

Pre-Confirmation Classes and Event for 2017

Friday 9th June 2017	6:00 pm	Confirmation Class - "God the Holy Trinity"	St Leonard's Loftus
Friday 16th June 2017	6:00 pm	Confirmation Class - "Jesus, Jesus, Jesus!"	St Leonard's Loftus
Friday 23rd June 2017	6:00 pm	Confirmation Class - "The Bible"	St Leonard's Loftus
Friday 30th June 2017	6:00 pm	Confirmation Class - "The Church"	St Leonard's Loftus
Friday 14th July 2017	6:00 pm	Social Event - Choir and Confirmation Candidates Grand Summer Barbecue	The Rectory Loftus
Friday 1st Sept 2017	6:00 pm	Confirmation Class - "My Confirmation"	St Leonard's Loftus
Friday 8th Sept 2017	6:00 pm	Confirmation Class - "The Rehearsal"	St Leonard's Loftus
Sunday 10th Sept 2017	10:30 am	Parish Mass and Confirmation Service	St Leonard's Loftus
Sunday 10th Sept 2017	12 Noon	A Bring and Share Celebration Lunch	Town Hall Loftus

Please Note: Confirmation Classes will run from 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm for younger confirmation candidates and until 7:00 pm for adult candidates.



Loftus Parish

Loftus-in-Cleveland and Carlin How with Skinningrove
In the Deanery of Guisborough in the Diocese of York
Parishes of the Society of Saint Wilfrid and Saint Hilda

The Rectory

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Confirmation Service Sunday 10th September 2017

Sunday 14th May 2017

Dear Friends,

I am writing to you with some good news! Bishop Glyn, the Bishop of Beverley, has agreed to come to Saint Leonard's Parish Church in Loftus to conduct a Confirmation Service during the 10:30am Parish Mass in Saint Leonard's Church on Sunday 10th September 2017. This shall be the first Confirmation Service we have held in our benefice for a number of years and I am already looking forward to what I know will be a wonderful occasion for our benefice.

Today, I am writing to ask if you (or a member of your family, a friend, or anyone else you may know) may be interested in confirmation? If so, can I encourage you to think about this opportunity in September? If this is something that may interest you, a family member of a friend, please can I encourage you to discuss the possibility in the coming days and let me know if this is an opportunity you wish to take up.

Before Sunday 10th September 2017 there will be a series of traditional, "Pre-Confirmation Classes." The dates and times of these classes (and other key dates) are printed on the reverse of this letter. I also attach some further information about the Sacrament of Confirmation for you. If you are thinking about confirmation and haven't yet been baptised (christened) then don't worry, as we can work out a date for a baptism before September.

I look forward to hearing from you. With best wishes, as always,

The Sacrament of Confirmation

What is Confirmation?

- ★ Confirmation is a sacrament, or rite of passage, practised by many Christians.
- ★ The word “Confirmation” means strengthening or deepening one’s relationship with God.
- ★ Confirmation is a popular practice in the Church of England, other Anglican churches, the Roman Catholic, and Orthodox Churches where infants are baptised or christened.
- ★ Confirmation enables a baptised person to confirm the promises made on their behalf at baptism.
- ★ Confirmation is also a sign of full membership to the Christian community.
- ★ After Confirmation you will be able to receive Holy Communion (the blest bread and wine) at Mass. Your Confirmation will therefore also be the day you receive your First Holy Communion!
- ★ Christians believe Jesus instituted the sacrament or rite of confirmation when he promised to send another counsellor to empower his disciples to bear witness.



What happens at Confirmation?

- ★ In Christian confirmation, a baptised person believes that he or she is receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- ★ Confirmation is a symbolic act allowing the baptised person to make a mature statement of faith.
- ★ Confirmation can be held at any age. In fact, in the Eastern Orthodox Churches, it is conferred on infants straight after baptism.
- ★ Through prayer and the laying of hands, the bishop asks God to send his Holy Spirit to give them the strength to live as disciples of Christ.



Preparing for Confirmation

- ★ Confirmation candidates attend a series of special classes to learn about the sacraments, their faith and Christian responsibilities.
- ★ Confirmation preparation helps candidates to have a proper understanding of how to live as a follower of Jesus Christ.
- ★ At one time, candidates were required to learn a series of questions and answers by heart known as the catechism. Today's classes are more comprehensive and the particular needs of candidates will be borne in mind.