



## From Deacon Mark Miller's Desk

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**At last Sunday's** 5:30 pm Mass, Bishop Timothy Doherty celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation for some 50 high school students and adults. This is the third of the Sacraments of Initiation [the other two are Baptism and Eucharist]. The anointing with oil experienced in Confirmation completes the graces first expressed in Baptism; it is one of only three times that the Church uses Holy oil – Chrism; in each instance anointing with Chrism designates a person as a minister.

**In Baptism**, we are each anointed as priest, prophet, and king. In Holy Orders, men are set on a ministry of service as deacon, priest, or bishop. Confirmation extends the mission received in Baptism. It too is an anointing for ministry. How that ministry will be lived out is a matter for the person and God. Most people feel more than one call to ministry

in their lives. The Confirmation anointing is a sign of God's special, supernatural graces needed so that we can live out our common ministry of building the kingdom of God. It's not an end – it's a new beginning.

**In most of the U.S.**, the Confirmation commitment is often marked by the adoption of a "Confirmation Name." This isn't a worldwide practice, however. Places that speak Spanish and French don't follow this practice, nor does Italy or the Philippines. The Confirmation name is usually a biblical character, or a saint chosen by the individual being confirmed. The individual's choice reflects the unique relationship the patron and the person will share.

**This year's class** chose these patrons as their Confirmation names:

Sebastian  
Dymphna  
Joan of Arc  
Therese of Lisieux  
Brigid of Kildare  
Catherine of Alexandria  
Patrick  
Padre Pio  
Lawrence

Maria Goretti  
Christopher  
Mary Di Rosa  
Apollonia  
Catherine of Bologna  
Joseph  
Luke  
Stephen  
Dominic Savio  
Rita of Cascia  
Francis  
Elizabeth of Hungary  
Michael  
Benedict  
Philomena  
Valentine  
Mary  
Jean de Brebeuf  
Anthony of Padua  
Martin de Porres  
Leo  
Paul  
Jerome  
Cecelia  
Maria de Chiquinquira  
Maria de Guadalupe  
Peter  
Anthony  
Longinus  
Juditas

**If you know** anyone who was confirmed this past Sunday, ask them about their Confirmation name: who did they choose and why?

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**This coming Tuesday** is a special feast for Deacons! It's the feast of Saint Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr. While still a young man [he was 32], in 257, he was ordained and appointed the first of the seven deacons who served at Rome's Cathedral church.

**Emperor Valerian demanded** that Lawrence turn over the wealth of the church. Lawrence asked for three days to gather those riches. After three days, Lawrence presented Valerian with the Church's richest treasures: the indigent, crippled, blind, and suffering.

**Valerian was not amused.** He ordered Lawrence martyred by roasting him on a gridiron over a roaring fire. After several hours of this torture, St. Lawrence told his torturers "I'm well done on this side; turn me over". Lawrence died in 258.

**While ordained first,** he was the was the last of the seven deacons to die. He is the patron **saint of cooks, chefs, and comedians.**