

October 28, 2020

To: All 8th grade students and parents/guardians of students

CONFIRMATION FORMS PACKET

This packet contains the forms you will need to complete in order to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2021.

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 unless they are a registered parishioner of Mary Mother of God Church. If the proposed sponsor is a registered member of Mary Mother of God parish, we will investigate their eligibility based on their parish record. Indicate “MMOG” on the Sponsor Information Form and we will 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 should be returned together by email or US mail to me at dre@marymotherofgod.org or the parish street address. After my review, they will be kept on file in the Religious Education office until after the date of Confirmation.

The Saint Report and all other forms are due by February 11, 2021.

We ask your support in seeing all documents are completed and submitted on time. If you are having difficulty meeting the date especially with obtaining the Sponsor Eligibility Form, please contact me for assistance.

EVENTS:

- There will be an 8th grade **Confirmation Retreat** on Saturday, **March 20, 2021.** At this time given the ever-changing protocols for the pandemic, we do not know if it will be conducted virtually or here at the Mary Mother of God campus. We will advise you as we get closer to the date.

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 in person or via live stream and attend our virtual classes.** The *Chosen* Confirmation program is a series of video-based presentations 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. We encourage parents to review the content of the presentations in the *Chosen Parent's Guide* which was supplied to each family with the student textbook.

Students are expected to attend Mass in person or via live stream 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 or dates of Confirmation as soon as we receive guidance from the Office of the Bishop for Spring, 2021 Confirmations. If the Bishop presides, the Confirmation liturgies will be scheduled for a weekday, early evening. 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 with the candidate.

Please watch your email for updates. 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

Confirmation Sponsor requirements in the Roman Catholic Church, Diocese of Metuchen:

- 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**, attending 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's Name

(please print)

Sponsor's Parish & Parish address

Please attach Sponsor Eligibility Form (unless a member of Mary Mother of God Church)

Confirmation Service Hours Log

Please keep your service record on these sheets and **return to Dcn. Chris or Mrs. Machala.** 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
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Event charge	Hours Served	Date	Signature of person in
			Total Hours _____

Mary, Mother of God Church, Confirmation Preparation Assignment

Assignment: My Saint Report

Due: Feb. 11, 2021

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:

- Use the internet or library to learn about people who have become saints. Some possible internet sources are:

<https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day>

<https://www.catholic.org/saints/stindex.php>

<https://mycatholic.life/saints/#gsc.tab=0>

<https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/saints>

<https://aleteia.org/2017/12/29/49-saintly-souls-of-the-united-states-of-america/>

- 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 should be typed. Maximum of 12 font and 1.5 line spacing.

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): _____