



Candidate's Name _____

Homeroom Teacher or Catechist: _____

Date Due: April 22, 2024

CONVERSATION PACKET

for the

Confirmation Candidate

with his/her

Sponsor

The Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit
will help you live out your life as a Catholic Christian. They are:

Wisdom, Understanding, Right Judgment, Knowledge
Courage, Reverence, Wonder and Awe

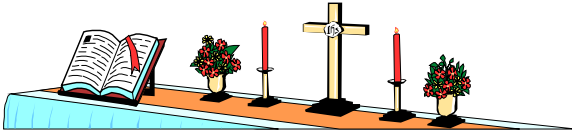
(Remember them by: WURK CReW)

*Come Holy Spirit; fill the hearts of your faithful,
And kindle in them the fire of your love.*

The Holy Spirit is given freely to those who ask. So by asking for and receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation, you are asking for the Holy Spirit and all the gifts of the Spirit. That's a gift worth asking for!

**This packet is due by Monday, April 22, 2024 to
your St. Michael School Teacher or RE Catechist.**

Sponsors and Candidates should meet about once a month and use the attached topics to guide your conversation. **The “answers” do NOT have to be written out**, but the sponsor should write a comment at the conclusion of each topic. Then sign and date where indicated. When all the topics have been discussed, turn the entire packet into your Religious Education Shepherd leader or St. Michael School Homeroom teacher. We hope you enjoy exploring your Catholic faith together!



FAITH

1. James 2:17 says, “...faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead.” Do you know of anyone whose actions show you that they have a strong faith? Give examples of some of the actions you have noticed.
2. How does having faith in God add meaning to your life? Or help you in the everyday situations you face?
3. How has your Catholic faith caused you to challenge the visions and values of your peers? Of society?
4. In what ways have you experienced the presence of the Holy Spirit in your life? Give examples.
5. What aspects of our Catholic faith do you want to understand better? For example, why do Catholics believe _____? How can you find the answer?

Summary

Confirmation means that you are promising to try to live a life of faith. You are promising to stand up for God. You are promising to live the Beatitudes. This means that you may have to go against some of the values preached by others around you. Are you willing to make this commitment?

Sponsor’s Comments after your “Faith” conversation:

Sponsor’s Signature

Date



RESPECT FOR LIFE

1. Newspapers and magazines are filled with stories of senseless killing. How do you think God feels when he sees his children acting like that? What are ways that we “kill” or hurt people other than physically?
2. In contrast, what effect does showing love and concern have on another person? Can you think of a time when your love or concern for someone else made a difference?
3. Talk about a story or stories in Scripture when Jesus sought out the lonely, the poor, or the unwanted and showed friendship to them.
4. List ways in which you can make a difference in the lives of your peers who are lonely, poor, or unpopular. (And then DO it!)
5. Killing a person physically, emotionally, and intellectually is wrong because it denies the act of creation we are all expected to participate in. God has bestowed life in each of us. He expects us to nurture that life and in that way to help Him in the creative process. Our call is to respect life and to treat life as sacred. In light of this, why do you think the Church tries to:
 - a. Offer women other choices besides abortion?
 - b. Support the care of the elderly and the infirmed until natural death?
 - c. Stop the death penalty?
 - d. Warn against the misuse of drugs and alcohol?

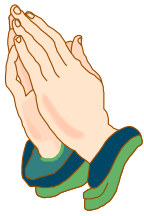
Summary

We, as Catholic Christians, believe that LIFE is the most precious gift we have been given. For this reason, we are entrusted by God to cherish that life in ourselves and in others. We are called to be “co-creators” in helping every person become the best they can be! As Confirmed Catholics you are committing yourself to carry out the value of respecting life.

Sponsor’s Comments after your “Respect For Life” conversation:

Sponsor’s Signature

Date



PRAYER

1. Friendships are good and important. They should remind us of our friendship with Jesus. Communication with Jesus will keep our friendship with Him alive and growing. Communication with Jesus is called prayer. What are some of your favorite ways to communicate with God?
2. Throughout our lives we need to continually work on our relationship with God. How can praying regularly help us to strengthen this relationship?
3. When do you like to pray? Or, how can you work at making prayer more consistent in your life?
4. Does prayer always use words? Can our actions or our service to others be a way of prayer? Discuss.
5. Silence in the presence of the Eucharistic Jesus can be a powerful way to hear His voice. Make an effort to spend time in Eucharistic Adoration? Did you feel Jesus speaking to you as you were quiet in His presence? Share your experience.

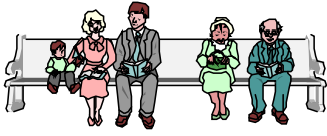
Summary

When you choose to be confirmed, you are committing yourself to daily prayer. When you commit your life to Christ, prayer will lead the way. Prayer will help you discern the difference between God's will in your life and the world's influence on your life.

Sponsor's Comments after your "Prayer" conversation:

Sponsor's Signature

Date



CHURCH

1. What attracts you to our Catholic liturgies and other forms of prayer and meditation? (Include some examples of “other forms of prayer and meditation” in your answer.)
2. How do you experience spiritual nourishment in Mass? Are there ways you can get involved in your parish that would additionally connect you to God and your community?
3. What are other means of experiencing grace that God, through His Church, can use to feed you?
4. How important is faith and prayer to the Church (the people, not the building)? Share some examples.
5. How can you be an ACTIVE member of our parish *Church* and the *Church* in the world?

Summary

When you choose to be confirmed, you are promising to be an active member of the Church for the rest of your life. The Church is referred to as the “Bride of Christ” in Scripture. That is how much Jesus Christ loves His Church! Ask yourself how you are ready to commit to a covenant relationship as the bride of Christ.

Sponsor’s Comments after your “Church” conversation:

Sponsor’s Signature

Date



COMMITMENT

1. What are some of your talents, personality strengths, and things that you like about yourself? How can you develop these traits to help serve others?
2. What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus today? How does your life reflect the call of Jesus to be His disciple? (Or how should you change, so that your life reflects His call?)
3. Each of us is called to be *food for the hungry*. What does that mean? How have you been *food for the hungry* and how can you allow others to *feed* you?
4. In asking to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, the final Sacrament of Initiation, you are asking to take on the commitment of being the Body of Christ for others. What goals can you set for yourself today to help you continue to grow in your faith and serve the world throughout your life?
5. Why does the Church emphasize that the Sacrament of Confirmation is a Sacrament of *Initiation* and not *Graduation*? What does that say about the sacrament? What can you BEGIN once you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit at Confirmation?

Summary

Confirmation is a life-long commitment to become like Jesus Christ. To be committed is to do a task when it is easy as well as when it is not so easy. Through Confirmation we commit to carry out the work Jesus left us when he commissioned the apostles to go out and to tell all the world of his Father's love! Pray for the grace to make this commitment today and every day of your life.

Sponsor's Final Comments after your "Commitment" conversation:

Sponsor's Signature

Date



CONFIRMATION RITE

1. During the Confirmation Rite, you will be confirmed a saint name. What name did you choose and why? Discuss your Sponsor's confirmation name if he or she remembers it.
2. During the Confirmation Mass you will be asked to renew the baptismal vows that were made for you when you were baptized as a baby. These are the words. Be familiar with what you, the candidate, will say. Sponsors do not speak during this time and only the ones being confirmed stand at this time:

Renewal of Baptismal Promises

(Those to be confirmed, stand)

Priest Do you renounce Satan, and all his works and empty promises?

Candidates **I do.**

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

Candidates **I do.**

Priest Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death and was buried, rose again from the dead and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

Candidates **I do.**

Priest Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who today through the Sacrament of Confirmation is given to you in a special way just as he was given to the Apostles on the day of Pentecost?

Candidates **I do.**

Priest Do you believe in the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?

Candidates **I do.**

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

Candidates **Amen.**

After the renewal of baptismal vows, the priest will say a special prayer to invite the Holy Spirit. Then the candidates will stand and process into lines to then go up to be confirmed. When standing in front of the priest, here are the words that are exchanged. Be familiar with these and practice them.

Anointing with Chrism

(The assembly may be seated. Candidates, followed by their Sponsors, will now come forward to be individually anointed.)

Sponsor *Tell Father the candidates Confirmation name. (just the name)*

Priest *(Confirmation Name), be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.*

Candidate **Amen.**

Priest *Peace be with you.*

Candidate **And with your spirit.**

Summary

The Confirmation Rite is followed the same way when a Bishop is present or when a priest is delegated to confirm. Sometimes people are disappointed that the Bishop is not at a Confirmation, but we are told from the Diocesan office that because of the number of Confirmation Masses, the Bishop simply can't be at all of them. Thank you for your time and dedication as a sponsor this year!

Sponsor's Final Comments after your "Confirmation Rite" conversation:

Sponsor's Signature

Date