

## The Sacrament of Catholic Confirmation

- 1) Acts 8:14-19
  - a) "When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. When they arrived, they prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, because the Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them; they had simply been baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit. When Simon saw that the Spirit was given at the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money and said, "Give me also this ability so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit."
  - b) This clearly demonstrates that even though the faithful at Samaria had been baptized, they had not yet received the Holy Spirit. The Apostles then CONFIRMED the church at Samaria by laying hands on the believers there. When the Apostles CONFIRMED the believers at Samaria by laying hands on them, these faithful then and only then received the Holy Spirit. This clearly confirms and proves the Sacrament of Confirmation which was used by the Apostles themselves.
- 2) 1 Timothy 4:12-15
  - a) Don't let anyone look down on you **because you are young**, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity. Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching. Do not neglect **your gift, which was given you** through a prophetic message **when the body of elders laid their hands on you**. Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone **may see your progress**.
  - b) This is another example of a young person or persons who had recently been CONFIRMED by the elders of the Church laying hands on them. These recently confirmed young people are being instructed to study their faith and Scripture, grow, learn, and make progress in their understanding and faith as new Christians.