

**Scripture Readings**  
**for the celebration of Confirmation**  
**Years A, B and C**



**ARCHDIOCESE OF DUBLIN**

You can find out which year in the cycle of readings to follow in the table below:

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>CYCLE</b>
<b>2024</b>	B
<b>2025</b>	C
<b>2026</b>	A
<b>2027</b>	B
<b>2028</b>	C

## **THEMES**

*For each cycle there is a theme:*

For cycle A it is **LIVING IN THE SPIRIT**

For cycle B it is **PRAYING IN THE SPIRIT**

For cycle C it is **CELEBRATING IN THE SPIRIT**

## Cycle A THEME: LIVING IN THE SPIRIT

FIRST READING - Acts 1: 3 – 8

After his death, he presented himself alive to them in many different settings over a period of forty days. In face-to-face meetings, he talked to them about things concerning the kingdom of God. As they met and ate meals together, he told them that they were on no account to leave Jerusalem but “must wait for what the Father promised: the promise you heard from me. John baptized in water; you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit. And soon.”

When they were together for the last time they asked, “Master, are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel now? Is this the time?”

He told them, “You don’t get to know the time. Timing is the Father’s business. What you’ll get is the Holy Spirit. And when the Holy Spirit comes on you, you will be able to be my witnesses in Jerusalem, all over Judea and Samaria, even to the ends of the world.”

*Psalm suggestion: Send forth your Spirit O Lord - Liam Lawton*

SECOND READING - Ephesians 4: 1- 6

While I’m locked up here, a prisoner for the Lord, I want you to get out there and walk—better yet, run!—on the road God called you to travel. I don’t want any of you sitting around on your hands. I don’t want anyone strolling off, down some path that goes nowhere. And mark that you do this with humility and discipline—not in fits and starts, but steadily, pouring yourselves out for each other in acts of love, alert at noticing differences and maintaining peace.

You were all called to travel on the same road and in the same direction, so stay together, both outwardly and inwardly. You have one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who rules over all, works through all, and is present in all.

## GOSPEL - Matthew 25: 14- 29

The kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling into a far country, who called his own servants and entrusted his goods to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to every man according to his ability. And immediately he took his journey. He who had received the five talents went and traded with them and made another five talents. So also, he who had received two gained another two. But he who had received one went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money.

"After a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. He who had received five talents came and brought the other five talents, saying, 'Master, you entrusted to me five talents. Look, I have gained five talents more.'

"His master said to him, 'Well done, you good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a few things. I will make you ruler over many things. Enter the joy of your master.'

"He who had received two talents also came and said, 'Master, you entrusted me with two talents. See, I have gained two more talents besides them.'

"His master said to him, 'Well done, you good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a few things. I will make you ruler over many things. Enter the joy of your master.'

"Then he who had received the one talent came and said, 'Master, I knew that you are a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow. So I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.'

"His master answered, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not winnowed. Then you ought to have given my money to the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest.'

“So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from him who has nothing, even what he has will be taken away.

## Cycle B THEME: PRAYING IN THE SPRIT

FIRST READING - Acts 8: 14-17

When the apostles in Jerusalem received the report that Samaria had accepted God's Message, they sent Peter and John down to pray for them to receive the Holy Spirit. Up to this point they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus; the Holy Spirit hadn't yet fallen on them. Then the apostles laid their hands on them and they did receive the Holy Spirit

*Psalm suggestion: Send forth your Spirit O Lord - Liam Lawton*

SECOND READING - Romans 8: 26 – 27

The Holy Spirit helps us with our daily problems and in our praying. For we don't even know what we should pray for nor how to pray as we should, but the Holy Spirit prays for us with such feeling that it cannot be expressed in words. And the Father who knows all hearts knows, of course, what the Spirit is saying as he pleads for us in harmony with God's own will.

GOSPEL - Mark 1: 9- 11

Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee, and was baptized by John there in the Jordan River. The moment Jesus came up out of the water, he saw the heavens open and the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove descending on him, and a voice from heaven said, "You are my beloved Son; you are my Delight.

## Cycle C THEME: CELEBRATING IN THE SPIRIT

FIRST READING - Ephesians 1: 3 -4, 14

How blessed is God! And what a blessing he is! He's the Father of our Master, Jesus Christ, and takes us to the high places of blessing in him. Long before he laid down earth's foundations, he had us in mind, had settled on us as the focus of his love, to be made whole and holy by his love. Long, long ago he decided to adopt us into his family through Jesus Christ. (What pleasure he took in planning this!) He wanted us to enter into the celebration of his lavish gift-giving by the hand of his beloved Son.

*Psalm suggestions: Praise the Lord all you nations – Fintan O'Carroll*

SECOND READING - Acts 2: 1 – 4

When the Feast of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Without warning there was a sound like a strong wind, gale force—no one could tell where it came from. It filled the whole building. Then, like a wildfire, the Holy Spirit spread through their ranks, and they started speaking in a number of different languages as the Spirit prompted them.

GOSPEL - Luke 10: 21 – 22

At that, Jesus rejoiced, exuberant in the Holy Spirit. "I thank you, Father, Master of heaven and earth, that you hid these things from the know-it-alls and showed them to these innocent newcomers. Yes, Father, it pleased you to do it this way.

"I've been given it all by my Father! Only the Father knows who the Son is and only the Son knows who the Father is. The Son can introduce the Father to anyone he wants to.