



## Lighting of the Candles Ceremony.

When all the candles are lit:

**Fr. Devine:** Parents, please turn to your children. Parents, give the lighted candle to your child and say: 'Keep the light of faith alive by your daily living of the Gospel'.

**Parents:** Keep the light of faith alive by your daily living of the Gospel.

**Children:** Amen

**Fr. Devine:** Confirmation Candidates, please stand.

**Fr. Devine:** Will you, the Confirmation candidates, live as Jesus asks you to?

**Candidates:** I will.

**Fr. Devine:** Do you wish to receive the Holy Spirit in your Confirmation?

**Candidates:** I do.

**Fr. Devine:** We pray to God, our Father in heaven, that the Holy Spirit will give our Confirmation candidates the Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding, the Spirit of Right Judgement and Courage, the Spirit of Knowledge and Reverence.

Dear Lord, may the Holy Spirit fill them with the Spirit of Wonder and Awe in your presence.

**All:** Amen.

Candles are now extinguished. Candidates sit down.

Reflection read by Dylan.  
'Anyway' - Mother Theresa



**Fr. Devine:** Let us now offer one another the sign of peace as a sign of our decision to work together to make the light of Christ shine in our world. Peace be with you.

**All:** And with your Spirit.

**Fr. Devine:** God our Father, bless these boys and girls. Be with them all their lives.

Bless, too, their families, their sponsors and their friends. Make their community a community of living faith. May the Lord bless and keep us.

**All:** Amen.

**Fr. Devine:** May he let his face shine upon us and be gracious to us.

**All:** Amen

**Fr. Devine:** May he look up at us with kindness and give us his peace.

**All:** Amen.

**Fr. Devine:** May almighty God bless us, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen.



## Ceremony of Light



### Opening Ritual

(read by Fiona, candles brought forward by Kevin, Dylan, Emma and Richard)

**Fr. Devine:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen.

**Fr. Devine:** The Lord be With You.

**All:** And with your Spirit.

**Principal:** I wish to extend a very special welcome to the candidates for Confirmation. You were welcomed into the family of God many years ago when you came to be baptised. Now you are preparing for another, very important, sacrament in your life. Confirmation is; God calling you to be an adult in the eyes of the Church. God will give you the gift of the Holy Spirit which will give you the courage and strength you will need to build His kingdom of love, peace and justice here on Earth. God will depend on you to do His work to the best of your ability and the Holy Spirit is given to you to help you in that all important job. Like Jesus, you will be a light to the world, leading people out of darkness and showing them, by your example, that God is important and meaningful. We are now going to have a Gospel reading.

### Gospel Reading:

A reading from the Gospel according to St. Matthew (Mt. 5:14-16)

You are the light of the world. A city built on a hilltop cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on a lamp stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of everyone, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



**Principal:** Let us pray that the Spirit will give us the courage to live in such a way that we will be lights in this world.

## Prayers of the Faithful.



**Martin:** God our Father, may your Spirit help us to bring the light of your peace to our homes, our schools, our friends and our community. Lord, hear us.

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

**Oisín:** God our Father, may your Spirit help us to bring the light of your truth into all our relationships with others. Help us to speak and to stand only for what is true. Lord, hear us.

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

**Ross:** God our Father, bless our parents. They have helped us to hear your call to us to live a Spirit-filled life. They have shown us the meaning of love, truth, justice and peace for our own lives and our lives with others. Lord, hear us.

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

**Parent:** God our Father, bless these children. We thank you for giving them to us as your gift. Be with them as they grow to adulthood. Keep them in your care all their lives. Lord, hear us.

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

**Teacher:** God our Father, bless these boys and girls. May the gift of your Spirit come alive in their lives so that they will always live according to your Word. Lord, hear us.

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



## Parents' Promises



**Fr. Devine:** We now invite the young people's parents to make some promises regarding their commitment to help their children to grow in faith as they prepare for Confirmation.

**Fr. Devine:** Are you ready to help your children to carry out their promises to love God and those around them?

**Parents:** We are.

**Fr. Devine:** Are you prepared to show them how to keep these promises by the example of your own lives?

**Parents:** We are.

**Fr. Devine:** Are you prepared to continue to help them to work through the programme of preparation for Confirmation?

**Parents:** We are.



## Children's Promises



**Fr. Devine:** I now invite those who are preparing for Confirmation to make certain promises regarding their readiness to prepare to make a commitment to live as workers for the Kingdom.

Will you remember to pray to God our Father, to help you to love as he has asked?

**Children:** I will.

**Fr. Devine:** Will you try hard at home to give good example to the younger members of your family, to work for peace rather than disagreement with all, to respect and obey your parents?

**Children:** I will.

**Fr. Devine:** Will you try to ensure that you offer help whenever it is needed, that no one is left out, that you play fairly for school, club and at home?

**Children:** I will.

**Fr. Devine:** Will you try to take responsibility at home, at school or in the neighbourhood?

**Children:** I will.

**Fr. Devine:** The Baptismal candles may now be lit from the Paschal candle.

## Lighting of the Candles Ceremony.

*Principal and Teacher both light tapers from the Paschal candle.*

*They proceed to the end of the first row and hand the lit taper to the parents. The parents then light the Baptismal candles, which the child is holding, from the taper and pass it onto the next parent. They will then hand it back to the Teacher/Principal who hands it to the next row. This continues until all the Baptismal candles are lit. All parents and children remain seated for this process.*

