

CONFIRMATION RESOURCE BOOK

For Families in the
Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Program
with a student in their second year
of Confirmation Preparation
(typically 8th grade)



FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

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PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

*Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and enkindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
And you shall renew the face of the earth.*

**“It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you
and appointed you to go and bear fruit...”**

John 15:16

Confirmation Session Calendar Year II (8th grade) 2021-2022

September 29, 2021	Parent/Candidate Meeting
October 6, 2021	Confirmation Paperwork and Fees Due: -Robe and Material Fee {Page 5} -Chosen Candidate Commitment {Page 4} -Discipleship Action Plan {Page 10}
October/November, 2021	Saint Project (details provided by catechists)
November 5/6, 2021	Mandatory “Holy Fire” Retreat – On MSW campus; awaiting more details from the Archdiocese.
December 2, 2021	Confirmation Paperwork Due: -Sponsor Interview {Page 14} and Sponsor Eligibility Certificate {Page 15} -Confirmation Sacramental Registry Information Form {Page 18} -Confirmation Robe Order Form {Page 19}
January 6, 2022	Confirmation Paperwork Due: -Letter Requesting Sacrament To Father Derek Ho {Page 17}
January 22, 2022	Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Confirmation Retreat -Exact date and details TBD
January 27, 2022	Confirmation Paperwork Due: -Discipleship Plan Reflection {Page 12}
February 5, 2021	Confirmation liturgy details have not yet been received from the Archdiocese.

All dates are subject to change.
These dates are in addition to regular CGS Sessions.



Dear Families:

We are very excited to welcome you as you prepare for Confirmation! It is about so much more than all of this paperwork. As Catechesis of the Good Shepherd families, we will continue to use your child's weekly atrium time to prepare for Confirmation. Over the years, the atrium environment and the work undertaken by your child has helped their relationship with God to unfold. Preparation for the sacrament emerged more essentially beginning in 7th grade, and will culminate with more work, meditations and preparation in the months prior to Confirmation in late winter.

It was not because you are more numerous than all the peoples that the LORD set his heart on you and chose you; for you are really the smallest of all peoples. - Deuteronomy 7:7

There are some essential questions posed by the adolescent which we seek to explore in the Level IV atrium:

Why? Why does God choose the small?
Freedom. What does it mean to have freedom?
How does the life and teaching of Christ relate to me? (i.e the "human" side of Jesus)
How are saints people, and how am I being sent out like them?

Ultimately the teens express: "Let me do it myself. Let me think for myself."

Your child's CGS catechist will be working with the CGS families to further demonstrate the materials and meditations designed to facilitate preparation in the atrium. Supporting resources will be forthcoming. Exciting community service and field trips are being planned for confirmandi and their families. Please watch your email for more details.

The attached pages outline the family-focused tasks and preparatory forms in this packet:

Choosing a Confirmation sponsor who meets specified criteria
Confirmation saint name (saint project info to be shared in CGS session)
Discipleship Action Plan
Sacramental Commitment and Request forms
Letter to Father Derek outline

As we all seek to find the "good" in and amidst the realities and restrictions we still face due to Covid, we notice a greater focus and support of the domestic church. Embrace this journey to Confirmation with your child and your family. It is the most important inheritance you will build for them. May the Holy Spirit enlighten, guide, strengthen, and fill you with His grace as you embark on your journey. You are guaranteed my prayers.

Dolly Elliott Pointner
Director of Faith Formation and Evangelization
847.825.0048 or dpointner@mswparish.org



THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARENTS

The Church teaches that parents are the first and foremost catechists of their children. If you feel like you are not equipped for this role, you are not alone - have no fear! We are here to help you. Please call us anytime with your questions. The best things you can do to prepare your child are also some of the best things you can do for yourself. Following are all actions of disciples of Christ. Remember, to make a disciple, you must first be a disciple. Disciples do the following:

- ⊕ Attend Mass on Holy Days of Obligation, which include all Sundays.
- ⊕ Go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation frequently.
- ⊕ Pray with their child(ren).
- ⊕ Witness to their faith in words and actions.
- ⊕ Guide their child's choice of a Confirmation name and a faith-filled sponsor.
- ⊕ Encourage and participate in service projects with their child(ren) and help them understand what their gifts and talents are so as to be committed to Christian Service.
- ⊕ Discuss materials presented by catechists and ask their student if they have questions. (Don't worry if you don't know the answers- disciples are honest about what they don't know and eager to ask for help and find the answers.)
- ⊕ Invite their family to join them in praying the Confirmation Novena 9 days before Confirmation for the candidates.
- ⊕ Serve as models for their child(ren) by being committed Christians.
- ⊕ Discuss the Sacrament of Confirmation and its meaning.
- ⊕ Take part in ongoing formation to help renew faith so as to effectively guide their child(ren).
- ⊕ Build an atmosphere of trust and understanding.
- ⊕ Nurture the faith development of their child(ren).





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 develop a discipleship action plan to follow Jesus more closely (instructions follow).
- I will attend Mass every Sunday and on all Holy Days of Obligation.
- I will approach my Confirmation journey with an open mind and an open heart.
- I will attend and will fully participate in all *Chosen* sessions and activities.
- 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 session who are on the journey with me.
- 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 Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s)

This signed form is due to the Faith Formation Office by October 6, 2021



Confirmation Robe and Material Fee

Dear Parents of Confirmation Candidates,

There are parish expenses for your students as we help them prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation. These fees cover the cost of gowns for the Confirmation liturgy and extra materials we order to help your child better understand the beautiful gift they are about to receive through the Sacrament of Confirmation.

The fee for this year is \$60.00. You may pay the fee online through Give Central using the following link:

<https://www.givecentral.org/location/160/event/12166>

You may also submit a check (payable to “Mary, Seat of Wisdom”) to the Faith Formation Office or dropped off the payment at the Parish Office at 920 Granville. **The payment for this fee is due by October 6, 2021.**

We are excited to help you prepare your child to receive the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Gretchen Spoo
Faith Formation Office
847-825-8763



Traits of a Disciple

TAKES A CONSCIOUS COMMITMENT.
ROUTINELY SERVE OUT OF LOVE.
ACCEPT CHRIST'S TEACHINGS.
INTENTIONALLY PRAY.
TELL OTHERS & BUILD FAITHFUL COMMUNITY.
STRENGTHENED BY THE SACRAMENTS.

- ⊕ Confirmation affirms and strengthens what happens in Baptism.
- ⊕ It is not about you choosing to be Catholic or thinking you are choosing God. By virtue of your Baptism, you already belong to Christ; you are already Catholic.
- ⊕ Confirmation gives you the strength and grace to live out the baptismal promises made on your behalf so you can live as a disciple of Jesus Christ!
- ⊕ Disciples need to grow as followers of Jesus Christ.
- ⊕ Everyone, yes even adults, needs to work on their life in faith and ability to follow Jesus.
- ⊕ Athletes, musicians, and even gamers need to practice, so do followers of Jesus Christ!
- ⊕ Where do YOU need to grow?

Many remember “service hours” being part of the journey toward the Sacrament of Confirmation. “Service hours” are not a requirement for the Sacrament of Confirmation, but a desire to follow Jesus is. Following Jesus naturally involves serving others. This year, each candidate will prayerfully develop a plan with their parents to grow as a follower, as a disciple, of Jesus Christ. Each candidate’s plan will be unique to them! The following pages will help develop an individualized plan.

Discipleship

DISCIPLES PRAY WITH PASSION. DISCIPLES WORSHIP. DISCIPLES LOVE THE CHURCH AND SERVE HER WITH ENERGY AND JOY. DISCIPLES GIVE LAVISHLY. DISCIPLES HUNGER TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THEIR FAITH. DISCIPLES FILL EVERY FORMATION CLASS IN A PARISH OR DIOCESE. DISCIPLES MANIFEST CHARISMS AND DISCERN VOCATIONS. THEY CLAMOR TO DISCERN GOD’S CALL BECAUSE THEY LONG TO LIVE IT. DISCIPLES EVANGELIZE BECAUSE THEY HAVE REALLY GOOD NEWS TO SHARE. DISCIPLES SHARE THEIR FAITH WITH THEIR CHILDREN (AND OTHERS). DISCIPLES CARE ABOUT THE POOR AND ABOUT ISSUES OF JUSTICE. DISCIPLES TAKE RISK FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

- SHERRY WEDDELL -



STEP ONE: DISCIPLESHIP SELF-EVALUATION

Following are six **TRAITS** that disciples of Jesus Christ possess. Honestly evaluate and rate yourself for each of the following on a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being (not happening) to 10 being (I'm totally doing this now!).

1. Discipleship **Takes** a conscious commitment.

Do I truly want to know Jesus and be like Jesus? Do my daily actions reflect my desire to be like Christ? Do they draw me closer to Him or further away? How do I spend my time? Is my relationship with Jesus more obligation or choice? Is my faith important to me? Do I really believe that Christ is who He says He is? Am I willing to put in the time and effort to grow as a disciple?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

2. A Disciple of Christ **Routinely** serves out of love.

Do I want to serve others like Christ served others? Do I actively look for ways to put others before myself? Do I serve out of love or out of obligation? Am I familiar with the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy and do I live them out in my everyday life? Do I use my talents and treasure to help others and to serve the Lord?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

3. A Disciple **Accepts** Christ's teachings.

Do I love Christ fully? Does the way I live my life reflect my love for Christ? Do I believe His teachings? Do I think it's important to know more about Christ's teachings and the Catholic faith? Do I think Christ's teachings are relevant to my life? Do I want to live like Christ?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

4. To be a disciple of Christ you **Intentionally** pray.

Through prayer we will learn to hear the voice of God. Do I take the time to pray each day? Do I take time to try and listen to God? Do I think more about my will or God's will for my life? Do I take part in the highest form of prayer, the Mass, each Sunday and Holy Day of Obligation? Do I desire to pray more? Am I familiar with different forms of prayer? Have I tried to incorporate them into my prayer life?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

5. To be a faithful disciple you **Tell** others and build faithful community.

The Good News of Jesus Christ is meant to be shared with others! Do I believe that through Christ I receive eternal life? Do I want to share this with others? Would people know I am a Catholic by looking at how I live my life? Do I encourage others in their faith? Do I value my religion class or faith formation sessions as much as I do other subjects or sports? Do I surround myself with people who help me become a more committed follower of Christ?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

6. To be a disciple of Christ you are strengthened by the **Sacraments**.

Do I believe in the presence of Christ in the sacraments? Do I desire to receive the sacraments and the graces that come from them? Do I view sacraments as something to be earned, or a gift to be received. When was the last time I went to Confession? Do I attend Mass regularly and receive the Eucharist?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



STEP TWO: DETERMINE WHERE YOU NEED TO GROW.

Look over your discipleship self-evaluation. Are there obvious areas you need to work on? In reviewing yourself, pick out a few areas you want to work on during your Confirmation journey (ie, I want prayer to be a more integral part of my life so I can I want to lovingly serve more so I can.... I need to learn more about my faith outside of class so I... etc). Be sure you state what you want to accomplish! This is your discipleship growth goal. See an example below.... Note a few of your own.

Area of Growth

Why do you want to grow in this way?

Prayer

I want to be less anxious about my life so I can help others.

STEP THREE: MAKE A PLAN TO GROW!

Each person's plan will be different. This is your opportunity to reach and grow as a disciple of Jesus. Challenge yourself to try new things! Listed below are just SOME ideas to consider. Do you have your own ideas? If you are not sure whether or not your ideas qualify or follow the teachings of the Church, please reach out to your catechist or someone in the Faith Formation Office. We love to talk about discipleship!

Need to strengthen your prayer life? Consider the following options:

- ⊕ Start a prayer journal for the year. (look online for ideas)
- ⊕ Make weekly Mass a priority.
- ⊕ Attend monthly Eucharistic Adoration. <https://lifeteen.com/blog/a-beginners-guide-to-adoration/>
- ⊕ Start praying the rosary (or a decade) on a weekly (or daily) basis at home or with others.
- ⊕ Commit to pray everyday at the same time. Make it a priority!
- ⊕ Download the app (Hallow) or (Laudate) to help you pray regularly...these have free options and are great for everyone – youth love them! CHECK THEM OUT!
- ⊕ Find a book on prayer and read it!
- ⊕ Have the daily Mass readings sent to your email and read them each day or get them from on of the apps listed above or the USCCB app or website.
- ⊕ Find out about different forms of prayer (Lectio Divina, Adoration, Liturgy of Hours, Stations of the Cross, Music, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Taize, etc)
- ⊕ Listen to Christian music instead of your usual choice and really listen to the lyrics.
- ⊕ Incorporate silence into your day and really listen to God.



Need to learn more about your Faith, about the Saints, about Jesus?

- ⊕ Pick a movie about a Saint and watch it with your family. Talk about what you learned.
- ⊕ Find a book to read about a Saint; *Ablaze, Stories of Daring Teen Saints* is an amazing book and might even help you discern your Confirmation Saint.
- ⊕ Find a friend and make time to read the Bible together and to talk about what you read.
- ⊕ Watch videos on YouTube from Fr Mike Schmitz, Busted Halo, Bishop Barron, or Ascension Presents.

Need to focus more on others through selfless service? Consider the following:

- ⊕ With a parent, volunteer to help at Phil's Friends, Feed My Starving Children, Northern Illinois Food Bank, Catholic Charities, Our Lady of Angels Mission, etc.
- ⊕ Make cards for a local nursing home residents.
- ⊕ Make a commitment to regularly call an elderly relative to bring cheer to their day.
- ⊕ Does a younger sibling need help with homework? Another relative?
- ⊕ Does a neighbor or elderly relative need help with their yard, chores, raking leaves, shoveling snow, writing out their Christmas cards, with their email, etc.
- ⊕ Make cards or care packages for the homebound at Thanksgiving or Christmas.
- ⊕ Make rosaries for the First Communicants and pray for them.
- ⊕ Make cards for those who have lost a loved one in our parish this past year.
- ⊕ Write letters to our seminarians in the Archdiocese.
- ⊕ Make cards for RCIA members to encourage them on their journey to becoming a Catholic and welcome them into the parish community at Easter.
- ⊕ Heather's House in Des Plaines, IL often needs help cleaning and with yard work, etc. to help single mothers. Many other opportunities with Aid for Women - have a baby drive to collect diapers, wipes, etc. (contact them @ 312.574.0387 to see how you can help).
- ⊕ Volunteer with a parent at a soup kitchen, food pantry, or homeless shelter.
- ⊕ Write letters to our military.
- ⊕ Make cards for those in prison.
- ⊕ Make sandwiches for the homeless and pass them out in the city with adults.
- ⊕ Cook and deliver meals to a neighbor or relative who is sick or who just had a new baby.
- ⊕ Blanket of Dreams at the parish in November.
- ⊕ Check the bulletin; there are always offerings for ways to help.
- ⊕ Other ideas? Please check with the Faith Formation Office to confirm your ideas support our Catholic values.



STEP FOUR: MAKE A DISCIPLESHIP ACTION PLAN

Now it's time to make a plan! List three concrete actions that you plan to accomplish between now and confirmation to help you grow in your desired area(s) of discipleship. REMEMBER, these are actions that are **NEW** and can clearly be identified as helping you become a better disciple of Jesus Christ. Some actions may need to be done several times for you to make a new habit... daily prayer is one example. Service activities might be just one time events, with the intent that the candidate pursue a long term commitment to serving joyfully. We are not necessarily looking for a specific amount of time. Think quality not just quantity. The goal is for you to demonstrate a genuine desire to grow and develop into someone that is following Jesus more closely as you complete the action items in your plan. Not sure how this all works? Ask us!

Using your notes from Step Two completed earlier, please list, three concrete actions and explain with details what goal they will accomplish that will help you follow Jesus more closely.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

I have prayerfully developed this Discipleship Plan to help me grow as a follower of Jesus Christ while I am preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. I agree to complete these actions, prepare a written reflection upon them before I am confirmed, and continue to make discipleship a priority.

Candidate's Name (print) _____

Candidate's Signature _____ Date _____

I have reviewed my child's Discipleship Plan and agree to support my child's efforts to accomplish this plan through prayer, encouragement and regular check-ins on progress towards these goals.

Parent Signature: _____ Date _____

This Discipleship Plan is due in the Faith Formation Office by October 6, 2021



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STEP FIVE: REFLECTION

We need to reflect and journal on our experiences to help process our growth. Please answer the following questions below to reflect upon your Discipleship Plan. Your reflection should be submitted to your catechist before January 27, 2022.

Q1. Explain your Discipleship Goals.

Q2. Describe the specific actions you chose to complete to help you meet your goals.

Q3. What was this experience like for you? Did you like it? Why or why not?

Q4. Is this something that you can see yourself doing on a regular basis? Why or why not?

Q5. What distractions or obligations made it difficult or might make it difficult for you to continue working toward these goals? What do you need to commit to changing to make setting discipleship goals a regular part of your life?

Q6. Explain how this experience helped you grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Reflections are due on January 27, 2022

**Your reflection should be sent via email as an attachment to your child's catechist.
If your child's catechist is Kathleen Christopher – her email is jandkc0906@gmail.com
If your child's catechist is Mellie Inguanti – her email is imellie6@gmail.com**



The Role of the Confirmation Sponsor

The most important role of a Confirmation sponsor is to walk with the candidate and guide them as they prepare to receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit in this Sacrament of Initiation.

Confirmation sponsors are like spiritual coaches or mentors. They affirm the candidate's strengths and point out ways for the candidate to grow and become better in the practice of faith. The Confirmation Sponsor accompanies the candidate on their faith journey, not just toward Confirmation, but through life. A Confirmation sponsor participates in the candidate's preparation and presents the candidate to the Bishop during the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation. The candidate must choose just one sponsor.

Some of the ways the sponsor helps prepare the candidate:

- ⊕ Meet or talk by phone regularly to pray, share, and discuss the candidate's faith journey.
- ⊕ Attend Mass on occasion with the candidate.
- ⊕ Participate in service with the candidate.
- ⊕ Arrange times to have important talks suggested by the catechist.
- ⊕ Attend a religious retreat or study the Bible with the student.

How to Choose Your Sponsor

Choosing a sponsor for Confirmation is an important task. Think about choosing someone who is an active, practicing Catholic; someone who is enthusiastic about the Catholic faith; and someone who is easy to talk to and be around. Here are some suggestions to help make the choice:

- ⊕ Think about the qualities a practicing Catholic should exhibit and the qualities that are important to you.
- ⊕ Think about people who are good examples for you.
- ⊕ Ask yourself if one of your godparents would be a good sponsor.
- ⊕ Talk with your parents, or catechist, about who would be a good choice.
- ⊕ **Remember, sponsors cannot be your parents. They must be at least sixteen years old. They must be practicing Catholics and have already received Baptism, Holy Eucharist, and Confirmation. If married, they must be validly married in the Catholic Church.**
- ⊕ Pray to the Holy Spirit for guidance.
- ⊕ Talk with the person you select and explain why you chose him or her and what their responsibilities will be.

Following is a great video by one of the Chosen presenters, Father Mike Schmitz, about what constitutes a practicing Catholic.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jrGW5G8QqQ4>

As soon as you have chosen your Sponsor, please complete a **Sponsor Interview** {Page 14} and have your Sponsor sign it and answer the **Sponsor Eligibility Questions** {Page 15}. In addition, make sure you complete your Sponsor's information on the **Confirmation Sacramental Registry** {Page 18}.



SPONSOR INTERVIEW

Candidate's name: _____ Sponsor's name: _____

Your Sponsor will help you to grow in faith not only this year, but throughout your life. Set up a time to interview your Sponsor and ask them the following questions:

What was it like growing up Catholic?

Why are they Catholic?

What do they like about being Catholic?

Who did he/she choose for their Sponsor and why?

What was his/her Confirmation name?

Why did your Sponsor choose this name?

What are the Sacraments your sponsor has received?

What is one thing he/she remembers about their Confirmation?

What is their favorite Gospel story and why?

Who are their favorite saints and why?

Why is he/she willing to be your Confirmation Sponsor? (Tell them that you are relying on them to help you shape your faith.)

Candidate Signature

Sponsor Signature

BEFORE DECEMBER 2, 2021

CANDIDATE must complete and sign this side of the form, and SPONSOR must complete the other side of the form. SPONSOR must sign both this and the other side. Return to: Faith Formation Office, Mary, Seat of Wisdom, 920 Granville, Park Ridge, IL 60068



SPONSOR ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATE

Sponsor Must Complete AND **Sign** this form and return to:
Faith Formation Office, Mary, Seat of Wisdom, 920 Granville, Park Ridge, IL 60068
before December 2, 2021

SPONSOR FOR: _____, to be Confirmed in 2022
(Name of person being confirmed)

FROM THE CODE OF CANON LAW: Sponsors for the Sacraments of Baptism and/or Confirmation must be Catholics at least 16 years of age who have been baptized and confirmed and have already received the Sacrament of the Eucharist. Sponsors must practice a life of Faith in conformity to the teachings of the Catholic Church (Cans. 874 and 893).

Whereas, I, _____
(Sponsor's first and last name- please print)

I HEREBY AFFIRM my faith in Christ and His teachings and my fidelity to the teachings of the Catholic Church.

I HEREBY AFFIRM that I practice my Catholic Faith by joining in the celebration of Sunday & Holy Day Mass and receive the Sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation regularly.

IF MARRIED, I affirm that my marriage has been celebrated in the Catholic Church.

IF SINGLE, I affirm that I am living a chaste life and not cohabitating with another person.

IF I HAVE CHILDREN, I affirm that my children are being or have been educated in the Catholic Faith.

I AFFIRM that I am a registered member of _____ Parish and fulfill my obligation to my Church to the best of my ability.

I AFFIRM that I have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Eucharist, and Confirmation.

I DO, therefore, by my signature, attest to the truth of these statements and affirm that I meet all the necessary requirements to act as a sponsor:

Sponsor's Signature

Print Sponsor's Name: _____

Sponsor's Email: _____

Sponsor's Telephone: _____

DATE: _____



Choosing a Confirmation Name

The candidate is able to choose a Saint's name at Confirmation. If your baptismal name is that of a recognized Saint of the Catholic Church, there is no need to select a new name for Confirmation. While you may choose to select a Confirmation name that differs from your baptismal name, using the baptismal name for Confirmation is preferred because it highlights the relationship that exists between the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. However, if your baptismal name is not that of a recognized Saint, a new name should be chosen for Confirmation and should be the name of a recognized Saint of the Catholic Church. Names of Saints are chosen to serve as patrons and models for those being confirmed. Be sure to list your Confirmation Name on the **Confirmation Sacramental Registry** {Page 18}.

Importance of Names

Parents often spend many hours thinking about what to name their children. Names are often chosen to honor a relative or a Saint who is revered by the family or culture. While it is customary to use the names of Saints as baptismal names, the Church now permits other names at baptism. However your baptismal name was chosen, it is now a part of your history and identity.

Names are important in our religious tradition as well. In the Old Testament, God promises David: "...and I will make for you a name, like the name of the great ones of the earth" (1 Chronicles 17:8). The prophet Isaiah, speaking in God's name, proclaims to King Cyrus, "it is I, the Lord ... I call you by your name" (Isaiah 45:3-4). In the New Testament, Jesus tells the disciples that their names are written in heaven (see Luke 10:20) and both the Letter to the Philippians (4:3) and the Book of Revelation (21:12-14) refer to names being written in the book of life.

A Confirmation Name

Taking a new name at Confirmation can be symbolic of a new or deeper stage in your faith life. There are several Scripture stories of people whose names changed after they experience a conversion: Abram to Abraham, Jacob to Israel, Simon to Peter, and Saul to Paul. Celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation is an opportunity for you to reflect on how you want to witness to the power of the Holy Spirit in your life. If you choose a name other than your baptismal name, choose the name of a Saint who you admire and whom you want to be your patron. You should choose a patron Saint's name, not because of the attractiveness of the name, but because of the attractiveness of the Christian life that that person led. Here are some websites to help you learn more about the Saints:

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/saints/saints-stories-for-all-ages/>

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

<http://www.catholic-saints.info/>

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

SAINT PROJECT ASSIGNED BY STUDENT'S CATECHIST, WHO WILL PROVIDE DETAILS



REQUESTING THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Every student preparing for Confirmation is required to write a letter requesting to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. If you wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, write a letter of request to Father Derek Ho stating your desire. Letters should be typed, free of spelling and grammar errors, and follow these guidelines:

Greeting

Begin your letter as follows: *Dear Father Derek Ho,*

Body of the Letter

- Paragraph 1: Introduce yourself. Request the sacrament. Give several reasons why you would like to be confirmed.
- Paragraph 2: Explain how you have prepared for the sacrament. It is important that you tell about specific parts of your preparation. For example, your prayer life, your celebration of the other sacraments, your saint report, who your sponsor is and why you chose him/her, how you grew and plan to continue to grow in discipleship, etc.
- Paragraph 3: Describe how you will believe the Sacrament of Confirmation will help you continue to carry out your life of service to God and others through the power of the Holy Spirit. Tell what it means to you to be a disciple.
- Paragraph 4: Tell a bit about yourself including what is important to you and how you spend your time.

Conclusion

End your letter with: *Respectfully submitted,*

Type your full name and sign the letter above your typed name



CONFIRMATION STUDENTS

MUST COMPLETE THIS LETTER AND TURN IT INTO

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE BY JANUARY 6, 2022



CONFIRMATION SACRAMENTAL REGISTRY INFORMATION

Due in the Faith Formation Office By December 2, 2021

CHILD'S NAME:

FIRST MIDDLE LAST

CHILD'S AGE AT TIME OF CONFIRMATION (assume 2/1/2022): _____

PARENT'S FULL NAMES:

FATHER:

FIRST MIDDLE LAST

MOTHER:

FIRST MIDDLE MAIDEN NAME

HOME ADDRESS OF PARENT/CHILD: _____

CONFIRMATION NAME CHOSEN: _____

SPONSOR'S NAME:

FIRST MIDDLE LAST

TO BE COMPLETED BY FAITH FORMATION OFFICE:

CHILD'S DATE OF BAPTISM: _____, _____
(MONTH) (DAY) (YEAR)

(CHURCH OF BAPTISM) (CITY & STATE OF CHURCH OF BAPTISM)



Confirmation Robe Order

Please fill out the order form below and **return it to the Faith Formation Office no later than December 2, 2021.**

If you have any questions, please contact the Faith Formation Office at 847-825-8763 or gspoo@mswparish.org.

Student name (first and last name)

Program Student is Enrolled in – (ie, MSW School, TNT, CGS)

Please provide the following details:

Height: _____

