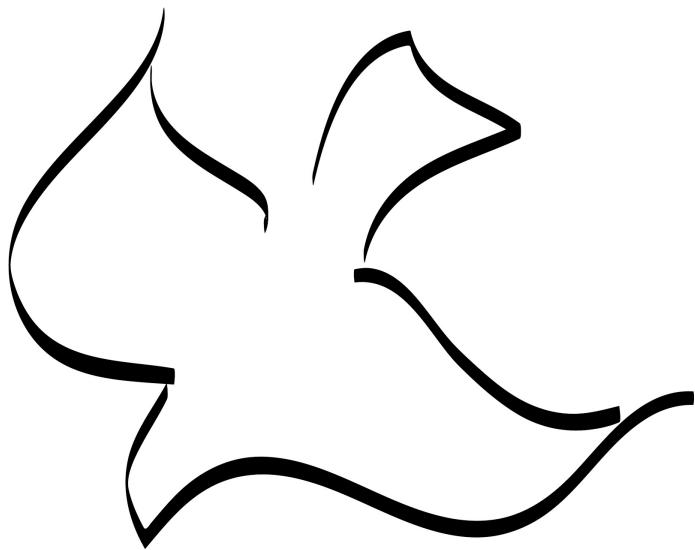




*Sunday 16 May 2021
Church of St Alphonse,
Luxembourg*

Confirmation 2021



Opening hymn: Here I am to worship

So, here I am to wor-ship, here I am to bow down, here I am to
say that You're my God. _____ And You're al - to - geth - er love - ly, al - to - geth - er
wor - thy, al - to - geth - er won - der - ful to me. _____

1. Light of the world
you stepped down into darkness,
opened my eyes, let me see;
beauty that made
this heart adore you
hope of a life spent with you.
2. King of all days, oh,
so highly exalted,
glorious in heaven above;
humbly you came

to the earth you created
all for love's sake became poor
after 3rd refrain:
I'll never know how much it cost
to see my sin upon that cross;
I'll never know how much it cost
to see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost...

Words of Welcome: Marthese Lufi, principal Confirmation catechist and course co-ordinator

Penitential Rite:

Lord have mercy: Mass of a Joyful Heart

Opening Prayer *from the missal*

Liturgy of the Word:

First reading *Acts 1: 15-17, 20-26*

One day Peter stood up to speak to the brothers – there were about a hundred and twenty persons in the congregation: ‘Brothers, the passage of scripture had to be fulfilled in which the Holy Spirit, speaking through David, foretells the fate of Judas, who offered himself as a guide to the men who arrested Jesus – after having been one of our number and actually sharing this ministry of ours. Now in the Book of Psalms it says: Let someone else take his office. ‘We must therefore choose someone who has been with us the whole time that the Lord Jesus was travelling round with us, someone who was with us right from the time when John was baptising until the day when he was taken up from us – and he can act with us as a witness to his resurrection.’ Having nominated two candidates, Joseph known as Barsabbas, whose surname was Justus, and Matthias, they prayed, ‘Lord, you can read everyone’s heart; show us therefore which of these two you have chosen to take over this ministry and apostolate, which Judas abandoned to go to his proper place.’ They then drew lots for them, and as the lot fell to Matthias, he was listed as one of the twelve apostles.

The Word of the Lord - Thanks be to God

Psalm 23 — Shepherd me, O God

1. God is my shepherd
So nothing I shall want
I rest in the meadows
Of faithfulness and love
I walk by the quiet waters of
peace.
3. Though I should wander
The valley of death
I fear no evil
For you are at my side
Your rod and Your staff
My comfort and my hope.

*Shepherd me, O God, beyond my
wants, beyond my fears,
from death into life.*

2. Gently you raise me
And heal my weary soul
You lead me by pathways
Of righteousness and truth
My spirit shall sing
The music of your name.



Second reading 1 John 4: 11-16

My dear people, since God has loved us so much, we too should love one another. No one has ever seen God; but as long as we love one another God will live in us and his love will be complete in us. We can know that we are living in him and he is living in us because he lets us share his Spirit. We ourselves saw and we testify that the Father sent his Son as saviour of the world. If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him, and he in God. We ourselves have known and put our faith in God's love towards ourselves. God is love and anyone who lives in love lives in God, and God lives in him.

The Word of the Lord - Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation: Mass of a Joyful Heart

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John (John 17: 11-19)

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said: 'Holy Father, keep those you have given me true to your name, so that they may be one like us. While I was with them, I kept those you had given me true to your name. I have watched over them and not one is lost except the one who chose to be lost, and this was to fulfil the scriptures. But now I am coming to you and while still in the world I say these things to share my joy with them to the full. I passed your word on to them, and the world hated them, because they belong to the world no more than I belong to the world. I am not asking you to remove them from the world, but to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world any more than I belong to the world. Consecrate them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world, and for their sake I consecrate myself so that they too may be consecrated in truth.'

The Gospel of the Lord - Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Homily: Bishop

Naming of Candidates:

Each candidate stands as their name is called.

The congregation remain seated.

Confirmation Rite:

Bishop: Let us now profess our faith in God, Father, Son and Spirit and renew our baptismal promises. And so I ask you: Do you reject Satan, and all his works and all his empty promises?

Candidate: I do.

Bishop: Do you believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?

Candidate: I do.

Bishop: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only 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?

Candidate: I do.

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

Candidate: 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?

Candidate: I do.

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

Candidate: Amen.

Laying on of Hands:

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 our Father that he will pour out the 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 time. The Bishop extends his hands over the candidates. He then says:

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 your Holy Spirit upon them to be their Helper and Guide. Give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of right judgment 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.

R/ Amen.

At this point the sponsors are invited to come forward and take their places, each behind their candidate.

Anointing with Chrism:

The Bishop will anoint each candidate with the Oil of Chrism by making the sign of the cross on the forehead of the one being confirmed.

Archbishop: N, be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Candidate: Amen

Archbishop: Peace be with you.

Candidate: And with your Spirit.



Prayers of the Faithful:

Bishop: Dear brothers and sisters, it is the Spirit of Christ who helps us to pray, and who prays in us and through us. In the power of the same Spirit, let us put our needs before God our Father:

For all of us today, confirmed by the gift of the Spirit, that we may give witness to Christ by lives built on faith and love ... Lord, hear us.

Lord graciously hear us.

For our parents and sponsors who have led us in faith, that by word and example they may always encourage us to follow the way of Jesus Christ ... Lord, hear us.

Lord graciously hear us.

For the holy Church of God, in union with Francis our Pope, Jean-Claude our Archbishop, Bishop Léon and all the bishops, that God, who gathers us together by the Holy Spirit, may help us grow in unity of faith and love until his Son returns in glory ... Lord, hear us.

Lord graciously hear us.

For all people, of every race and nation, that they may acknowledge the one God as Father, and in the bond of common humanity seek his kingdom, which is peace and joy in the Holy Spirit ... Lord, hear us.

Lord graciously hear us.

For all those who have suffered during the pandemic, for those who have lost loved ones and for those who are still suffering ... Lord hear us.

Lord graciously hear us.

Concluding prayer: (Bishop)

Father, your Son promised us the Spirit so that we might become your adopted children. Hear now the prayers of your sons and daughters, and grant us what we ask in faith, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Offertory Hymn: Servant King

1. From heaven you came helpless babe
Entered our world, your glory veiled
Not to be served but to serve
And give your life that we might live

*This is our God, the Servant King
He calls us now to follow him
To bring our lives as a daily offering
Of worship to the Servant King*

2. There in the garden of tears
My heavy load he chose to bear
His heart with sorrow was torn
'Yet not my will but yours,' he said
3. Come see his hands and his feet
The scars that speak of sacrifice
Hands that flung stars into space
To cruel nails surrendered
4. So let us learn how to serve
And in our lives enthrone him
Each other's needs to prefer
For it is Christ we're serving.

Prayer over the Gifts

Eucharistic Prayer *from the missal*

Holy, holy: Mass of a Joyful Heart

Acclamation of Faith: *Mass of a Joyful Heart*
Save us, Saviour of the world,
For by your cross and resurrection
You have set us free

Communion Rite:

The Lord's Prayer - said

Lamb of God – Mass of a Joyful Heart

The candidates, their sponsors and guests are invited to receive Communion approaching row by row from the back and returning to their seats via the side aisles. Please maintain a distance of 2 metres between households.

Communion Hymns:

O Let the Son of God enfold you

O let the Son of God enfold you
With His Spirit and His love
Let Him fill your heart and satisfy your soul
O let Him have the things that hold you
And His Spirit like a dove
Will descend upon your life and make you whole

Jesus, O Jesus

Come and fill Your lambs

Jesus, O Jesus

Come and fill Your lambs

O come and sing this song with gladness
As your hearts are filled with joy
Lift your hands in sweet surrender to His name
O give Him all your tears and sadness
Give Him all your years of pain
And you'll enter into life in Jesus' name



Abba, Father

Abba, Abba, Father.

You are the potter; we are the clay,
the work of your hands.

Mould us, mould us and fashion us
into the image of Jesus, your Son,
of Jesus, your Son.

Father, may we be one in you.
May we be one in you as he is in you,
and you are in him.

Glory, glory and praise to you.
Glory and praise to you forever, amen,
forever, amen.

Concluding Rite: *from the missal*

Prayer after Communion *from the missal*

Words of thanks

Final Blessing.





Concluding Hymn: *Shine, Jesus, Shine*

1. Lord, the light of your love is shining
in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us,
Set us free by the truth you now bring us,
Shine on me, shine on me.

*Shine Jesus shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory;
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow river flow, flood the nations with grace and
mercy;
Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.*

2. Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
From the shadows into your radiance;
By the blood I may enter your brightness,
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness,
Shine on me, shine on me.
3. As we gaze on your kingly brightness
so our faces display your likeness,
Ever changing from glory to glory,
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me, shine on me.

Special thanks to:

Cardinal Jean-Claude Hollerich and Bishop Léon Wagener for celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation with us today.

Kristine and all the Music Group

Confirmation Preparation Team:

Marthese Lufi, Fr Michael and Fr Ed

Guest speakers at classes

To all the candidates and parents who have contributed so much to our preparation for today

Confirmed in Christ

