A LETTER TO THE BISHOP

REQUESTING THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

You are free to respond to God’s call to live your faith more deeply – to worship, witness and serve as a confirmed Catholic Christian. If you wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, write a formal letter of request to Bishop Quinn stating your desire to be confirmed. Follow these guidelines:

GREETING

Begin your letter with the greeting: Most Reverend John M. Quinn or Dear Bishop Quinn.

BODY OF THE LETTER

Paragraph 1: Introduce yourself. Say something about your family or 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 service to others exercised at home, in the community and in the parish, etc.

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

CONCLUSION

Conclude the letter, and handwrite your complete signature.

Please be sure to check your spelling and grammar.

Thank you for all your hard work and efforts to prepare yourselves for this important part of your faith journey.

* See sample letters on pages 2-3. DO NOT COPY word for word*
Letter #1

February 8, 2014

Dear Bishop Quinn,

My name is Jackie Johnson and I am a 10th grade student at Holy Family Catholic Church in Lake Crystal, Minnesota. I am currently preparing for Confirmation and I wanted to share a couple of my experiences.

We were asked to select a sponsor at the beginning of the Confirmation process. I thought it was difficult at first to ask someone to fill this role. But then Tricia, a friend of the family, said yes. During the process, Tricia and I attended a retreat, participated in sponsor and candidate sessions and volunteered to do service work together. I particularly enjoyed the time we spent serving a meal for the local soup kitchen. It was then that I realized, again, how fortunate I am to come from such a good family and live where I do.

I am the oldest of three children. I enjoy participating in cheerleading, soccer, drama, and the youth events at my parish. My parents are involved in the parish as Eucharistic ministers. They have been good role models for what it means to live out my faith.

I want to be confirmed to publicly state that my faith is important to me, and it’s something I plan to work on the rest of my life.

I look forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,

[Hand Written Signature Here]

Jackie Johnson
Letter #2

February 25, 2014

Most Reverend John M. Quinn,

Hello. My name is Mark Smith and I am currently preparing for Confirmation. I am 16 years old and I am a sophomore at West High School in Mankato, MN. I have been preparing for Confirmation at St. Joseph the Worker for almost two years now, and I want to be confirmed.

I want to be confirmed because I have been preparing for this sacrament, and I am ready. I have learned that Confirmation is not the end of my faith life, but just the beginning. I am ready to take my faith seriously, become active in my parish, and live out my faith through service.

I have had several service experiences throughout the past couple of years that have been very meaningful to me. One service project in particular was important to me. I had the opportunity to go on a mission trip with my parish youth group to Texas. There we built houses for people in need. The days were long and the work was hard. But at the end of the trip I could look back on what we accomplished and I realized that we had done a lot for someone in need.

Confirmation means that I am ready and willing. I am ready to live out my faith with the help of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. I feel that I have been well prepared for Confirmation through all of the classes, service projects, faith sharing and small group sessions I have attended.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

[Hand Written Signature Here]

Mark Smith