

## Confirmation Preparation 2021-22

From *The Catechism of the Catholic Church*:

“...the effect of the sacrament of Confirmation is the special outpouring of the Holy Spirit as once granted to the apostles on the day of Pentecost. From this fact, Confirmation brings an increase and deepening of baptismal grace; that is, it...

...roots us more deeply in the divine filiation which makes us cry, “Abba! Father!”;  
...unites us more firmly to Christ;  
...increases the gifts of the Holy Spirit in us;  
...renders our bond with the Church more perfect;  
...gives us a special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the faith by work and action as true witnesses of Christ, to confess the name of Christ boldly, and never to be ashamed of the Cross.”

**Confirmation Catechesis.** The *National Directory for Catechesis (NDC)* enumerates seven key elements for Confirmation catechesis. They are:

1. catechesis on the relationship between Confirmation, Baptism, and the Eucharist;
2. on the role of the Holy Spirit in the Christian life;
3. on the rite of Confirmation and its basic symbols;
4. and on the role of the bishop as the ordinary minister of Confirmation in the Roman rite.

The *National Directory* also states that catechesis should...

5. be age appropriate,
6. include retreat experiences, and
7. ensure the involvement of parents and sponsors. (See *National Directory for Catechesis* 36A, pages 122 and 123.)

**1). Sacraments of Initiation.** Christians are reborn in Baptism, strengthened in Confirmation, and sustained by the Body and Blood of Christ in the Holy Eucharist. As the primary educators of their children, parents, with the support of their child’s sponsor and religion teacher/s, are involved in catechesis for Confirmation.

### **2). Components of the Confirmation Preparation Program:**

*Learning to cooperate with the Gifts of the Spirit bears fruits in our daily lives.*

As the candidates prepare to be strengthened in the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we will focus on the fruits of the Spirit in the lives of Christians. The activities of the Confirmation Preparation Program correspond to the gifts of the Spirit, so that we may intentionally seek to manifest them throughout this year of preparation and for life.

## **Understanding and Counsel** (Right Judgement).

**Understanding** gives you insight into the truths of faith; the meaning and the consequences of what God tells you about himself and all he has created.

Understanding grows through prayer and the reading of Scripture.

**Counsel** is the gift that helps you seek and to give advice; to seek support in your own faith journey and to offer support to others in their faith journey.

❖ *Journal and Conversations with Sponsor/Parents*

❖ *Scripture and Service Reflections*

❖ *Interview with Fr. Tappe*

❖ *Spirit Day*

## **Piety** (Reverence) **and Fear of the Lord** (Wonder and Awe).

**Piety** helps a person love and worship God. It leads to prayer, both individual and communal, and to a deep respect for God, His people, and all He has created.

**Fear of the Lord** helps you to recognize God's greatness and your dependence on Him. It leads you to marvel at God's great love for you and to desire to avoid anything that would separate or lead you away from His love. It helps you to pray to God and never lose trust in Him.

❖ *Eucharistic Adoration*

❖ *Confirmation Retreat*

❖ *The Living Stations of the Cross*

## **Wisdom and Fortitude**(Courage).

**Wisdom** enables you to love the things of God. It helps you to mature in the way you think and act.

**Fortitude** enables you to stand up for what you believe and to live as a follower (Disciple) of Christ.

❖ *Rosary/40 Days for Life*

❖ *Hunger Retreat*

❖ *Vocations Presentations Day*

**Knowledge** helps you to realize the truths of the universe. It enables you to recognize temptations and to turn to God for help.

❖ *Saint Project*

❖ *Formation Classes*

❖ *Letter to the Bishop*