



Diocese Of Elphin

www.elphindiocese.ie

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30th January 2024

Confirmation Youth Fests

Dear Parent / Guardian,

God's blessing on you and your family.

On the mornings of Saturday 10th February and Saturday 24th February respectively our diocese will host two major gatherings of children preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this year.

We refer to these gatherings as our *Confirmation Youth Fests* as they bring Sixth Class Representatives, who we identify as Confirmation Ambassadors, together from all Catholic Schools across the thirty-seven parishes of our diocese (*see details at the top of the web page that hosts this letter and my letter to the children – www.elphindiocese.ie/youthfest*).

The main thrust of each *Confirmation Youth Fest* is to help the children bridge the gap between their life experience and the Sacrament of Confirmation in ways that are fun, educational and prayerful.

In planning each event we were conscious that for some parents / guardians bringing your child would also mean a three-hour stay in Athlone or Sligo. You may like to avail of this time for shopping etc. Alternatively I invite you to participate in a light-hearted retreat morning we have planned for parents / guardians that will include an extended tea / coffee break and some time to yourself. Furthermore parents and guardians who avail of this offer will also be very welcome to participate in the Treasure Hunt that we have planned for the children.

Thus if your child is interested in being a Confirmation Ambassador, we would be delighted if both of you joined us in Coláiste Chiaráin, Athlone, on Saturday 10th February, or Summerhill College, Sligo, on Saturday 24th February.

If you have any related enquiries please contact Justin Harkin @ 087 6171526 / justin@elphindiocese.ie .

Finally, if your child is interested in being a Confirmation Ambassador and you can support their participation, please inform their teacher by placing a note in their homework journal. She or he will then be included in the raffle for the three Confirmation Ambassador places for his / her class.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Doran', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Kevin Doran
Bishop of Elphin**