

# CONFIRMATION

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## Confirmation Symbols: A Summary

**Confirmation**, a sacrament in many Christian traditions, uses various symbols to represent the presence and power of the Holy Spirit being bestowed upon recipients. Here are some key ones:

**Dove:** A powerful symbol directly linked to the Bible, where the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus in the form of a dove during his baptism. It signifies peace, purity, and the divine presence.

**Anointing with Oil:** This act, tracing the sign of the cross on the forehead with oil, represents being "sealed" with the Holy Spirit, receiving its gifts and becoming part of the Christian community.

**Laying on of Hands:** The Bishop or celebrant places hands on each confirmand's head, invoking the Holy Spirit and its blessings. This action signifies the transmission of spiritual power and connection to the apostolic lineage.

**Numbers Seven and Nine:** These numbers hold significance due to their association with the seven gifts and nine fruits of the Holy Spirit. They often appear in candles, lamps, or other visual elements during the ceremony.

**Light and Fire:** Often represented by candles or flames, light and fire symbolize the illuminating and transformative power of the Holy Spirit, guiding and strengthening the confirmand on their faith journey.

**Hand:** The handshake or "sign of peace" exchanged after confirmation signifies welcoming the newly confirmed individuals into the Christian community and fostering unity among believers.

Remember, these **symbols** hold different meanings and interpretations within various Christian denominations. It's important to consider the specific context and traditions when exploring their significance.

