: Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?

Candidates: **I do**

Bishop: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died, and was buried, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?

Candidates: **I do**

Bishop: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who came upon the Apostles at Pentecost and today is given to you sacramentally in Confirmation?

Candidates: **I do**

Bishop: Do you believe in the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?

Candidates: **I do**

Bishop: This is our faith, the faith of the Church. We are proud to profess it, in Christ Jesus, Our Lord.

People: **Amen**

The congregation stands. The concelebrants, gather around the Bishop. Then, with hands joined, the Bishop says the following.

Bishop: My dear friends, in Baptism, God Our Father gave the new birth of eternal life to his chosen sons and daughters. Let us pray to the Father that he will pour out his Holy Spirit to strengthen his sons and daughters with his gifts and anoint them to be more like Christ the Son of God.

All pray in silence for a short while. Then, the candidates kneel in their places; the Bishop gives up his mitre and, together with any other priests, extends his hands over the candidates, while the Bishop says the following.

Bishop: All powerful God, Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ, by water and the Holy Spirit, you freed your sons and daughters from sin and gave them new life. Send forth your Holy Spirit upon them to be their helper and guide. Give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of right judgement and courage, the spirit of knowledge and reverence. Fill them with the spirit of wonder and awe in your presence. We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

People: **Amen**

The congregation sits. The Bishop remains standing in front of the Altar, and takes his mitre and crozier. A priest – brings the vessel containing the Holy Chrism from the Altar to the Bishop, and stands on his right holding the vessel.

Each candidate goes to the Bishop, with the sponsor standing to the candidate's left. The sponsor gives the card bearing the candidate's name to Canon Bowdren and then places his or her right hand on the candidate's shoulder. Canon Bowdren recites the candidate's name.

The Bishop dips his right thumb in the Holy Chrism and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of the candidate, saying:

Bishop: be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Candidate: **Amen**

Bishop: Peace be with you.

Candidate: **And with your spirit .**

During the Confirmation Ceremony A Clare Benediction O Let All Who Thirst (525)

Once the music has finished, the Bishop gives up his mitre and everyone stands for the Prayer of the Faithful.

Bishop: My dear friends, filled with the Holy Spirit, let us be united in prayer to God our heavenly Father.

Reader: For the holy Church of God, in union with Pope Benedict, Bishop Malcolm, and all the Bishops: that God, who gathers us together by the Holy Spirit, may help us grow in unity of faith, hope and loves, until Jesus comes in glory at the end of time. [Pause] Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us

All: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Reader: For the newly-confirmed, who have received the fullness of God's Holy Spirit: that gathered around the Altar they may share in Christ's sacrifice, and that they may bear witness to Christ by lives built on faith, hope and love. [Pause] Lord, hear us.

All: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Reader: For their parents, godparents, sponsors, catechists and fellow parishioners: that by word and example, they may always encourage the newly-confirmed to follow the way of Jesus Christ. [Pause] Lord, hear us.

All: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Reader: For all people: that they may acknowledge the one God as Father, and that, in the bond of common fellowship, they may seek his Kingdom, which is peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. [Pause] Lord, hear us.

All: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Reader: For the faithful departed: that having shared in Christ's death they may come to share in his resurrection and live with him forever in heaven. [Pause] Lord, hear us.

All: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Reader: In the silence of our hearts, let us pray for our own intentions.

After a suitable pause for silent prayer, the Bishop says the concluding prayers.

Bishop: Let us commend ourselves and all our prayers to Our Lady's intercession.

All: **HAIL, holy Queen, Mother of mercy.
Hail, our life, our sweetness, and our hope!
To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve;
To thee do we send up our sighs,
mourning and weeping in this vale of tears.
Turn then, most gracious advocate,
thine eyes of mercy toward us.
And after this our exile show unto us
the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.**

Bishop: Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.

People: **That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**

Bishop: God our Father, you sent your Holy Spirit upon the Apostles, and through them and their successors you give the Spirit to your people. May his work begun at Pentecost continue to grow in the hearts of all who believe. Through Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Eucharist follows as usual, and the newly-confirmed bring the offerings of bread and wine to the Bishop.

Offertory Solo (Miriam)

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Bishop: Father, May your Spirit lead us into truth and reveal to us the full meaning of this Eucharist. We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

PREFACE

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God, we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks. Today you send the Holy Spirit on us marked out to be your children by sharing the life of your only son, and so you brought the paschal mystery to its completion. Today we celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation and we receive the Gifts of The Holy Spirit. And so, with all the choirs of angels in heaven we proclaim your glory and join in their unending hymn of praise.

People: **Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

***Let your light shine before others, that they may see
your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.***

Communion **Make Me a Channel of Your Peace(470)
My Soul Proclaims - Magnificat (491)**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord, may we say 'yes' to you so that the Spirit in our hearts will once again be set ablaze.

Spirit of Wisdom, guide our actions so they tell of God's love and compassion. Spirit of Truth, open our eyes to see the world as it really is. Spirit of Love, inspire us to respect the dignity of each person.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill our hearts.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill us.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Come.

PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Bishop: You have nourished us through our sharing in this celebration of the Eucharist. Fill us with your Spirit and make us one in peace and love.

All: **Amen**

Bishop: May the fire of the Spirit that burned in the hearts of the disciples make our hearts glow with your light, so that we will shine before others and show love through our actions. And may Almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

Recessional Shine, Jesus Shine (458)



We thank Bishop Malcom and the priests of the deanery for their presence today, and the catechists, parents and all the people who have helped in any way with this celebration.

Thank you!

Please join us for refreshments in the Parish Centre after our celebration.













