

Communion Sunday Craft

Sacrament #2: Confirmation or Chrismation

MATERIALS:

- Glass bowl
- Olive oil - *you will need only 1-2 cups*
- Flowers (*fresh, dried, or both*) - bring enough so that each child can have a small portion
- Other fragrances (*perfumes, etc.*)
- Small containers or mini paper plates
- Paper person cut outs (*template to follow*)
- Markers

PREPARATION:

- Break apart flowers into small pieces
- Cut out paper persons

Making our own Chrism ("Holy oil")



REVIEW: Confirmation or Chrismation is the 2nd of the 7 Sacraments In the Armenian Church. Chrismation takes place immediately after the baptism. The grace of the Holy Spirit is granted by a holy oil called "chrism," ("*muron*," in Armenian), which strengthens our spirits. "*Muron*" is made with olive oil and 40 different plants and flowers. In the Armenian church, "*muron*" is consecrated once every 7 years by the Catholicos of All Armenians or the Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia. Today, although not "official" *muron/holy oil*, we will make our own version of chrism.

DIRECTIONS:

1. Place a glass dish at the front of your classroom. Begin by pouring some olive oil into the bowl.
2. Distribute a piece of flower to each student. Allow each to place their flower into the oil. Add any other fragrances you may have brought to class. Mix.
3. Place a small amount of chrism into a container for each student.
4. Distribute a paper person cutout to each student. Have them draw on it: Eyes, ears, nose, mouth, and a heart
5. (*Review instructions before beginning! You may want to model how to do this by making a large drawing or cutout of the Paper Person cutout at the front of your classroom before you distribute the chrism to the students.*)
6. Give each student a small amount of your homemade chrism.

SAY: During Chrismation, the priest will place a small amount of chrism onto certain body parts of the person who has just been baptized, granting special graces and symbolizing the Holy Spirit entering their soul. As I read each body part, you will place just your thumb into the chrism and make a "chrism thumbprint" onto that body part. (*Check for understanding*)

Forehead: "Sweet ointment in the name of Jesus Christ is poured upon you as a seal of incorruptible heavenly gifts".

Eyes: "This seal in the name of Jesus Christ may enlighten your eyes that you may never sleep unto death".

Ears: "This holy anointing be unto you for the hearing of the divine commandments".

Nostril: "This seal in the name of Jesus Christ be to you a sweet smell from life unto life".

Lips: "This seal in the name of Jesus Christ be for you a guardian for your mouth and a strong door for your lips".

Hands: "This seal in the name of Jesus Christ be to you a cause for charity and for all virtuous deeds and behavior".

Heart: "This divine seal may confirm in you a pure heart and renew within you an upright spirit".

Back: "This seal in the name of Jesus Christ be to you a shield of strength thereby to quench all the fiery darts of the Evil".

Feet: "This divine seal of God may direct your steps unto life everlasting that you may not be shaken".

7. Allow students to select one of the body parts just discussed that they feel they need to work on this week in doing a better of job of "God's work." (*Try being more helpful - anoint your hands; try using nicer words - anoint your lips; try praying more - anoint your heart, etc.*) Allow them to place a small amount of oil onto that body part.

