

Host or designated reader/leader begins the Upper Room prayer hour by reading this message from Fr. David:

Message for February 2018

Dear Friends in Christ;

The Sacrament of Confirmation completes a Catholic's initiation in the Church. Other mainline denominations have Confirmation too, but their Confirmation is not efficacious (as a sacrament) because all the Protestant Churches lack Apostolic Succession. They still have valid sacraments with Baptism and Marriage, but no other. Today, I want you to read from the Catechism to boost your knowledge about the Sacrament. Then I want you to answer some questions and then debate at what age you think a child should be confirmed. Please share your own experience of Confirmation and conclude by praying a litany to the Holy Spirit.

To Christ through Mary;

Fr. David

*Open with Sign of Cross and **Prayer to the Holy Spirit***

L: Come, O Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful, and enkindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth Your Spirit, O Lord, and they shall be created.

R: And You shall renew the face of the earth

L: Let us pray – God our Father, pour out the gifts of your Holy Spirit on the world. You sent the Spirit on Your Church to begin the teaching of the Gospel; now let the Spirit continue to work in the world through the hearts of all who believe. Through Christ our Lord.

R: Amen

L: You, O Lord, will open my lips.

R: And my tongue shall announce Your praise.

L: Incline unto my aid, O God.

R: O Lord, make haste to help me.

L: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

R: As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen

Read CCC 1285 “What did Jesus say about the Advocate?”

Read CCC 1287 “Do you in any way think or feel as if you are living in terms of (living in the Messianic Age)? Explain why yes or no?”

Read CCC 1288 “The Laying on of hands happens in what other sacraments?” “Can you lay hands (in prayer) on anyone you would like to pray for? Where does this authority come from?”

Read CCC 1293-4 “Does the act of anointing connect to your life experience in any way?” “So the sacramental sign of oil, could it be replaced with something else” (no right or wrong answer – just a curiosity question)

Read 1303-05

Finally read 1306-1308 and discuss if you think a child should receive Confirmation in elementary school or as an older high school student. Please share you own experience and if it was a meaningful one.

Next month’s UPPER ROOM is on the Sacrament of Holy Orders

Pray the Litany of the Holy Spirit

Lord, have mercy on us.	<i>Lord, have mercy on us.</i>
Lord, have mercy on us. God the Father of Heaven,	<i>Have mercy on us.</i>
God the Son, Redeemer of the world,	<i>Have mercy on us.</i>
God the Holy Spirit,	<i>Have mercy on us.</i>
Holy Trinity, One God,	<i>Have mercy on us.</i>
Divine Essence, one true God,	<i>Have mercy on us</i>
Spirit of truth and wisdom,	<i>Have mercy on us</i>
Spirit of holiness and justice,	<i>Have mercy on us</i>
Spirit of understanding and counsel,	<i>Have mercy on us</i>
Spirit of love and joy,	<i>Have mercy on us</i>
Spirit of peace and patience,	<i>Have mercy on us</i>
Spirit of humility and meekness,	<i>Have mercy on us</i>
Spirit of benignity and goodness,	<i>Have mercy on us</i>
Love substantial of the Father and the Son,	<i>Have mercy on us</i>
Love and life of saintly souls,	<i>Have mercy on us</i>
Fire ever burning,	<i>Have mercy on us</i>
Living water to quench the thirst of hearts,	<i>Have mercy on us</i>

From all evil,	<i>Deliver us, O Holy Spirit.</i>
From all impurity of soul and body,	<i>Deliver us, O Holy Spirit.</i>
From all gluttony and sensuality,	<i>Deliver us, O Holy Spirit.</i>
From all attachments to the things of the earth,	<i>Deliver us, O Holy Spirit.</i>
From all hypocrisy and pretense,	<i>Deliver us, O Holy Spirit.</i>
From all imperfections and deliberate faults,	<i>Deliver us, O Holy Spirit.</i>
From our own will,	<i>Deliver us, O Holy Spirit.</i>
From slander,	<i>Deliver us, O Holy Spirit.</i>
From deceiving our neighbors,	<i>Deliver us, O Holy Spirit.</i>
From our passions and disorderly appetites,	<i>Deliver us, O Holy Spirit.</i>
From our inattentiveness to Thy holy inspirations,	<i>Deliver us, O Holy Spirit.</i>
From despising little things,	<i>Deliver us, O Holy Spirit.</i>
From debauchery and malice,	<i>Deliver us, O Holy Spirit.</i>
From love of comfort and luxury,	<i>Deliver us, O Holy Spirit.</i>
From wishing to seek or desire anything other than Thee,	<i>Deliver us, O Holy Spirit.</i>
From everything that displeases Thee,	<i>Deliver us, O Holy Spirit.</i>

Most loving Father,	<i>forgive us.</i>
Divine Word,	<i>have pity on us.</i>
Holy and divine Spirit,	
<i>leave us not until we are in possession of the Divine Essence, Heaven of heavens.</i>	

Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world,	<i>Send us the divine Consoler.</i>
Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world,	<i>Fill us with the gifts of Thy Spirit.</i>
Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world,	<i>Make the fruits of the Holy Spirit increase within us.</i>

V. Come, O Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Thy faithful,
R. *And enkindle in them the fire of Thy love.*

V. Send forth Thy Spirit and they shall be created,
R. *And Thou shalt renew the face of the earth.*

Let us Pray:

God, Who by the light of the Holy Spirit instructed the hearts of the faithful,
grant us by the same Spirit to be truly wise and ever to rejoice in His
consolation. Through Jesus Christ Our Lord,
Amen.