

# RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

## The Sacrament of Confirmation and The Call to Discipleship

January 15, 2024

1. Opening Prayer/Song – “**Christ in Me Arise**” by Trevor Thomson  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aO6TAHD2Rxs>
2. Scripture Readings
  - 1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19
  - Psalm 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10
  - 1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20
  - John 1:35-42
3. Exegesis on the theme of “being called” in the readings - Vocation
4. **CONVERSATIONS WITH SPONSORS AND CATECHUMENS/CANDIDATES** – Describe one experience in your life when you felt you were being called to something new or different. How did you feel? Were you fearful or apprehensive? What did you do to respond to and follow the calling? How did it change your life?
5. Background on the Sacrament of Confirmation
  - Review: ***A sacrament is an outward sign, instituted by Christ to give grace.*** (Traditional Catechism definition)
  - Outward signs – laying on of hands; anointing with oil of chrism (the oil of kings and prophets). Perfumed oil is used which was consecrated by the archbishop at the Chrism Mass held on the Monday of Holy Week
  - Continuum and integration of Initiation sacraments
  - The anointing is an indelible spiritual mark, sealing and strengthening (i.e., “confirming”) baptism
  - As an anointed person, you are a “Christian” called to profess and live your faith in Jesus the Christ
  - Reception of the Holy Spirit to strengthen faith and the living of the Christian life to which you were called in baptism (remember the story of Pentecost).
  - Gifts of the Holy Spirit (based upon Isaiah 11:2-3, see below) – Wisdom, Understanding, Courage, Right Judgment, Knowledge, Reverence, Wonder and Awe (also called “Fear of the Lord”)  
***The spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him: a spirit of wisdom and of understanding.***

*A spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the Lord, and his delight shall be the fear of the Lord.*  
(Isaiah 11:2-3)

6. Discipleship/Vocation Discussion
7. **CONVERSATION WITH SPONSORS AND CATECHUMENS/CANDIDATES:  
Questions for discussion (select one or two)**
  - a. Reflect on the people and events that have led you to this time and place on your journey of faith
  - b. Who has helped you to know Christ and in what ways have they helped you?
  - c. What events have helped you to know Christ and in what ways have these events led you to this point?
  - d. Have you experienced Christ's invitation from yesterday's Gospel "What are you looking for"?
  - e. How have you responded? Have you been fearful, apprehensive, confused, joyful?
8. Closing Song – **"With One Voice" – Ricky Manalo CSP**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wwXtDuLFHJg>