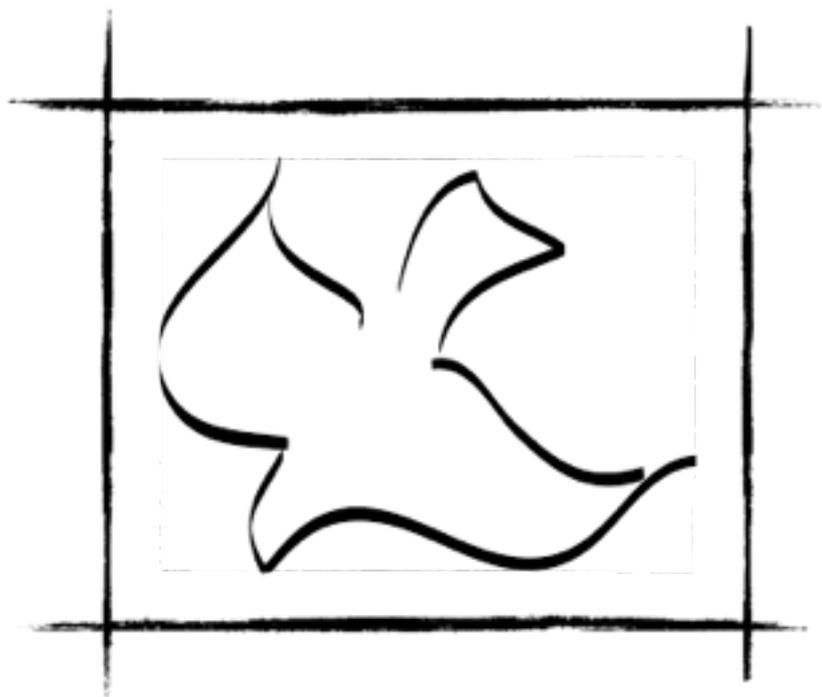


BEING CONFIRMED



CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2016-7

**English-speaking Catholic community
St Alphonse
Luxembourg**

*Information
for candidates and families*

Who can be confirmed?

To be confirmed in the English-speaking parish, Luxembourg, the candidate:

1. Will have been baptised but not yet confirmed.
2. Will have reached the age of discretion (CCC 1307). This means that the candidate:
 - is be ready to accept the responsibilities that come with the sacrament of Confirmation. In this parish, a candidate must have reached his/her 16th birthday before 26 March 2017 (exceptions may be made in special circumstances).
 - Must be in a state of grace —before receiving the sacrament, each candidate will be expected to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
 - Must *personally wish* to receive the sacrament...

Who can be a sponsor?

- The sponsor is usually and preferably a godparent (CCC 1311).
- He/she must be a baptised and practicing Catholic. It is best to choose someone with whom the candidate can talk about the faith. She/he will serve as an example and is expected to take an active role as a sponsor.

Choosing a Confirmation Name

3. Each candidate will be asked to choose a "Confirmation name". This name should be chosen with thought. It should be researched carefully and carry some significance.
4. This name must be the name of a saint.

Confirmation Programme 2016-7

Priest: Fr Ed Hone CSsR

Coordinator: Marthese Lufi

Secretary: Sonya Heffernan

The programme includes guest speakers. Additionally, involvement of parents in classes and other aspects of preparing the celebration will be very welcome. More about this at the parents' session on October 9th after the 11:15 Mass. See catholic.lu

Programme Outline

The program consists of 12 evenings of instruction, discussion and prayer, plus a final meeting which will focus on the ceremony itself and rehearsal of the Mass. The theme of each evening will be related to Confirmation and to the lives of young Catholics today and will include:

A Christian is ... , God is ... , Jesus of Nazareth, personal witness, prayer, Scripture, liturgy and symbolism, Gifts of the Holy Spirit. ..

- Each evening will have different leaders and themes. For certain sessions, candidates will be asked to bring a Bible (including Old and New Testaments). The classes will start at 19:30 and end at 21:30. Starting classes promptly will help us to finish on time. Light refreshments are included.
- The sessions will be held in the Centre Jean XXIII, 52 rue Jules Wilhelm. Ample parking is available.
- Obviously candidates will attend Mass at St Alphonse each week at either the Saturday evening Mass (19:00) or the Sunday morning Mass (11:15), sharing in the life of the parish.
- Active involvement in parish life will be part of the program, or service to the wider community.

The first class is due to take place on 21st October February. Thereafter:

Candidates will be presented at the 11:15 Mass at St Alphonse on 23rd October.

9th Oct.	Meeting with parents after 11.15 Mass.
18th Oct.	1st lesson—Being a Christian (Mrs Lufi)
28th Oct.	2nd lesson—I Believe (Mrs Lufi)
11th Nov.	3rd lesson—God the Father... General images of God (Fr Ed)
18th Nov.	4th lesson—Jesus of Nazareth (Mrs Lufi)
25th Nov.	5th lesson—Personal witness
2nd Dec.	6th lesson—Scripture (Fr Ed)
9th Dec.	7th lesson—Liturgy and Symbolism (Fr Ed)
13th Jan.	8th lesson—Sacraments (Mrs Lufi)
3rd Feb.	9th lesson—Confirmation (Mrs Lufi)
10th Feb.	10th lesson—Gifts of the Holy Spirit (Mrs Lufi)
17th Feb.	11th lesson—House Mass
3rd Mar.	12th lesson—Prayer and Meditation (Mrs Mc Carthy)
10th Mar.	13th lesson—Mass (Fr Ed)
17th Mar.	14th lesson—Reconciliation and Social
24th Mar.	15th lesson—Rehearsal

Confirmation Mass Sunday 26 March 11:15

Letter to the Archbishop

Receiving the sacrament of Confirmation marks an important step in the candidate's life of faith, and is a significant cause for celebration for the whole of our community. Archbishop Hollerich takes a personal interest in each candidate for Confirmation; each candidate writes a letter to the Archbishop expressing why they wish to be confirmed. Writing such a letter obviously requires reflection on the part of the candidate — the catechists will be happy to assist in this regard. Letters must be handed in to M. Lufi or Fr Ed on or before Tuesday 3rd March 2017. Letters to the Archbishop usually begin, 'Père Evêque...'

English speaking Catholic Community, St Alphonse, Luxembourg

Application form for the Sacrament of Confirmation

NAME OF CANDIDATE:

DATE OF BIRTH:

FAMILY CONTACT INFORMATION

PARENTS' NAMES

ADDRESS

PHONE Home

Mobile — Father

Mobile — Mother

E-MAIL addresses of BOTH PARENTS:

SCHOOL

I have read and understand the information given regarding the Confirmation programme, and wish to enrol our son/daughter. **I understand further that attendance at the weekly preparation sessions is of the highest importance. Any absences must be notified:** too much disruption in the preparation of any candidate may lead to deferral of his/her Confirmation.

.....

There is no fee for preparation sessions, but a contribution of €50 is asked for each candidate, **payable at registration**, to cover necessary expenses. If you have any difficulty with this contribution, please see Fr Ed privately. Each application should be accompanied by a Certificate of Baptism for the candidate, available from the church of Baptism. If the Baptism was in the Paroisse Européenne of Luxembourg, you can simply supply the approximate date and place of the Baptism, and we can check records here.

Letter to Candidates from Fr Ed

You are thinking of taking part in our Confirmation programme. This is a significant step for you and your family. You are being confirmed in your Catholic faith. It's quite possible that you don't fully understand what this means, or wonder whether or not it's something you want to go through with; that's fine! The course is about exploration, not indoctrination; it's not just about 'religion' but also about how we live our life, what values we cherish, what dreams we have. It will be an enriching experience.

Simply enrolling on the programme does not mean that you are on a conveyor belt that will inevitably carry you, willing or not, to Confirmation. That is a decision you will make with your family, and with us to help you, in March. If you decide to proceed to be Confirmed, that is good; if not, you will certainly have benefited from our time together.

Coming to the Confirmation classes will be in some ways like attending class at school; in other ways it will be different. You will be expected to participate fully in the programme, but you will also be invited to be honest about your opinions and beliefs, should you wish. Any questions you have could be important for the whole group.

As well as being able to talk to the leaders of the programme, I am available also; anything you say to me I will hold in complete confidence, and you should know by know that I am not judgmental or 'strict'. I will be happy to listen, to offer advice if you wish; and I will be present for most of the programme, having my say from time to time. I can be contacted directly on my mobile: **691 217 713** or at **fr.ed@pt.lu**

Thank you for being part of our parish, and for making these first approaches towards Confirmation.

All best wishes,

Fr Ed

Fr Ed