ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Christ is the centre of our school community where we live, love and learn together.

Thursday 13th June 2024

Dear families,

Sacrament of Confirmation 2024



Our Year 6 pupils are eagerly awaiting the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. They have worked tremendously hard to learn more about the Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit and how they can follow the example of their chosen Saint. Reminders from information shared at our Sacramental Meetings and previous letters are outlined below. All children involved will have practiced the hymns, promises and anointing beforehand.

Sponsors

We now have a full list of Sponsors, who will be a life-long support to the children. If circumstances change and a new sponsor is chosen, please inform the school for this to be updated on our records for St Thomas More Church. A reminder that a sponsor must be over 18, a practicing Catholic and not a parent or sibling.

Arrival

Mass, celebrated by Bishop David, will begin at **7pm on Tuesday 18th June 2024**. Children and their sponsors must arrive earlier at **6:40pm** to sign and collect their Confirmation Cards from a member of staff in the porch of the church. Our Confirmandi and their sponsors will be allocated a seat at the front of the church and families are welcome to select other seats available. For safety, please ensure all aisles are kept clear.

Clothing

Children must be dressed in smart outfits for the occasion. Outfits must not include trainers, tracksuits, jeans, shorts, excessive jewellery or hair accessories and no tram lines in haircuts. All outfits must have shoulders covered and dresses must not be too short. Comfortable shoes are highly advisable to support the kneeling involved during mass.

Photography and Electronic Devices

To respect the sanctity of our church and this special moment in the children's faith journey, no photographs can be taken inside church during the mass. A group photograph will be taken by a staff member and made available for all the families later. Individual photos with Bishop David are welcome after the mass has ended.



Renewal of Baptism Promises

Our Confirmandi will stand on their own to renew their Baptismal Promises with Bishop David. Everyone else can remain seated during this.

The Anointing with Chrism



1. When directed by the staff, each candidate will walk to Bishop David accompanied by their sponsor, who will be holding their Confirmation Card. Sponsors will walk behind the child with their right hand on the child's right shoulder.
2. The sponsors will stand behind the child keeping their right hand on their right shoulder.
3. The sponsor will hand the Confirmation Card to Father Christopher, who will then hand it to Bishop David.
4. Bishop David dips his right thumb in the Chrism and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of the one to be confirmed.

5. Children will return to seats following anointing and remain kneeling in prayer until all children have received the Sacrament.

Thank you for your continued support and our prayers are with our children at this special time in their faith.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact a member of Year 6 Staff.

Yours sincerely,

J Poole

J Poole
Mr J Poole
Assistant Principal

M Jordan

M Jordan
Mr M Jordan
RE Lead