

April 1, 2019

To: All 7th grade students and parents/guardians of students

CONFIRMATION FORMS PACKET

This packet contains the forms you will need to complete and information on events you will need to attend in order to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2020.

REQUIRED FORMS:

- 1) Questionnaire for Confirmandi
- 2) Petition to the Bishop requesting reception of the sacrament. You may complete this form or re-type using the exact wording.
- 3) Sponsor Information Form- The student is to ask a person in good standing in the Catholic Church to be their sponsor. See the form for specific requirements. If your intended sponsor does not meet these requirements, they will not be able to obtain the Sponsor Eligibility document and will not be accepted as your sponsor.
- 4) **Sponsor Eligibility Form or Letter** – This is not in the packet. The Sponsor must be able to obtain a **Sponsor Eligibility Form FROM THE PARISH IN WHICH THEY ARE REGISTERED.** The sponsor should contact their parish office and request this document. If the proposed sponsor is a registered member of Mary Mother of God parish, do not contact our parish office. Indicate “MMOG” on the Sponsor Information Form and we will investigate and certify their eligibility.
- 5) Community Service Hours Log reflecting 20 hours of community service of which at least 10 must be in support of the Church. Do not turn in logs until the 20 hour commitment is completed.
- 6) Saint Report Instructions – The Saint Report assignment is designed to help a candidate select a saint who has a special meaning to them and who will help them move forward in life as a Christian. The report should contain some background on the saint but more importantly what personal values the saint has that they can associate with and would like to emulate.

All forms are to be returned to the student's catechist. The Saint Report is due by January 9, 2020. All other forms are due by February 20, 2020. Do not return any forms at the end of the 7th Grade year.

We ask your support in seeing all documents are completed and submitted on time.

EVENTS:

- The Presentation Mass for all candidates preparing for Confirmation will be on a week night in October, 2019 pending Father John's schedule. All student candidates and a parent/guardian are required to attend. The date will be announced as soon as we complete our 2019 – 2020 Religious Education calendar.
- There will be an 8th grade Confirmation Retreat on a Saturday in March or April, 2020. The date will be announced as soon as we have a commitment from the retreat company. It is Diocesan Policy that all candidates for Confirmation attend a Confirmation retreat. If a student finds they cannot attend the Mary Mother of God Confirmation retreat, it is their responsibility to find a comparable retreat at another parish and provide our office a note of completion.

I am asking for your personal commitment to see that **student candidates attend Sunday Mass, attend class and are on time for class.** The Confirmation program is a DVD based series of information about our faith, not just the sacrament. It is designed to create dialogue between the students, the catechists and parents and hopefully to keep the students engaged with our Catholic faith as young adults.

Students are expected to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. It makes no sense to prepare to profess one's faith in the Sacrament of Confirmation if one is not practicing it. Please encourage and facilitate their attendance.

We will advise you of the date of Confirmation as soon as we receive it from the Office of the Bishop. At the request of the Bishop, all Confirmation liturgies will be scheduled for a weekday, early evening.

We usually receive notification of the date by about the middle of January. While our Confirmation date has traditionally been in late April or early May, there is no guarantee that will be the case.

There will be one evening practice for Confirmation during the week prior to the Confirmation date. Either the sponsor or a parent is required to attend.

If you have questions or concerns, please call or email me at your convenience.

Deacon Chris Conroy
(908) 874-8604
dre@marymotherofgod.org

Mary, Mother of God Church
Office of Religious Education

Questionnaire for Confirmandi

Confirmandi's Full Name _____

Father's Full Name _____

Mother's Full Maiden Name _____

Address _____ Phone# _____

Baptismal Information (to be completed by parent/guardian)

Confirmandi's Date of Birth _____ Confirmandi's Baptismal Date _____

City & State of birth (town in which the hospital is located) _____

Church of Baptism _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Country (if not the U.S.) _____

If we do not have a copy of your child's Baptism Certificate on file, it is mandatory that you provide us with a copy of their Baptismal Certificate (you will be notified if we need it.)

If your child was baptized at Mary Mother of God Church, we will confirm that this information is in our parish records. We will advise you of any omissions or discrepancies.

Confirmation Name

When you are presented for Confirmation, your Confirmation name will be on the name tag you are wearing and the Bishop will call you by that name. Your Confirmation name may be the same as your Baptismal name (if it is a Saint) or you may choose another. **If another name is chosen, it must be that of a Saint who has a special meaning for you.** It should express something of what you hope to become as one who celebrates the fullness of the Spirit that you received at Baptism and now promise to live as a fully committed Christian. Think it over; ask advice from your sponsor, parents and clergy. **The Saint name you have chosen must be the same Saint you chose to write about in your Saint Report.**

Confirmation name _____

Petition for the Sacrament of Confirmation

I _____ a member of Mary Mother of God Church in Hillsborough New Jersey ask you, Bishop Checchio, to confirm me as a member of the Roman Catholic Church.

I want to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation because _____

I have prepared for the Sacrament of Confirmation by _____

I have chosen _____ to present me to you on the day of my confirmation and to witness to my commitment. I have chosen this person because _____

You will seal my commitment to Jesus and His Church by anointing me with oil and calling me by name. The name I wish to be called is _____

I understand that the gifts of the Holy Spirit will help me build up the Church. I wish to share in the building of the Church by doing _____

(signature and date)

Confirmation Sponsor Information Form

Requirements for being a Sponsor in the Roman Catholic Church:

- At least 14 years of age and fully initiated in the Catholic Church having received the sacraments of Baptism, First Eucharist and Confirmation.
- Be registered in a parish and be able to obtain a Sponsor Eligibility Form from that parish.
- Be an active, participating Catholic. Attend Mass regularly on Sundays and Holy days of Obligation.
- Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation at least annually and receive Holy Communion when in a state of grace.
- Sincerely try to follow the moral teachings of the Catholic Church.
- If married, living in a marriage recognized by the Catholic Church. A person living publicly in a same sex marriage may not serve as a sponsor. A person divorced and re-married who has not had the first marriage annulled may generally not serve as a sponsor.
- If single, living a chaste life.
- A parent may not be a sponsor for their own child. The godparent or a grandparent may be a sponsor as long as they are not acting in a parental capacity.
- A sponsor does not need to be gender specific for the candidate. Either a male or female may be a sponsor for either gender candidate.

Sponsor Responsibility:

Be a role model to the candidate, actively living and participating in our shared Catholic Faith.

Sponsor Name

(please print)

Sponsor's Parish &
address _____

Please attach Sponsor Eligibility Form

Confirmation Service Hours Log

Please keep your service record on these sheets and **return to your 8th grade teacher**. You are responsible to keep these log sheets. Be sure to keep them in a safe place and to make a copy before you turn it in.

Student Name _____ Phone _____ Grade _____ Year _____

Event charge	Hours Served	Date	Signature of person in

Total Hours _____

Mary, Mother of God Church
Confirmation Preparation Assignment



Assignment: My Saint Report

Due: Jan. 9, 2020

Overview: Research the lives of different saints to learn what makes these people special. Then **select a saint whose name you want to adopt as your own confirmation name.** Write a one page report on why you chose this saint.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **LEARN** about the saints:

- Read Chapter I, "Introduction" in *Messages of the Saints* (we will provide you this book.)
- Use the internet or library to learn about people who have become saints.
- The book you received, *Messages of the Saints*, can be one of your resources, but do not use it as your only one. Your saint does not have to be one from this book. There are thousands of saints to choose from, so look around!
- Check with a parent or other responsible adult before using internet sources. They can make sure you are viewing a reliable and safe website. Note: Do not use Wikipedia or any Wiki site; they are not a reliable source and often contain incorrect or even fictitious information!

2. **CHOOSE** a saint whose name you want as your confirmation name. He or she should be someone whose life you can learn from in your own journey to become a good Christian. Your choice does not have to be gender specific (e.g. male for a male, female for a female.) Chose only a person whose title is "Saint". If their title is "Blessed" that are not fully canonized and cannot be used. If you are not sure if your choice is eligible, contact me before you write the report and I will check it for you. Very important, review your choice with a parent to be sure they approve!

3. **WRITE** a one page report on why you chose your saint. Half the report should have some history of the life of the Saint; the other half should explain in detail why you picked this Saint. The report can be typed or handwritten.

4. **RETURN** the assignment by the due date.

5. **REPORT HEADER:**

Student name: _____

CCD Teacher: _____

Full name of your saint (for example, St. Francis of Assisi): _____