



Information Packet

2018-2019

Coordinator's Letter

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the St. Joseph's Confirmation Program. I am excited to journey with your family and teen towards the Sacrament of Confirmation. In this packet you will find all the information that your teen needs to adequately complete the Archdiocese requirements for Confirmation. This is truly a special time of spiritual formation for your teen; one that I hope will strengthen your entire family.

As we progress through the Confirmation program, I ask you to be especially faithful in these areas:

- Attend Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation.
- Support a parish ministry with the gift of your time.
- Give time as a family to help those less fortunate.

In addition to worshipping, your family has the opportunity to give your time, talent and treasure to the many ministries this faith community has to offer. Opportunities to participate are not restricted to Youth Group or Confirmation, but include all parish ministries such as Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, RE volunteers, and RCIA sponsors, to name but a few. It is your example that will have the greatest impact on the faith formation of your child.

Blessings,

Sherry Huntwork, DRE

Confirmation Calendar

April 25, 2018	Informational Meeting
August 29, 2018	Confirmation Class (6:00-8:00)-Session 1
October 17, 2018	Confirmation Class (6:00-8:00)--Session 2
October 21 or 28, 2018	Rite of Welcome (9:00 AM)--Mass (Confirmation Covenant due)
November 28, 2018	Confirmation Class (6:00-8:00)--Session 3
January 30, 2019	Confirmation Class (6:00-8:00)--Session 4
March 16, 23, or 30, 2019	Group Service Project at Hillcrest
March 27, 2019	Confirmation Class (6:00-8:00)--Session 5
May 1, 2019	Confirmation Class (6:00-8:00)--Session 6
June 17-21	Retreat Days (1:00-4:00)-Sessions 7-12 (Letter to Father, Saint Paper, & service evaluations due)
August 11, 18, or 25, 2019	Confirmation 1:00 (Will be one of these Sundays. Archbishop will let us know the date in February)

Confirmation Guidelines

- 1) We require four Service Projects or Works of Mercy. For more information see "Christian Service," sheet.
- 2) You are required to go to Mass. We want you to start in the habit of attending Mass every week because Confirmation is not the end of your Religious Education it is only the beginning.
- 3) You will need to find a sponsor. This sponsor needs to be a non-parent, confirmed, practicing Catholic, in good standing with the Church, that is at least 16 years of age, and lives close enough to be here for Confirmation.
- 4) You are required to attend confirmation classes, service project day, Rite of Welcome, and Retreat.
- 5) You are required to attend RE if in 8th grade, or attend Youth Group if in 9th grade.
- 6) You need to choose a Saint that you wish to research and write a paper using the guidelines given you on the page labeled "Saint Name."
- 7) You will need to write a letter to Father telling him why you wish to be confirmed and why you feel you are ready to be confirmed. You also need to express to him that you know and understand the required class work as listed on the "Letter to Father" sheet. We have also provided "My Letter to the Bishop" as a guide to help write your letter.
- 8) You will need to complete the Confirmation Information sheet and provide us with a copy of your Baptismal Certificate if we do not already have one on file.
- 9) You will need to sign the "Confirmation Covenant" sheet and turn it in to us at the Rite of Welcome, before you will be able to continue with Confirmation.
- 10) You will need to have your sponsor read and fill out the "Sponsor Information" form.

Christian Service

Confirmation candidates must complete 4 Christian service projects between January 2018 and June 2019. Your four, completed "Service Evaluation" sheets are due when we have the Retreat June 17-21, 2019. Please make sure that you have your name and date on every sheet and that you obtained the signature from the supervising adult.

As a guideline to help you pick service projects, we have listed below some of the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.

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| 1. Feed the hungry. | 1. Instruct the ignorant. |
| 2. Give drink to the thirsty. | 2. Comfort the sorrowing. |
| 3. Clothe the naked. | 3. Counsel the doubtful. |
| 4. Shelter the homeless. | |
| 5. Visit the sick. | |
| 6. Visit the imprisoned. | |

We will be doing 1 service project as a group in March of 2019. Try to choose 3 other service projects that will fulfill different Works of Mercy, and try to have at least one of your projects be a family project. Service projects can be part of your Religious Education class or Youth Group as long as you participate in the community service activity.

Listed below are a few examples of Christian service projects, these are just ideas to help you get started, tune into the community and answer the call.

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| Assist with food and clothing drives. | Help at an animal shelter. |
| Work at soup suppers or fish fries. | Coordinate a recycling drive. |
| Make treat bags for children in shelters. | Help with Totus Tuus or RE. |
| Serve food at a homeless shelter. | Earn money to donate to charity. |
| Help distribute clothing at a shelter. | Visit a sick person. |
| Adopt a park or playground and keep it clean. | |
| Make treat bags for children in shelters. | |
| Collect and donate magazines to hospital waiting rooms. | |
| Adopt an elderly person to visit and help around their home. | |

Saint Name

Your parents were the ones who chose your name at your birth and then stated it for the Christian community at your baptism, and now that you are about to be confirmed, it is time for you to choose a name that will reflect your new role as a mature, adult Christian.

You may choose your own first name as a way of affirming your baptismal Christian identity or you may choose a name of a Christian you admire, living or dead, but the only limitation is that it must be a Saint's name.

You need to look up information on the Saint whose name you choose and give a brief biography of the Saint and tell us why you choose this person, what qualities or virtues of this Saint would you like to imitate, and tell us how this person's faith impressed you?

The Saint paper is due June 17-21, 2019 and needs to be one page typed.

Please include a small picture of **you with the paper for display purposes.

A list of useful websites for your research is provided in this packet.

The Saint Name paper is due June 17-21, 2019

Saint Websites

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

Go to saint index and look up alphabetically.

2. <http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/>

This is a catholic encyclopedia site, so you will need to look up alphabetically.

3. <http://www.catholic-saints.info/>

The A- Z of the names of Roman Catholic Saints (split into Catholic Saints A - G, H - L, M - R and S - Z) provides access to a page dedicated to the Catholic Saint about which you wish to obtain history, facts, and information. The history, facts and information includes the life of the Saint, the death, their Feast Day and how each of the Patron Saints are depicted, or represented in Christian Art.

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

This site routed me to other sites were I was even able to get a sheet of other sites that had the canonization, prayers and many other sites that pertained to Elizabeth Seton and her life.

5. <http://www.americancatholic.org/Features/Saints/byname.aspx>

This site has an alphabetical index where you select the saint you wish to research. When you select your saint, you get a brief description of the person and their life, but it also gives you links to other articles about your saint.

Letter to Father

In your letter, you need to tell Father why you feel you are ready for Confirmation and express to him that you know and understand the required class work. Use the "Letter to the Bishop" that is included in this packer to help organize your thoughts.

Prayers, memorization, and concepts from RE and Confirmation class:

Sign of the Cross

Our Father

Act of Contrition

Glory Be

Hail Mary

Beatitudes

Apostle's Creed

Seven Sacraments

10 Commandments

Rosary

Mysteries of the Rosary

Parts of the Mass

Corporal Works of Mercy

Spiritual Works of Mercy

7 Gifts of the Holy Spirit

4 Virtues of a Moral Life

5 Precepts of the Catholic Church

**Please make two copies, one for Father and one for Sherry.

The Letter to Father is due June 17-21, 2019