

### **Simeon Wynne**

God has always been in my life as I have attended church from a young age. I feel that as I have aged, I have become more understanding of God and the Bible. After attending events like Soul Survivor, I felt as though God's presence was near and I feel as though I'm ready to fully commit myself to God.

### **Lee Hawkins**

I feel it is the right time for me to be confirmed.

### **Adrienne Wilson**

I would like to be confirmed to commit myself to God. This will allow me to understand the teachings from the Bible and lets me increase my knowledge in a church community.

### **Paivi**

My name is Paivi. I am a student at St. Mary Redcliffe and Temple. I choose to be confirmed as I want to be a follower of Christ.

### **Isaac Mehraj**

Hello, my name is Isaac Mehraj. I am 20 years old and study mechanical engineering at the University of Cardiff. I am getting confirmed because I want to publicly announce that I have chosen to be a follower of Christ.

### **Paula**

My name is Paula Viliami Konifelenisi Jr. Fifita. The reason why I want to be confirmed is that I believe in Jesus Christ our Lord who died on the cross to forgive my sins. He is my saviour and my redeemer. I want to become one of Jesus' followers and one day to be a Doctor, an Engineer, a Chef and a Rugby Star and an American Football star so that I can help spread the word of God through the work that I will be doing, How? through the actions of the words that I will be speaking and the character of who I am so that it will help enlighten the world...I also want to be responsible for looking after and taking care of my mother and my father when they grow old and also my brothers and sisters and all the poor people that will need my help...and I want to fight poverty physically, spiritually and socially.

## **'Ofa**

My name is 'Ofa he Lotu (meaning love of prayers) Ta'ufo'ou. I am going to be 14 on 14th of November. I am pure Tongan and lucky enough to come all the way from Tonga to England and be a part of this new environment God has created. However, today I am dedicating my life to God the Father and the Holy Spirit. And to witness the amazing work God had done to my life for the 14 years of my journey. Being confirmed changes my life and deepens my understanding of God the Father. For he will protect me and guide me from the bad and evil things and I know for sure that he will be there to save me. I know that he died on the cross because of my sins and I am standing here to dedicate all my life to God. Even though we have lots of challenges facing us every minute and every hour.....I believe in God that he is the only saviour of our lives giving us eternal life. I believe that the wine and bread represents the blood and body of Christ and when we receive them we are bound to be cleansed from our sins and must do good things to glorify our Lord the Father and the Holy Spirit. For example, in the future, I want to be a Doctor. Doctors help heal the sick people. As there are a lot of examples of Jesus healing a lot of evil spirits and poorly people. We can enlighten the word of God through our talent and future career which helps to save a life or a spirit. Another important message of being confirmed is that it reminds me of the ten golden commandments and one of the top commands that helps remind me and motivate my life into the Christian way is to 'Love your enemies, Love your neighbour as you love yourself'.

## **Maika**

My name is Maika Fifita. I am the eldest of my family and I think that there is a reason why God has made me to be the eldest in my family. It has been four years of blessings staying away from home (Tonga) and I have to count this opportunity of staying in England as a huge lesson for me and an amazing journey for my life. Today, I am brave enough to stand together with my fellow brothers and sisters to witness to God's amazing work in my life. And I want to take this opportunity to thank God for his mercy upon my life even though there are lots of shortfalls and wrong things I've done.....but being confirmed opens the door for me to know Christ's Love and Mercy. He is there when I'm in trouble; He is there when I'm not doing well in school. He is there when I'm alone. He is there when I'm taking responsibility for my family. He is there when I needed help, or money. He is there when I needed his Love and his Mercy. God is working mysteriously in his own way and in his own time...yes, God is good all the time.

I take this chance of being confirmed because I know that there is a call for me in the future to do God's work. Not to be a Priest or a Vicar, but through the responsibility that I will be taking sooner or later. And I want to be responsible and set a good example to my younger siblings - a role model and a life saver. As a follower of Christ I have to be well prepared to walk through the darkest valley, storms and through trials, carry my cross and work as a servant for his people...that is the only weapon to win the battle of all evils....as I am in the most difficult times of my teenage years. I am being confirmed today so that God will protect me from all evils of life. The tempting of alcohol, drugs, smoking and bad influences to youngsters.....I pray and believe that giving my whole life to God, he will guide me and protect me in the right paths and to do the right things at all times, even though I will somehow fail in some ways, but to know for sure that my life and my role is to always aim to do the right things.....living a Christian life and looking after my parents, brothers and sisters and the poor people of the world are my priorities. Thank you.

### **Sadie**

I would like to be confirmed so that I have a better understanding and relationship with God. I feel that I will have a stronger faith and trust in Him.

### **Michael**

I would like to be confirmed because when I was christened I was only 6 months old so I could not make the decision myself. Now that I am old enough I can make the decision for myself, so that means that I can make the decision to be confirmed.

### **Ali:**

Since being baptised I have a new found confidence in my Christianity. Whilst I had always been a believer, I had felt a sense in which being part of God's family was somehow unobtainable. Others in my family had been baptised and I recall observing how calm and confident they appeared in their faith and their life.

I now feel happy to have taken the plunge and made proper my commitment. It is wonderful to feel accepted by God and to understand more about my faith. I look forward to continuing this journey through confirmation and now know my faith will continue to grow from strength to strength.

**Maz:**

I would like to be confirmed to feel closer to God and also to be part of the church family.

**Roy:**

I wish to be confirmed as I attend St Cuthbert's regularly and decided I would like to commit myself to the church more and to the Christian faith.

**Stuart:**

I have always attended church and in recent years St Cuthbert's, which I now regard as my church. I wanted to be confirmed as my parents made a promise when I was young to try and bring me up in the Christian faith and now I am older I wish to personally remake that promise. I regard it not only to make a promise to Christ to try as best as I am able to try and follow his teachings and the ways of the Christian church, although sometimes I fail miserably, but also it is a public statement to say what I try to stand for and believe in. I feel like anything, in life there comes a time when one needs to stand up for what they believe in and be counted, otherwise one just drifts in life and it becomes meaningless and without purpose.

**Solomon:**

The Confirmation represents a renewal of my faith and dedication to God and Christ Jesus and to the seven Sacraments, and it represents part of my journey in faith in Christ. I will be self-fulfilled in the followership of Christ and the Church. This will also mean the completion of my pathway in the belief and service of God and Jesus Christ his only son and service to God and mankind. It will boost my spirit, dedication and belief in God and the general Christian faith. I believe that the sacrament imprints a spiritual mark upon my soul as I receive the confirmation. It represents my full initiation in the Church, and be able to have full participation in Church activities. So God help me.

**Vikki:**

I want to complete my Christian journey. I want to live my life according to the will of God and learn more about my faith.

**Kate:**

I wish to be confirmed so that I can publicly renew my baptism vows and affirm my faith, so that I can become a committed member of the church.

**Sophie:**

To me, being a Christian means being able to feel safe in my Church community and being able to turn to God for support, encouragement and forgiveness.

**Mary:**

I want to be confirmed because then I can feel part of the church and closer to God.

**Kathy:**

I would like to be a full member of the church family and affirm my commitment to lead my life as a Christian.

**Alice:**

I want to be confirmed because then it will give me a feeling of being part of the church and belonging to the congregation. It will make me feel more at one with God.

**Gemma:**

I want to be confirmed because it's like being cleansed for the second time. It is also a way to get closer to God and become more connected with him. I also want to be able to take the bread and wine, which will give me more understanding of why we do this.

**Hannah:**

To me, being a Christian means being a follower of God, trusting God and listening to God.

**Mike:**

During the many years since my baptism as a child I have considered confirmation and for many reasons didn't commit. However, now I am in place where I feel spiritually mature enough to strengthen my relationship with God and be confirmed. I believe that receiving the Holy Spirit will help me better serve God and my community. I also realise that it will be a challenging journey where I will need God's help.