

**COME, O HOLY SPIRIT,
BE OUR HELPER
AND OUR GUIDE.**

NAME: _____

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LETTER TO THE CANDIDATE

Dear Candidate,

The choice you will make this coming year concerning the sacrament of Confirmation is quite a responsibility. It involves much decision making for each individual. There are many things required of a Confirmation candidate and the program demands dedication as well as responsibility. There are some objectives that have been initiated for you as you begin to make the Confirmation Choice.

The first big step concerns your Christian Service Hours. It is our hope that you will learn what it means to serve others. It takes time, it takes dedication. It takes love, your love for others.

This journal should begin to answer some of the questions you may have. Read and study it carefully.

You first need to decide upon the kinds of service you wish to perform for others. As you will see, you will be asked to serve in a variety of capacities: service to your family, service to your parish, service to those at economic and/or social risk in the wider community.

It is often helpful to have an older person guide you. You may want to choose a service advisor. This needs to be someone who can take some time to talk with you, review your goals and give you guidance as necessary. Your advisor could be a parent, your Sponsor or a relative, **although it should not be your teenage brother or sister.**

Before you begin, please note the guidelines for service hours which begin on page five of this journal. We will review your journal during the coming school-year, as we prepare for Confirmation.

Another requirement is that you log (keep track of) your progress. A minimum of twenty-one hours of service are expected, seven each in the three areas mentioned above.

After you have completed your service you and your advisor will evaluate your service. You will write your "Response" and he/she will write an "Advisor's Statement/Evaluation."

Most important of all – pray! Ask the Lord to guide you, to open your heart to his Holy Spirit and to the least of his brothers and sisters.

LETTER TO PARENTS

Dear Parents,

As you are aware, your son/daughter will be given a choice as a seventh grade student to receive the sacrament of Confirmation, the completion and reaffirmation of his/her Baptism, and the completion of his/her initiation into the Catholic Church.

An important component of your child's preparation for Confirmation is his/her understanding of the significance of Christian service and his/her willingness to perform acts of service for others.

As a part of the preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation our candidates can begin their Christian Service during the summer months, before they begin grade seven. Each candidate has received their Service Journal, which will be reviewed before Confirmation. **Please note the guidelines for service on page 5.**

Because you are not only parent, but teacher, please take the time to talk to your child about Confirmation as often as you can, and review the Journal, checking his/her progress, especially during the summer months.

It is the perfect time for all of us as teachers to help our candidates reaffirm the promises made for them at Baptism.

Date of mandatory meeting for Confirmation candidates and parents: To Be Announced

**Date of Confirmation: Wednesday, March 18, 2020 at 7:00p.m.
with Archbishop Dennis Schnurr**

(Candidates and Sponsors will need to be in the undercroft by 6:30p.m.)

**BE SURE YOU READ PAGE 9 & 10, INFORMATION ABOUT SPONSORS AND THE
REQUIRED SPONSOR FORM!**

THE COMPLETED SPONSOR FORM

WITH THE SIGNATURE OF THE SPONSOR'S PASTOR

IS DUE BY

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2020

GUIDELINES FOR CONFIRMATION SERVICE HOURS

SERVICE HOURS FOR CONFIRMATION MUST BE EARNED BY ACTS OF SERVICE PERFORMED FOR AND/OR WITH PERSONS, NOT ANIMALS.

Service to your family (seven hours) - guidelines:

- 1) There is no pay for what is done; all work is voluntary.
- 2) Service acts are not your normal everyday chores; it is work over and above the things you normally do at home.
- 3) Log your time after each act of service and have it initialed by the person for whom you worked.
- 4) Service hours are quality hours. You should show dedication, availability and willingness.

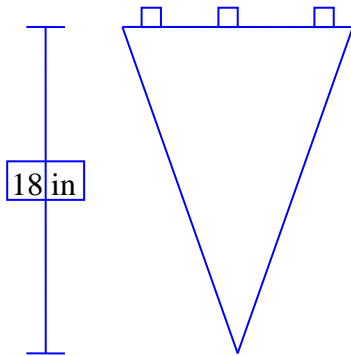
Service to your parish: (seven hours) – may be earned by serving in any of the following:

- 1) Serving as an altar server.
- 2) Serving as a Greeter at Sunday/Saturday afternoon Masses. You would be scheduled to greet at certain Masses on certain dates. You would need to arrive 20 minutes prior to Mass, put on a name tag, go to your assigned door, open the door and greet those who enter; helping them to feel welcome. You can be assigned to greet once a week, once a month or whatever fits your schedule. Perhaps, your other family members would like to greet with you! **If you are interested in this ministry, please contact Marianne Roedersheimer at 922-1525.**
- 3) Helping with the Athletic Association Festival. If you helped with the Festival, please record your hours in this journal – **parents may initial/sign for this on the log sheet.**
- 3) Clean-up days for the parish grounds or Schott Field. See the Jagwire for sign-up.
- 4) Set-up and Clean-up for the Main A-Vent. Dates and Contact to be announced.
- 5) Set-up, Clean-up and bussing tables for the June 2nd, Anniversary Luncheon. Contact Sue Horn at: littlemamahorn@yahoo.com.
- 6) Various other parish/school events that require set-up, clean-up, etc.

Service to the wider community: (seven hours) – Service hours in this category are to be earned by serving persons who are at economic and/or social and/or medical risk. If your family has a practice of helping at a food pantry, homeless shelter, nursing home, hospital, etc., candidates may earn service hours there. Examples: helping with the St. Vincent de Paul truck when it is at St. Antoninus, or helping at the Holy Family Food Pantry, and the like, would count. Visiting and/or assisting an elderly neighbor would count. Events like “Safety Village” or helping at A Child’s Garden, etc., while laudable, do not fulfill this requirement.

CONFIRMATION BANNERS

1) To be made size and shape as detailed below.



Banners can be simple or elaborate with decorations, but should be neatly done.

Dimensions: from top to bottom, not including the three loops: **18 inches**

width at the top: **9 inches**

2) Banner needs to have displayed two things:

a) Confirmation Name (letters can be cut out or purchased)

b) Some symbol of that Saint – for example: Shamrocks for St. Patrick

Musical Instrument for St. Cecilia

Candle for St. Lucy

Parchment & Quill for Matthew, Mark, Luke or John

3) Each banner will hang vertically.

4) Each banner will need 3 loops as shown above.

5) Fabric is candidate's own choice, as well as color. Glue, stitchery, etc. are possible choices. A good method for "putting it together" is "Wonder Under."

6) Materials can be purchased at Michael's or Hobby Lobby.

7) **Due date for your banner is Monday, March 9, 2020.**

YOUR BANNER MUST BE PREPARED TO HANG WHEN YOU BRING IT!! THAT MEANS:

You need: a) one dowel stick, 9 inches long, the diameter of a pencil.

b) 1 string, 12 inches long, attached to each end of the dowel.

INFORMATION REGARDING SPONSORS

Those who are asked to serve as Confirmation sponsors **must** meet the following requirements:

- 1) The sponsor may not be a parent of the Candidate they are sponsoring.
- 2) The sponsor must be at least 16 years of age.
- 3) The sponsor must be a practicing Catholic, i.e. he/she attends Sunday Mass on a weekly basis.
- 4) The sponsor must himself/herself have received the three Sacraments of Initiation:
Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist

A form for sponsors, signed by the sponsor's pastor will be required. That form is on the next page of this journal.

St. Antoninus Church

1500 LINNEMAN RD.
CINCINNATI, OH 45238
(513) 922-5400

SPONSOR VERIFICATION FORM

(completed form, with signatures, due February 3, 2020)

Full name of person to be confirmed: _____

Name of Sponsor: _____

For sponsor to complete:

I am a member of:

Parish: _____

Parish Address: _____

City/ST/Zip Code: _____

Archdiocese/Diocese: _____

All of the following must be true for you to serve as a sponsor for Confirmation:

_____ I am a Catholic who has received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist

_____ I am sixteen (16) years of age or older.

_____ If married, I am in a valid Catholic marriage.

_____ I understand the role and qualifications of a Sponsor for a Catholic Confirmation

Sponsor's Signature

Date

Signature of Sponsor's Pastor

Date