

# Confirmation

Parent Packet 2021



## Confirmation:

Confirmation is one of the three Sacraments of Initiation. Along with Baptism and the Eucharist, it brings us into a more perfect union with Christ and His Church. Baptism, the first of the Sacraments of Initiation, instills the divine life of God within us, making us adopted sons and daughters of God the Father. Confirmation perfects the grace received at Baptism, fanning into flame the gift of the Holy Spirit received at Baptism. Confirmation both authorizes us and gives us the grace we need to participate in the public work of the Church. This includes not only the ability to participate more fully in the liturgy through lectoring and being a Eucharistic minister but also taking an active role in the mission of the Church to bear witness to Christ in the world.

## Our Confirmation Program:

This year our confirmation program looks different than it ever has before. Confirmation will be open to 9th -12th grade students. We will meet on Sundays from 3 – 4pm. **Sessions will be entirely virtual.**

## Confirmation Requirements:

- Candidate should be in 9th –12th grade.
- Candidate must participate in **all** Confirmation sessions.
- Candidate must attend the day retreat (March 21st) More details to follow.
- Candidate must complete 5 service hours.
- Candidate must attend 2 Life Nights.
- Candidate must complete the 3 Sponsor Check-in Forms.
- Candidate must have a Sponsor who is at least 18 and a Confirmed Catholic.
- The Sponsor Form must be signed and returned to the parish office by Feb. 7th.
- Parents must provide a **copy** of the candidate's Baptism and 1<sup>st</sup> Communion certificates.
- Parents must fill out the sacramental records form (this form will be provided later.)
- Candidate must write a letter to Fr. Frank expressing why they wish to be Confirmed (due April 25th.) This will be explained later in the program.

## Sponsors:

A Sponsor plays an important role in the process of preparing for Confirmation. They provide a living example of the faith to the candidates and are there to guide them as they begin their journey towards spiritual adulthood. Sponsors must be Confirmed and practicing Catholics in good standing with the Church and at least 18 years of age. Just as parents cannot be their child's Godparents at Baptism, **parents cannot sponsor their child for Confirmation.** God-parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, older siblings, and family friends are all excellent choices for sponsors. We normally encourage candidates to find a local sponsor who will be able to meet with them regularly. But now everyone is very use to connecting with people virtually so out of town sponsors are also acceptable.



## Confirmation names:

Names play an important role throughout Scripture and in the traditions of the Church. The tradition of choosing a Confirmation name goes back to the middle ages. A Confirmation name is the name of a saint that the candidate feels a particular connection to or would like to take as their patron. To take a saint as their patron is to ask for the special intercession of that saint and draw wisdom and strength from the lessons of their life and teaching. Candidates should be able to express why they are drawn to a particular saint if they would like to take the saint's name as their Confirmation name.



## The Retreat:

In a normal year the retreat takes place at Camp Don Bosco and runs Friday to Sunday. It is one of the best parts of our program. The Confirmation students grow deeply in their relationship with Christ. They disconnect from worldly things and are plugged into their faith. Obviously with Covid the retreat will look different. Right now our hope is that we can have a day retreat at Saint Teresa on Sunday March 21st. There will be more information about this as we get closer and see what phase we are in and how we are affected by Covid.

*Please mark your calendars for that Day. We will be doing SOMETHING, even if it's virtual.*



The work we do is nothing more than a means of transforming our love for Christ into something concrete.

# Service Hours

You are required to do **5 hours of service**. Normally it is 15, but we recognize it is more difficult to find service opportunities right now. You will need to be creative. There is certainly still plenty of need in the world.

Here's how it works:

- You can do your service anywhere. Get creative!
- Some ideas: Write letters to grandparents, or anyone who could use some encouragement. Clean up a neighbors yard. Pick up trash at a park. Babysit, petsit, housesit for free, when you would usually get paid. Call shelters, foodbanks other organizations and see how you can help.
- Write a **100 word journal** on for each act of service you do. This journal should include:
  - What you did.
  - What you learned or ways you grew as a person.
  - How your service helped bring Christ's love to the people you served.
- Journals are due on **April 28th**.
- When service comes from a place of love and humility, it changes the world.

# Confirmation Sponsor Form

Saint Teresa of Calcutta Parish  
2021

A Sponsor must be a practicing, confirmed Catholic who is at least 18 years of age. He/she may not be the candidate's mother or father. The candidate is encouraged to choose someone close by. The sponsor should be a person who is prayerful, open, dependable, loving, and is comfortable sharing his or her faith with young people. Please return this form no later than **January 31st**.

## **The Role of the Sponsor:**

The sponsor represents the support and prayer of the entire Church. He/she will be the candidate's "spiritual friend." In this program the following is asked of the sponsor:

1. Complete the 3 Sponsor check in's with Candidate throughout the program.
2. Attend the Confirmation rehearsal on **TBD**.
3. Attend the Confirmation liturgy.
4. Meet regularly throughout this year with the candidate to discuss the topics addressed in the preparation sessions.
5. Share their faith story with the candidate.
6. Spend time getting to know the candidate (meeting for lunch or dinner, or taking them out to coffee is a great way to do this).
7. Pray for and with the candidate.
8. Continue to be there for the candidate and lend spiritual support after the Confirmation liturgy is over.

Confirmation Candidate's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's relationship to Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's parish: \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor of Sponsor's parish: \_\_\_\_\_

Year, parish, and place of Sponsor's Confirmation: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Sponsor Agreement**

I agree to serve as a sponsor for this Confirmation candidate. I understand my role as described on this form. I agree to cultivate a relationship with my candidate during this year of preparation for his/her confirmation and to serve as spiritual support during this important time in his/her life, as well as in the years to come. I affirm that I have been confirmed in the Catholic Church, and the information I have provided on this form is accurate.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Sponsor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



# Confirmation

Schedule - 2021

The Confirmation program meets on Sundays from 3 – 4pm. Sessions will be entirely virtual.  
This year's program is for 9th -12th grade students.

Date	Topic
1/10	Information Meeting (parents & teens) via ZOOM @ 3pm.
1/24	Session 1: The Big Questions: Who are we, why are we here?
1/31	Sponsor Form Due
1/31	Session 2: Credo: The Existence of God
2/7	Copy of Baptismal and First Communion Certificates Due
2/7	Session 3: Epic Story: God's Plan for Salvation
2/21	Turn in first Sponsor Check-in Form
2/21	Session 4: Emanuel: God With Us
2/28	Session 5: Diving Deeper: How to Pray
3/7	Session 6: Grace Perfected: Confirmation
3/14	Turn in second Sponsor Check-in Form
3/14	Session 7: Pillars: Finding Balance
3/21	Confirmation Retreat. Time: TBD
3/28	Session 8: Outward Signs: The Sacraments
4/18	Letter to Father Due
4/18	Sacramental Registry Form Due
4/18	Session 9: Jesus' Followers: Lives of the Saints
4/25	Session 10: Truth be Told: Making Moral Decisions
5/2	Service Journal / Hours Due
5/2	Turn in third Sponsor Check-in Form
5/2	Session 11: Unwrapped: Gifts of the Holy Spirit
5/16	Session 12: The Journey Continues: Now what?
5/30	Confirmation Mass : Sunday, 5pm Mass.

**Register on the parish website**  
Contact Nicole Lehning with questions:  
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