

ST GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
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PBO Number	930018129

APPLICATION FOR CONFIRMATION

Please read these notes carefully before you complete the application form, and feel free to consult us if you have any questions.

WHAT IS CONFIRMATION ABOUT?

Ordinarily, we would have been Baptised as infants. Baptism is an act of God expressed through Christ's church. It expresses God's love for us in our creation. The Baptismal service asks our parents and Godparents to make promises on our behalf since we are too young to make these promises for ourselves. The *Anglican Prayer Book* (1989) says that; 'The two main sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion, together with Confirmation, all relate to identification with Jesus Christ in his Paschal Mystery: that is, his birth, death, resurrection and ascension, and the giving of the Holy Spirit, all understood in the light of the Passover.' The *Anglican Prayer Book* (1989) goes on to explain that; 'Whilst the response of faith has to be made by each individual, human life is always lived in community. Children are born into a human family and those who are Baptised are brought into the family of God, the Church. St Paul says, 'By one Spirit we were all baptised into one body' (1 Corinthians 12:13). Those who are baptised into the Body of Christ share in his anointing by the Spirit. United in him, they are to serve God in the world in a ministry of caring and compassion.' If we were Baptised as children, our parents commit themselves to us in Christ by bringing us into the church and living out the Christian life. Therefore, Baptism is not just a family occasion, but in fact, a church occasion.

WHAT HAS BAPTISM GOT TO DO WITH CONFIRMATION?

The church Baptises young children soon after their birth to dedicate them to God within the life of the church. During this time, to explain further, children are too young to understand this commitment and assume responsibility for their Baptism themselves. Thus, our parents and Godparents take on this responsibility on our behalf until we are mature enough to 'Confirm' that Baptism for ourselves. This usually happens at about the age of sixteen at which time we are invited to attend a Confirmation preparation course and assume responsibility for our own spiritual growth. The *Anglican Prayer Book* (1989) explains that Confirmation; '... takes place in the presence of the Bishop who represents the whole Church and who is the sign of Apostolic authority, as well as being the focus of unity within the Diocese. The Bishop then lays hands on the candidate's head and, along with the people, prays that *he/she* will receive the strengthening gift of the Holy Spirit. By receiving this gift, the candidate is commissioned and empowered to fulfil *his/her* vocation as a Christian within the fellowship of the Church.

WHAT ABOUT THE HOLY EUCHARIST?

Christian initiation is fulfilled in the Holy Eucharist or Communion. In the sacrament of Communion, through the outward signs of bread and wine, Christian's can share in the life of Christ. The *Anglican Prayer Book* (1989) says that; 'In the Holy Eucharist the life given in Baptism is fed and sustained with

the heavenly food of the body and blood of Christ.’ Whilst many children will receive their first Communion at their Confirmation, baptism is the sacramental rite which permits children to receive the bread and the wine. It is therefore permitted, at the discretion of the parents, to allow their children to receive Communion before they get confirmed and there is usually a short course for the children to explain what Communion means after which they may be admitted to receive Communion in the Church.

ST GEORGE’S

St George’s has served Roedean School since 1904 as a Chaplaincy. In this regard, St George’s runs a confirmation Course at Roedean every year for the girls. Quite often, teens from other schools or churches join this course and it is perfectly acceptable to do so. Consequently, we do not often run courses at St George’s as well unless there is enough demand or a large group to justify the formation of another class. Please feel free to enquire about this if you would like more information.

Your full names and surname					
If you are in your teens, how old are you?					
If you are not a teenager, circle your age-group	20-30	30-40	40-50	50-60	60+
Residential address					
Postal address					
Home phone					
Contact numbers	Cell				
	Work				
E-mail address					
Are you Baptised? <i>Please note that if you are not baptised, you will be baptised either at a separate service before your confirmation, or at the confirmation service.</i>				Yes	No
If you are Baptised, indicate the name of the church, denomination, and town/city in which you were Baptised. <i>(Note: a copy of your certificate should be attached to this form)</i>	Name of Church	Denomination	Town/City		

Are you a member of St George's?			Yes	No
If not, which church do you belong to now?				
Name and contact number of the minister/Priest.	Name:		Tel:	
How often do you attend church?	Almost weekly	Once a month	A few times a year	Seldom or never
Why, personally, do you want to get confirmed?				
Signed:			Date:	