

St. Francis of Assisi Confirmation Parent /Guardian Handbook



2023-2024

PARENT PRAYER

Dear God, Creator of the universe, You love us so much that You sent the gift of Jesus. You allowed Jesus to join the human family, and to grow in wisdom and age with a mother and father. In doing so, You made all families holy and special.

As my child is preparing to celebrate Confirmation, send us Your Spirit to help us grow in holiness. Help us to pray together and to remember one another in prayer. Help us to worship You together in the Eucharist, and to turn to You in Reconciliation. Then, we will be a living example of Your love in the world.
AMEN.



**PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION
IMPORTANT DATES**



Parent Meeting

Monday, November 6, 2023

7:00PM ~ Church

Parents and Confirmation Candidates attend together.

Confirmation Commitment Mass

November 19, 2023 - 9:30AM

Confirmandi and 1 parent or sponsor must attend.

Practices (Students Only)

Thursday, February 29, 2024 (8:30-10:30AM)

All students will meet in Leonard Hall, the Gym.

All students will be dismissed from Church.

Thursday, March 7, 2024 (3:15-5:15)

Change: Students will meet in Church

Retreat

February 24, 2024

9:00AM – 12:00PM

Meet in Gym...Sponsor and Child OR Parent and Child

Saturday, March 9, 2024 ~ Confirmation ~ 10:30AM Mass

Confirmandi and their sponsors should meet

in Leonard Hall, the gym, *by 10:00AM.*

What is a Sacrament?

Out of love, Jesus died on the cross to save us. Out of love, he instituted the Church to save us. Through the Church, he gave us seven concrete ways to help us share in his life; these are the Sacraments of the Catholic Church. (Baptism, Reconciliation, Confirmation, Eucharist, Holy Orders, Marriage, and Anointing of the Sick)

The current Catechism of the Catholic Church defines Sacraments in the following way:

CCC#1131

The sacraments are efficacious signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, by which divine life is dispensed to us. The visible rites by which the sacraments are celebrated signify and make present the graces proper to each sacrament. They bear fruit in those who receive them with the required dispositions.

What is Grace?

All sacraments give grace. Grace is both God's life and God's help. See grace as life in Christ. Thus, receiving grace means growing in your relationship with Jesus Christ and his Family, the Church.

What is the Sacrament of Confirmation?

(CCC#1212)

Confirmation is one of the sacraments of initiation. Confirmation is linked to the Sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist. Together, all three are called the Sacraments of Initiation. In the words of the Catechism, these sacraments "lay the foundations of every Christian life."

(CCC#1285-1321)

Confirmation is the completion of Baptism and the sacrament by which the baptized faithful are anointed with chrism and sealed with the Spirit by the laying on of hands. The grace received is the fullness of the Holy Spirit and his gifts.

(CCC#1316)

Confirmation perfects Baptismal graces; it is the sacrament which gives the Holy Spirit in order to:

- Root us more deeply in the divine filiation (sons and daughters)
- Incorporate us more firmly into Christ
- Strengthen our bond with the Church
- Associate us more closely with her mission
- Help us bear witness to the Christian faith in words accompanied by deeds
- Receive an increase of the gifts of the Holy Spirit

Confirmation gives us a special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the Faith by word and action as true witnesses to Christ, to confess the name of Christ boldly, and never to be ashamed of the Cross.

(CCC#1317)

Confirmation, like Baptism, imprints a spiritual mark or indelible character on the Christian's soul; for this reason one can receive this sacrament only once in one's life.

(CCC#1319)

A candidate for Confirmation who has attained the age of reason must:

- Profess the faith
- Be in the state of grace
- Have the intention of receiving the sacrament
- Be prepared to assume the role of disciple and witness to Christ, both within the ecclesial community and in temporal affairs.

Who is the Holy Spirit?

(CCC#683-747)

The Holy Spirit is a Person, the Third Person of the Trinity (CCC685). The Holy Spirit is one with the Father and the Son. He is the Spirit of Truth who reveals Christ to us (CCC687). We first receive the Holy Spirit in Baptism. We can pray to the Holy Spirit and draw strength from him. A relationship with the Holy Spirit is necessary for all believers because it is only through the Holy Spirit that we receive faith (CCC683). The Holy Spirit is "the interior Master of Christian prayer" because it is the Spirit that acts in us every time we pray (CCC2672). We need the Holy Spirit to live a Christian life of faith.

Requirements of Candidates

- ❖ Must be baptized
- ❖ Must attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days
- ❖ Must have completed at least two years of faith formation in addition to the current year of preparation
- ❖ Must have satisfactory attendance record
- ❖ Must have a sufficient knowledge of the faith
- ❖ Must have completed three Works of mercy and the Works of Mercy Journals
- ❖ Must attend a sacramental retreat
- ❖ Must request to receive the sacrament
- ❖ Must have a sufficient understanding of what Confirmation means

Requirements of Parents/Guardians

- ❖ Must be registered in the parish
- ❖ Must support the teachings of the Church
- ❖ Must attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days
- ❖ Must be actively involved in the preparation of their child
- ❖ Must attend a Parent Sacrament Meeting

Requirements of a Sponsor

- ❖ May not be the candidate's parents.
Godparents are strongly recommended.
- ❖ Must have been confirmed themselves.
- ❖ Must be a practicing Catholic (Roman or Eastern Rite).
- ❖ Must be at least 16 years of age.
- ❖ May be male or female, regardless of the gender of the candidate.
- ❖ Must secure a certificate of eligibility with a church seal stating they are recommended by their pastor as a candidate to be a sponsor from the sponsor's home parish. (Sponsors who are registered parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi do not need to come to the rectory to obtain a Letter of Eligibility. Once we receive the application for Confirmation, we will determine eligibility.) If a proxy is necessary, this person must fulfill all the same requirements as for the sponsor, including a letter of eligibility.



Parents' Roles for the Preparation of Their Child for the Sacrament of Confirmation

1. **Use prayer and discussion** with your child to help him/her **discern the choice of sponsor** for Confirmation. Read the “Qualifications and Roles of the Sponsor found in this handbook. Once chosen, have the sponsor acquire a **“Letter of Eligibility”** from his/her parish. (*Sponsors who are members of St. Francis of Assisi Parish **DO NOT NEED TO REQUEST a Letter of Eligibility from the parish rectory.***) Eligibility will be verified by the Rectory Office once the application has been received. Fill in the **“Application for the Reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation”** with the sponsor’s information and (if needed) attach the sponsor’s Letter of Eligibility to this application. ***This is due January 9, 2024.***
2. Once your child has chosen his/her sponsor, **schedule time for your child to meet with the sponsor** to allow the sponsor to be a “companion and guide” who should give spiritual help and encouragement to your child as he/she prepares for the Sacrament of Confirmation. “The sponsor’s function is to take care that the person confirmed behaves as a true witness of Christ and faithfully fulfills the duties inherent in the sacrament.” (Canon 892)
3. **Help** your child become acquainted with the **lives of many saints** before he/she chooses a Confirmation name (if he/she is choosing a new name). Names must be of a saint. In order to heighten the association between Baptism and Confirmation, the church recommends that candidates retain their baptismal names. Afterwards, guide your child in completing the **Saint’s Name Project**. ***This is due January 23, 2024.***
4. Candidates at St. Francis of Assisi Parish wear red robes with white trim. You may borrow a robe from a former student. If a robe is needed, **measure** your child for his/her robe. Fill out the order form with this information and include the Materials Fee (\$75.00, checks written out to St. Francis of Assisi) with this robe order. If a robe is not needed, the materials fee is \$55.00. ***Confirmation Robe Order/Materials fee form due January 30, 2024 whether or not your child needs a robe.***
5. **Assist** your child in writing a letter to Most Reverend Michael J. Fitzgerald requesting the Sacrament. ***Letter Requesting the Sacrament due February 6, 2024.***
6. **Encourage** your child to anticipate the Confirmation Day of Reflection (Retreat Day.) Pray for him/her the whole day while they are attending.

7. **Assist** your child in performing **3 Acts of Mercy** and journal about their experiences. In doing so, help your child understand that these Acts of Mercy are not extra-curricular activities used to prepare for Confirmation, but a way of living out their faith. Confirmation preparation is a crucial time to help young people discern how they might put their gifts to use as a life-long process in serving their parish, their community, and the world around them. ***Three (3) Acts of Mercy Journals are due February 27, 2023.***
8. **Guide** your child to a better understanding of the **Gifts of the Holy Spirit** by completing the “Seven Weeks with the Gifts of the Holy Spirit” paper with your child. This does not need to be handed in but still is a very important step of preparation. ***Gifts of the Holy Spirit: Use the booklet ~ Catholic Parent Know How/Preparing Your Child/Confirmation as a resource.***
9. As your child’s catechist teaches each **new chapter** in the Confirmation textbook, ***follow-up the lesson*** by discussing the content with him/her.
10. As a family or as sponsor and candidate, ***complete*** the **Confirmation Banner** that will be used to decorate the church environment for the Confirmation liturgy. The material for the banner will be sent home at a later date. ***Confirmation Banners due on or before March 3, 2024.***
11. **Facilitate** the process of your **child’s memorization** of the questions and answers. These questions will be asked by the Bishop during the Confirmation liturgy. Assessments will be given to determine your child’s knowledge of the faith concerning this Sacrament. ***Assist*** your child in memorizing ***the Prayer to the Holy Spirit.***
12. **Pray with and for your child frequently.** Ask the Holy Spirit to open your child’s mind and heart to God’s loving plan for him/her. **Participate in the Sunday celebration of Eucharist on a weekly basis as a family.** Sharing the Body and Blood of Christ helps us to continue his work in the world. Your example is a powerful witness for your child.
13. Confirmation is a Sacrament of Initiation and is therefore a beginning, and not an end to religious education. If your child attends public school it is expected that parents make sure their child completes his/her 7th grade level of faith formation.



ROLE OF THE SPONSOR

The sponsor's role is to help the candidate understand and appreciate the Sacrament of Confirmation and have the right intentions for receiving it.

A second responsibility as a sponsor is to help the candidate prepare for Confirmation. A sponsor should encourage his/her candidate for the sacrament to pray, to participate in the Eucharist and the other sacraments, and to become actively involved in his/her parish community. It is the sponsor's job, along with the parents, priests and teachers to instruct the candidates in their faith. A sponsor's role, and that of others in the Christian community, is important for the candidate's growth and development. There are questions about the faith that the candidates will be more at ease discussing with priests and teachers than with parents and sponsors. However, the opposite is also true. Candidates will prefer discussing some aspects of their faith only with parents and sponsors. Sponsors may have to use the expression "I don't know. I'll try to find the answer for you." Being a sponsor becomes an opportunity to learn more about your Catholic faith.

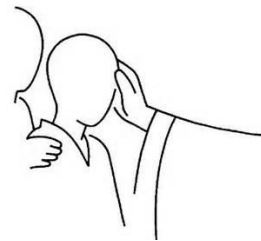
A third responsibility, together with the parents, is to present the candidate for Confirmation. It is the sponsor's duty to continue to assist the confirmed person in fulfilling the obligations of the sacrament. Sponsors are to encourage the candidate's growth in the faith and his or her involvement in their parish community. It is important that the sponsor be a friend whom the candidate can trust, one that the candidate can work with, and one who can help the candidate be a good Christian. Sponsors will find this time an enriching experience for the candidate and for themselves, not just for the day itself, but for many years to come.

We thank all sponsors for the time, love and encouragement they will give and continue to give to their candidates. May God bless them all and grace their lives with His Spirit.

DISCERNING A SPONSOR

You usually join a club or an organization through a member who introduces you to it. You join the Church more fully with the aid of your parents and a sponsor. With your parents, list the names of possible sponsors. Consider each one carefully, using these questions as a guide.

- Does he/she meet the requirements?
- Does he/she live close enough to meet with me?
- Is he/she free to spend time with me?
- Does he/she live the Catholic way of life, of worship, and of service?
- Is he/she mature enough to guide and challenge me to be a real Catholic Christian?
- Can I relate well to him/her so that we can pray and discuss together?



DUE DATES

January 9, 2024

Application for the Celebration of the Sacrament and the Sponsor's Letter of Eligibility

January 23, 2024

Saint's Name Project

January 30, 2024

Materials Fee and Robe Order Form even if you do not need one!

February 6, 2024

Letter to the Bishop

February 27, 2024

Works of Mercy Journals

March 3, 2024

Confirmation Banners



CONFIRMATION QUESTIONS FOR STUDY AND MEMORIZATION*

1. What is a Sacrament?*

A Sacrament is a visible and effective sign instituted by Christ through which we share in God's grace.

2. What is grace?

Grace is God's very life in us.

3. What does grace do for us?

- Grace helps us grow in faith, hope and love.
- Grace helps us to live fully the gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- Grace helps us grow in goodness and Christian morality.

4. Do the sacraments always give grace?

Yes, if we receive them properly.

5. What is meant by "receiving the sacraments properly?"

We receive the sacraments in the state of grace with no mortal sins on our soul.

6. What is mortal sin?

Mortal sin is sin that breaks our relationship with God and others.

Three things must be present to make a sin mortal:

1. It must be a serious matter.
2. The person must know how serious the sin is
3. The person chooses to do it anyway

7. How many Sacraments are there?*

There are 7 Sacraments.

8. Name the Sacraments of Initiation.*

The Sacraments of Initiation are Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.

9. Why are Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist called Sacraments of Initiation?

These sacraments celebrate Christian initiation. A person becomes a member of the Church, *initiated* into the Church.

10. Name the Sacraments of Healing.*

The Sacraments of Healing are Penance and the Anointing of the Sick.

11. Name the Sacraments at the Service of Communion.*

The Sacraments at the Service of Communion are: Holy Orders and Matrimony.

12. What happens in each Sacrament of Initiation to help us live a Christian life?*

- In Baptism, Christians are born anew into Christ Jesus.
- In Confirmation, Christians are strengthened with the Holy Spirit.
- In Holy Eucharist, Christians are nourished with the divine food of eternal life.

13. What is the Sacrament of Baptism?

- It is the door to all the other Sacraments.

14. What are the effects of Baptism?

- In Baptism we are *freed from Original Sin*.
- In Baptism we are *reborn as a child of God*.
- In Baptism we *become a member of Christ's Body, the Church*.
- In Baptism we *are given the promise of Eternal Life*.



15. How does the Church carry out the Sacrament of Baptism?

The sacred minister (priest or deacon) immerses the candidate in water three times OR pours water over the head of the candidate three times while saying, “Name, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”

16. Can anyone else baptize besides a priest or deacon?

In case of emergency, anyone, even a non-baptized person, baptizes in the same way and they must do so with the intention of the Church.

17. How many times can a person be baptized?

A person can only be baptized once because Baptism seals the new Christian with the indelible (cannot be removed) Spiritual mark (character) of belonging to Christ. No one can ever erase this indelible mark.

18. What is the Sacrament of Confirmation?*

The Sacrament of Confirmation is the sacrament that completes the grace of Baptism. Confirmation is the sacrament in which the Holy Spirit comes to us in a special way to enable us to witness to Jesus Christ by both word and deed.

19. What does “completes the grace of Baptism” mean?*

- It means that a person is more perfectly bound to the Church .
- It means that a person receives a special strength of God, the Holy Spirit.
- It means that, with Confirmation, a person becomes a true witness to Christ.

20. Who is the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is God, the Third Person of the Blessed Trinity.

21. Is this the first time we will be receiving the Holy Spirit?

No, we received the Holy Spirit at our Baptism.

22. When did the Holy Spirit come down upon the Apostles?

The Holy Spirit came down upon the Apostles in the form of tongues of fire on Pentecost, 50 days after Easter. Pentecost is the birthday of the Church.

23. Describe the First Pentecost. Read Acts 2, Chapter 2.

24. How do we show that we are true witnesses to Christ?

We show that we are true witnesses to Christ by spreading and defending the faith by word and deed.

25. Who is to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation?

Every baptized person should receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

26. How does a person prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation?

A person prepares for the Sacrament of Confirmation through:

- prayer
- study
- a new commitment to the promises made at Baptism.
- living in the state of grace, living without serious sin
- receiving the Sacrament of Penance
- being guided by their chosen sponsor who is often a godparent at Baptism

27. Who is the original minister of Confirmation?

The **Bishop** is the original minister of Confirmation. However, at times, a priest may be delegated by the Bishop to administer the Sacrament.

28. How is Confirmation carried out during Mass?

- The candidates are presented to the Bishop.
- The Word of God is explained for a deeper understanding of the Sacrament of Confirmation (Bishop's Homily).
- The candidates renew their Baptismal Promises.
- The Bishop lays hands on the candidates calling upon God, the Holy Spirit.
- The candidate is anointed with Sacred Chrism.

29. What is Sacred Chrism?

Sacred Chrism is a mixture of olive oil and balsam consecrated by the Bishop at the Chrism Mass on Holy Thursday.

30. How does the Bishop confirm?

- The Bishop anoints the forehead of the baptized candidate with Sacred Chrism.
- He does this with the laying on of the hand and the words, “name, be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.
- The candidate responds, “Amen.”
- The Bishop says, “Peace be with you.”
- The newly confirmed responds, “And with your spirit.”

31. What is the special strength of God the Holy Spirit?*

There is a unique “outpouring of God, the Holy Spirit,” the Third Person of the Blessed Trinity. This is the same Holy Spirit that God, the Father, with God the Son, poured upon the Apostles on Pentecost.

32. What are the real effects of the “outpouring of the Holy Spirit.”*

- There is an increase and deepening of all the effects of Baptism, especially the grace of Baptism
- We become more profoundly a child of God the Father, and more firmly united to God, the Son.
- The gifts of the Holy Spirit are more fully given.
- We are more united with the Church and all its members.
- We receive a new strength to witness to Christ and his Church and to never be ashamed of the Cross.

33. What are the Gifts of the Holy Spirit?*

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit are:

Wisdom,	Fortitude
Understanding	Knowledge
Counsel	Piety
Fear of the Lord	



34. What are the Fruits of the Holy Spirit?

The Fruits of the Holy Spirit are:

Charity	Kindness	Faithfulness
Joy	Goodness	Modesty
Peace	Generosity	Self-Control
Patience	Gentleness	Chastity



35. Does the Sacrament of Confirmation place an indelible mark on our soul?

Yes, like Baptism, Confirmation seals the Christian with the indelible (cannot be removed) spiritual mark (character).

36. How do we share in the “common priesthood of Jesus”?

We offer ourselves and all things with Jesus to the Father, especially in the celebration of the Mass.

37. How do the Sacraments of Initiation help us to share in the “common priesthood of Jesus”?

- In Baptism we receive a share in the “common priesthood of Jesus.”
- In Confirmation, we are more completely united to this common priesthood.
- In Holy Eucharist, we join with other members of the Church celebrating Christ’s own Sacrifice and receiving his Body and Blood from this Sacrifice actually taking place.

38. What is the Sacrament of the Eucharist?

The Sacrament of the Eucharist is the Sacrifice of the Body and Blood of Jesus on the Cross that takes place on the altar at every Mass. It is the divine event of the very death and resurrection of Christ that happened in history and in every age for the redemption and salvation of all.

39. How do we renew the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation?

Even though the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation are received only once, their effects in our Christian lives are renewed every Sunday when we participate at Mass and receive Holy Communion. This is part of our obligation and duty to go to Mass every Sunday.



***Questions and Answers which must be memorized.**

REVIEWING THE BAPTISMAL PROMISES WITH YOUR CHILD

Assist your child in understanding the meaning of a promise and how to keep a promise. Then discuss each of the baptismal promises below that they will renew at Confirmation.

Rite of Confirmation

Renewal of Baptismal Promises

(Candidates only stand. Assembly is seated.)



Bishop: Do you reject Satan and all his works and all his empty promises?

All: I do.

Bishop: Do you believe in God the Father the Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?

All: I do.

Bishop: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died and was buried, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?

All: I do.

Bishop: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of Life, who came upon the apostles at Pentecost and today, is given to you sacramentally in Confirmation?

All: I do.

Bishop: Do you believe in the Holy Catholic Church, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting?

All: I do.

Bishop: This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church. We are proud to profess it in Christ Jesus our Lord.

All: Amen.

DRESS CODE



Boys

White shirt, a tie and dress pants
Dress shoes with socks should be worn. No earrings.

Girls

Dress or skirt outfit that does not go below the Confirmation robe; no make up should be worn. No flip-flops or opened-backed sandals No real or artificial flowers in the hair which may prevent the bishop from easily imposing his hand as he anoints them with Sacred Chrism.

It is important for all candidates to arrange a hairstyle that keeps the hair off the forehead for the anointing with chrism by the bishop.

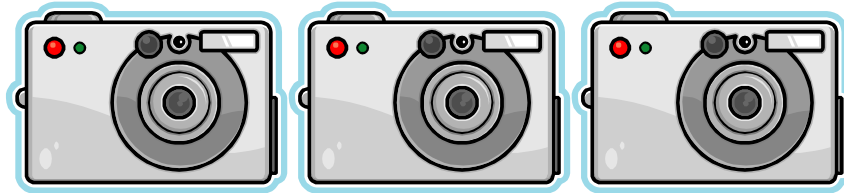
PICTURE TAKING

We have acquired a professional photographer who is going to take *a picture of each child as he/she is being confirmed by the Bishop.*

This picture will be available for you as part of the Confirmation fee. Details will be sent to you as Confirmation draws near.

After Mass, the Bishop may be willing to pose for photographs with the newly-confirmed, their sponsors and family members who would like this opportunity. If not, the picture will be taken as your child is confirmed. The fee for this picture is included in the Materials fee.

Please be reminded that NO picture taking is permitted during the Confirmation liturgy. You may take pictures during the entrance and recessional processions.



ARRIVAL AND SEATING

On Confirmation Day, both the sponsor and the Confirmandi should arrive to Leonard Hall, the gym, no later than 10:00AM. In Leonard Hall there will be directions given and a short practice with the sponsors. We will proceed over to Church at 10:15AM.

Parents can proceed over to Church. There will *not* be any reserved seating for parents. Due to the large number of Confirmandi and Sponsors, seating will be limited for other family members.

Directives from the Archdiocese have stated that the Confirmandi must be seated together in the pews in the front of Church, with their sponsors seated behind them.

Rite of Confirmation Within Mass

Introductory Rites

Liturgy of the Word

Sacrament of Confirmation

- Presentation of the Candidates by the Pastor (Candidates stand/Congregation is seated)
- Homily by the Bishop
- Renewal of Baptismal Promises (Bishop leads the candidates)
- Laying on of Hands (All stand)
- Anointing with Chrism

Candidates come forward two by two with their sponsors and stand as near to the Bishop as possible.

The sponsor hands the candidate's name card to the deacon who will announce the Confirmation name to the Bishop while showing the card to the Bishop. The sponsor stands behind the candidate with his/her right hand on the candidate's shoulder.

The Bishop anoints the candidate with chrism while he makes the Sign of the Cross on his/her forehead while saying the candidate's Confirmation name and:

Bishop: "Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit."

Candidate: "Amen."

Bishop: "Peace be with you."

Candidate: "And with your spirit."

The Bishop washes his hands after anointing.

Universal Prayer (General Intercessions)

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Concluding Rite



THE SEVEN GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

WISDOM is the supernatural gift of Holy Spirit which enables us to penetrate the meaning of the truths of our Catholic Faith. (Helps us to know right from wrong)

UNDERSTANDING is the supernatural gift which helps us put the thought of God first in our lives, and then to judge persons and situations accordingly. (Helps us to choose the right way to do something.)

RIGHT JUDGEMENT or COUNSEL is the supernatural gift which helps us to act as God would want us to act, and to help others to do the same. (Helps us to be willing to accept and to give advice.)

KNOWLEDGE is the supernatural gift which helps us to use the works of creation according to God's plan and for His glory. (Helps us to determine what is true and what is false so we can make proper decisions.)

COURAGE or FORTITUDE is the supernatural gift which leads us to undertake challenging tasks in the service of God, and to suffer patiently the difficulties we meet in that service. (Helps us to stick to what is right even when no one else agrees.)

REVERENCE or PIETY is the supernatural gift which urges us to an affectionate and child-like worship of our heavenly Father. (Helps us to stick to what is right even when no one else agrees.)

WONDER AND AWE/FEAR OF THE LORD is the supernatural gift which enables us to respect and to serve God as a loved child who does not want to offend his divine parent. (Helps us to appreciate the beautiful world God has given us, and to care for it properly.)



SAINT'S NAME PROJECT

Due : January 23, 2024

REQUIREMENTS:

A. Cover

1. Saint's name neatly lettered
2. A picture of your saint
 - a) hand drawn
 - b) xeroxed copy that is colored
 - c) a holy card
 - d) computer drawing



B. Main Report

1. *Follow outline found on next page.*
2. Research your saint's life for information.
3. Do not copy directly from your source.
4. For reasons "why I chose this saint for Confirmation. . ." be specific. For example:

"I have chosen this saint because I would like to be able to accept burdens that God sends to me without complaining, just like Saint _____ did."

OR

". . .because I would like to have the same special devotion to the Blessed Sacrament that Saint _____ did."

OR

". . .because I would like to help the poor people like Saint _____ did."

5. *Main report must be neatly typed.*

C. BACK COVER

1. Leave it blank except for your name and class: SFA School, SFA PREP, SFA Family Catechesis, Camp Caritas

Outline – Saint’s Name Project

Picture of my saint on the cover

Name of Saint

In paragraph form:

- Place where Saint lived or worked
- Patron Saint of
- Summary of Saint’s life (should be at least 15 sentences in length)
- What I like about my saint and some of the virtues that I could imitate
- Reasons why I chose this saint for my Confirmation name
- My own prayer to this saint



APPROVED SAINT WEBSITES

<http://www.catholic.org/saints/>

<http://www.americancatholic.org/Features/Saints/patrons.asp>

<http://www.catholic-forum.com/saints/indexsnt.htm>

<http://www.cin.org/saints.html>

<http://www.ichrusa.com/saintsalive/contents.htm>

<http://www.catholic-pages.com/saints>

<http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/index.html>

<http://saints.sqpn.com>

<http://www.ewtn.com/saintsHoly>



LETTER TO THE BISHOP REQUESTING THE SACRAMENT

Write a letter to Bishop Deliman requesting the Sacrament of Confirmation. You must compose it on the computer and print it out. Follow the directions given below. Write a rough draft first and have someone edit your work before you do your final copy.

Please hand it in unfolded.

Due date is February 6, 2024.

1. Type your return address and date as you would any friendly letter.
2. Begin your greeting: Dear Most Reverend Michael J. Fitzgerald
3. **Body of the letter:**

Paragraph 1: Introduce yourself. Tell something about your family, your background.

Paragraph 2: Request the sacrament. Give several reasons why you would like to be confirmed.

Paragraph 3: Explain how you have prepared for the sacrament. It is important that you tell about specific parts of your preparation: your prayer life, your celebration of the other sacraments, your retreat, and your service to others.

Paragraph 4: Tell how you will continue to carry out your life of service to God and others through the power of the Spirit. Tell how you plan to make your confirmation in the faith real and alive in the future.

4. **Complimentary Close:** Use Sincerely, or Sincerely yours, and sign your full name.

NEATNESS AND CORRECT SPELLING ARE IMPORTANT
AS THESE WILL BE SENT AS IS TO THE BISHOP.

Works of Mercy

Some suggestions:

1. Regularly send a greeting card to a homebound parishioner. Call the rectory for a name and address.
2. Find out what our parish societies are doing (St. Vincent DePaul , Francis Fryers, Parish Advent Giving Tree.) Join one of their projects.
3. Help at a hunger center. (Call Catholic Social Services in Springfield or Chester.)
4. **Weekly (not just once!)**, straighten the hymnals and Mass booklets in the pews after a Mass.
5. Help a mission organization of your choice.
6. Offer your service to an elderly neighbor to do the following **on a regular basis**: mowing, shoveling snow, and raking leaves, weeding or planting.
7. Offer to baby-sit free of charge for children of parents who need to attend parish meetings or Mass.
8. Teach prayers to a young child or read Bible stories to them.
9. Write a letter or send a sympathy card to someone who has recently lost a loved one.
10. Make meals for Aid for Friends. Bring them to the rectory basement freezer.
11. Think of your own service opportunity based on one of the Corporal or Spiritual Works of Mercy.

Perform 3 Acts of Mercy as part of your preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

They MUST be an example of one of the Corporal or Spiritual Works of Mercy. As you do something, fill in your Works of Mercy journal paper. Remember, service should be a part of our Christian lives, always on-going; not just something we do to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Works of Mercy Journals can be found in your parent folder. Due date: **February 27, 2024.**

Corporal Works of Mercy

1. To feed the hungry
2. To give drink to the thirsty.
3. To clothe the naked.
4. To visit the imprisoned.
5. To shelter the homeless.
6. To visit the sick.
7. To bury the dead.



Spiritual Works of Mercy

1. To admonish the sinner.
2. To instruct the ignorant.
3. To counsel the doubtful.
4. To comfort the sorrowing.
5. To bears wrong patiently.
6. To forgive all injuries.
7. To pray for the living and the dead.





Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.

And kindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.

And you will renew the face of the earth.

Lord, by the light of the Holy Spirit

You have taught the hearts of your faithful.

In the same Spirit help us to choose what is right

And always rejoice in your consolation.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen