CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE COMMITMENT

“For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.”

-Jeremiah 29:11

As a baptized Catholic, I am preparing for reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation, by which I will be more perfectly bound to the Catholic Church and enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the Faith as a witness of Christ.

As a candidate for Confirmation, I promise the following:

• I will approach my confirmation journey with an open mind and an open heart.
• I will attend and will fully participate in all TGIF classes.
• I will be respectful of the leaders and facilitators of the program and show appreciation for their time and effort.
• I will show respect to those in my class who are on the journey with me.
• I will attend Mass every Sunday and on all holy days of obligation.
• I will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation before my Confirmation.
• I will accept more responsibility in my family, parish, and community by putting my talents and gifts at the service of others.
• I will commit to daily prayer, praying especially for growth in faith, hope and love.

As I make these promises, I ask God to give me the grace to be open to his plans for my life—plans he reveals to me in prayer, in my talents and aspirations, and in the encouragement of those who know and love me. I place myself in the loving embrace of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in asking for help in fulfilling this commitment.

Name of Candidate (print) __________________________ Signature of Candidate __________________________ Date __________

Witnessed by: __________________________

Signature(s) of Candidate's Parents(s)/Legal Guardian(s) __________________________
PARENT PLEDGE FORM

Parent Pledge (due with the Candidate Commitment Form

DUE: September 25, 2016

Please Print Legibly!!

Dear Parents,

Our Religious Education department records indicate that your son/daughter is in their second year of confirmation formation, therefore seeking to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this spring at the Corpus Christi Cathedral.

PARENTS PLEDGE

I, ______________________, the parent or guardian of ______________________

Hereby renew the commitment I made on the day of my child’s baptism.

I accept the responsibility of training my child in the practice of the faith.

I accept the duty of bringing my child up to keep God’s commandments, i.e.; attend mass regularly.

I reject Satan, all his works, and all his empty promises.

I 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.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

The resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

I hereby also promise to fulfill, to the best of my ability, the expectations of the parents of the confirmation candidate of the OLMC Confirmation program as required. By signing this document I am truthfully saying that I have both read and understand what is expected of myself and my child. I choose to:

Faithfully strive to live out my sacramental covenant with God. (I will seek to be an example of Christ in their daily life.)

Diligently help my child to complete ALL the requirements of the OLMC confirmation program in a timely and acceptable manner.

Spend time with my child helping them develop an active life of faith.

_____________________________  _________________
(signature of parent or guardian)  date
Attendance Policy For Confirmation Formation

As we prepare for Confirmation, one of the most important requirements is attendance at Faith Formation sessions, **TGIF**. At OLMC, our Faith Formation sessions are both a combination of class with large and small group discussion so that our youth can learn and experience Christ in a variety of different settings. Attendance at all of our Faith Formation sessions is vital to their preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation and for continuing in lifelong faith formation as we are all called to do. As we prepare for Confirmation, it is our duty as candidates to be present and engaged at all TGIF Faith Formation sessions so to fully ready to make the decision to receive the sacrament of Confirmation and enter in to the life of the church. There are a few sessions during the year that our candidates will meet when our other grades are off due to the nature of Confirmation preparation. If a Confirmation candidate misses a class, they must make up the class at their own time and turn the miss class lesson sheet to coordinator at the next week class.

**Students that miss more than 4 classes without make up will be ineligible for Confirmation for the year of formation they are currently in. Meeting with Fr. Mark must be set up by candidate to discuss continuation and commitment to confirmation formation.**

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Name of Parent/Guardian (Print)  Signature  Date:
SELECTING A CONFIRMATION SPONSOR

Each candidate is required to have a sponsor for their Confirmation. A sponsor is an adult whom will help the candidate grow in and live out his or her faith, both in preparation for Confirmation AND throughout his or her life. Below are some guidelines to help you pick a sponsor as well as questions to help discern if this person would be a good sponsor for you.

Please take some time to think and pray about your sponsor as they will help guide you on this journey.

Practical Guidelines in Selecting a Sponsor

The sponsor should strive to witness Christ by word and deed, to spread and defend the Catholic faith, and be involved in parish life.

The sponsor must be a faithful Catholic in good standing. This includes, but is not limited to, attending Mass every Sunday, receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation regularly, cultivating a devout prayer life, and living a model life of service.
- The sponsor should be someone who will help the candidate grow into full Christian maturity. They should have the opportunity to cultivate a relationship with natural and supernatural dimensions.
- Only one person (not two) may be selected as a Confirmation sponsor.
- Should be of sound mind so as to be able to spiritually direct the candidate.
- A child’s parent may not be the Confirmation sponsor. As a parent, he/she already has the role of sponsoring. The sponsor should support and help the parent in this role.

Some questions to address when seeking a Sponsor:

Is the sponsor baptized and confirmed and over 16 yrs. old?
If the sponsor is married was he/she married in the Catholic Church?
Does the sponsor attend Mass on Sunday?
Does the sponsor follow the teachings of the Catholic Church?
Will this person help you grow in your faith and love God and neighbor more?
Get to know your sponsor. Where did they grow up, what did they study, what kind of jobs have they worked. Get to know them as a person and have them share their life experiences with you.
Talk to the sponsor about how he/she has developed his/her relationship with God. What have been peak experiences?
Moments of conversion? How have they witnessed God’s presence?
Talk to the sponsor about his/her favorite ways and places to pray.
Talk to the sponsor about how he/she witnesses Christ and proclaims the faith in word and deed.
Talk to the sponsor about how he/she daily lives out his/her participation in the Church.
Sponsor Agreement Form
I agree to act as a Confirmation sponsor for:

_______________________________________________________
(Candidate’s Name)

I affirm that I am over 16 years of age and possess a mature Catholic faith. I have been baptized, confirmed, and celebrate the Eucharist regularly. I am a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church. If married, my marriage is recognized by the Church. I am a registered parishioner of the parish listed below.

I am willing to be a mentor and guide to the confirmation candidate during the preparation leading to the sacrament and throughout his/her life as needed. I will keep my candidate in prayer throughout the confirmation process and throughout my life. I will be in contact with my candidate throughout the year, and I understand that my presence is requested for the confirmation retreats schedule.

Sponsor’s Signature __________________________________________ Date ______________

Candidate’s Signature ________________________________________ Date ______________

SPONSOR INFORMATION
(Please print legibly)

SPONSOR NAME:______________________________________________
MAILING ADDRESS:____________________________________________
CITY/STATE/ZIP:_____________________________________________
TELEPHONE:__________________________________________________
EMAIL ADDRESS:______________________________________________

I AM A REGISTERED PARISHIONER AT:
PARISH NAME:________________________________________________
PARISH ADDRESS:_____________________________________________
PARISH PHONE:________________________________________________

Please return this document no later than February 12, 2017
OLMC Catholic Church
1008 Austin Street, Portland Texas 78374-2012
SELECTING A CONFIRMATION SAINT

Each Confirmation candidate chooses a saint as a patron and is confirmed under that patron saint’s name.

A **patron saint** is someone already in heaven with whom we feel a connection, want to imitate, and from whom we request intercession throughout life.

The tradition of taking on a new name reflects a new role in life. This is evident throughout the Scriptures, e.g. “Abram” was changed to “Abraham” which means “Father of Many Nations,” and Simon was changed to “Peter” which means “Rock” because Jesus founded His Church upon him as the first pope.

When you choose a new name for your Confirmation, it should be the name of a saint you have read and learned about, admire, and want to imitate. You shouldn't choose a Saint because you like his/her name. You should choose a saint that you want to be like.

**Practical Guidelines in Selecting a Saint**
- You should be familiar with this saint’s life. It is to be hoped that you see similarities be-tween you and this saint and/or want to aspire to be like this saint.
- The saint you select should be someone you look up to as a hero.
- You should develop a personal devotion to this saint and build a relationship with him/her through constant prayer.
- You should try to learn about a lot of saints. That way you will make a better decision choosing your patron saint. Moreover, the more saints you are familiar with the easier it becomes for you to request their intercession (even from the ones that are not your special Confirmation patron); the saints are always eager and happy to help us.

**Type Essay Report on Saint Chosen** (for 2nd year candidates).

The saint report should be a typed essay with at least three paragraphs: (1) a brief biography of the saint written in your own words, (2) an explanation of the reasons why you have selected this saint, (3) and ideas of how you will develop your devotion and relationship with this saint. Try to include in your report, cool facts about the saint, what he/she is a patron of, when they lived, and when they were canonized. The report will be read by Fr. Mark and TGIF Confirmation coordinators.
Saint Essay Report

Candidate’s Name _____________________________________________

Confirmation Name Chosen _______________________________________

At your Confirmation you will be able to be confirmed with a confirmation name of your choosing. It is recommended that a candidate choose the name of a patron saint. The name is a symbol of your full initiation into the Church and her mission. When you are presented to the bishop, he will call you by the name that you have chosen and mark you with the sign of the cross. In choosing a saint name, spend some time and research a saint that you would like to model your own life after. Tell us about why you chose this saint and hand this form along with essay report to the parish office or at TGIF confirmation class by February 12, 2017.

Brief explanation of who this saint is and why you have chosen this saint:

Type Essay Report on Saint Chosen.

The saint report should be a typed essay with at least three paragraphs: (1) a brief biography of the saint written in your own words, (2) an explanation of the reasons why you have selected this saint, (3) and ideas of how you will develop your devotion and relationship with this saint. Try to include in your report, cool facts about the saint, what he/she is a patron of, when they lived, and when they were canonized. The report will be read by Fr. Mark and TGIF Confirmation coordinators.
**Confirmation Service Hours**

**Statement 2016 - 2017**

Name: __________________________________________

Address: ________________________________________

Phone: _________________________________________

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*15 Total Hours Required for 1st and 2nd Year Confirmation Students*

Student Signature: _________________________________