

St. Patrick Catholic Church

Parent Confirmation Handbook

2021



"Train the young in the way they should go, even when old, they will not swerve from it."

Proverbs 22:6

God, our Father,

we ask you to bless our Candidates who are now preparing to receive the Spirit of your Love in the Sacrament of Confirmation. May the gifts within each one be touched by your Holy Spirit and become a blessing for our parish family. Bless our parents, our sponsors, our catechists, and all those who have reflected your Son's love for us.

This we ask through Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

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Confirmation 2021 Schedule

Sun., February 21, 2021- Parent & Candidate Meeting 1 pm

Sun., March 7, 2021- 1st Sacramental Preparation Class 12:30-2:30 pm

Sun., March 28, 2021- 2nd Sacramental Preparation Class 12:30-2:30 pm

Sun., April 11, 2021- 3rd Sacramental Preparation Class 12:30-2:30 pm

Mon.-Fri., April 12-16, 2021- 1st Interview- FF Office- Evening

Candidate meets w/ Rosie (or Fr. Colter) for catechesis evaluation & sacrament understanding

Sun., April 25, 2021- 4th Sacramental Preparation Class 12:30-2:30 pm

Sun., May 2, 2021- 5th Sacramental Preparation Class 12:30-2:30pm and Sponsor Eligibility & Document Forms DUE

Sun., May 9, 2021- Rite of Enrollment

Attend **11:30 am Sunday** Mass to sign Book of Enrollment & to accept participation in sacramental preparation to receive the sacrament in October.

SUMMER BREAK

Sun., September 12, 2021- 6th Sacramental Preparation Class 12:30-2:30pm

Sun., September 26, 2021- 7th Sacramental Preparation Class 12:30-2:30pm & Deadline for Saint Name Form

Mon.-following Tuesday, September 27- October 5, 2021- 2nd Interview- FF Office- Evening

Candidate meets w/ Rosie for final assessment before receiving sacrament

Sun., October 10, 2021- Confirmation Retreat

Confirmation preparation is concluded with a day retreat

Begins: 9 am Ends: 2:30PM Mass @ 11:30am

Wednesday, October 13, 2021- Confirmation Rehearsal- Church Time: 6:30 pm

-Sponsor present if possible, if not parent as proxy-

Sunday, October 17, 2021- Confirmation- Church

Candidate and Sponsor arrive by 1:30 pm Group Photo: 1:45 pm Start: 2 pm

Welcome

Dear Parents of Confirmation Candidates,

Your child, the candidate, has begun the very special process of preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation to be received this coming Fall! Confirmation completes the process of Initiation into the Church. The sacrament makes us full members of the Catholic Church and seals us with the gift of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is our guide to live out the call to discipleship through word and deed. Your candidate has spent many years in religious education and catechesis. It is now time to take who've they become and apply it in action, alive in the Church, full of faith and hope that what God has planned for them will come to be through the power of His Spirit. During sacramental preparation, we will not focus on learning about the Catholic Faith, as that has been done. Now it is time to come together and come closer to God and become more aware of God in our lives, and His call for our involvement in that life.

Over the coming months you, our candidate and families, will be reflecting, sharing, praying, celebrating, serving and growing. Our staff, parent/adult volunteers and youth leaders are committed to supporting you every step of the way. Most of all, this is a time of prayer for the candidate as they discern the choices they are making, so that the reception of God's divine life is something that truly "flips on" the switch of faith, hope and love. May we be conformed to Christ and through him give glory to our Father in heaven.

Parent/adult leaders and confirmed peers have volunteered to help lead the Confirmation sessions and have prepared to make sacramental preparation a powerful and meaningful time for your youth. Parents, it is imperative that the leaders receive your support and presence as they help lead the sessions and guide the youth though the process. It is also imperative that youth complete service hours, attend the retreat and interviews, continue attending regular Faith Formation (does not apply to Columbus students), and complete all request made throughout this process.

In addition, none of this makes any sense if youth aren't regularly attending Mass, Religious Education classes and going to Confession so that fertile ground may be prepared to receive the gifts of God. On behalf of St. Patrick Parish, we welcome your family to the sacramental preparation for Confirmation and pray that you and your son or daughter, together, will find this process of formation a powerful time of faith, hope and love.

May the Holy Spirit strengthen and guide you,



Rosie Guerrero,
Youth (7-12) Faith Formation Coordinator



Saint Patrick Catholic Church
705 Main St.
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
O: 319.277.3036 C: 309.883.1505
E-mail: rguerrero@saintpatrickcf.org

Confirmation

Confirmation is a Sacrament in which those who have been baptized receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit whom the Lord sent upon his Apostles at Pentecost. It is a Sacrament that celebrates God's special strengths and gifts in those who have been baptized.

In 1972, the Church published the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). The RCIA manual brilliantly states how sacramental preparation strengthens the connections between the three Sacraments of Christian initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist.

- In Baptism, a person becomes a Christian and receives grace and life from the Holy Spirit.
- In Eucharist, the great sign of Christian unity, the faithful are nourished and strengthened. They are transformed into a more living and united community of believers.
- In Confirmation, the baptismal vows are renewed, and the sealing of the Spirit serves as a preparation for a mature Christian life.

Through these sacramental rites, the faithful are officially acknowledged as Christians and are commissioned to carry out the mission of Christ and his Church.

Confirmation is a parish community celebration. It provides an opportunity for members of the parish family to renew their own baptismal commitment. Confirmation time in the parish is a time when the community celebrates the gifts of the Holy Spirit among them.

The sacramental preparation process keeps in mind and leads from *the Catechism of the Catholic Church*, “**Preparation for Confirmation should aim at leading the Christian toward a more intimate union with Christ and a more lively familiarity with the Holy Spirit - his actions, his gifts, and his biddings; - in order to be more capable of assuming the apostolic responsibilities of Christian life. To this end catechesis for Confirmation should strive to awaken a sense of belonging to the Church of Jesus Christ, the universal Church as well as the parish community. The latter bears special responsibility for the preparation of confirmands.**” (1309)

It is not enough for Candidates (those eligible and preparing for Confirmation) to sit back and learn the faith from the words of a catechist or from a book. OR to just think that because the sacrament is a gift, they should not work towards it, but just come in and receive it. In order to fully understand the intentions of the sacrament and uses the graces bestowed in Baptism, they must go out and see for themselves how the Holy Spirit is at work. Within them and in the community. Confirmation preparation is necessary for them to be able to witness and use the gift of the Holy Spirit to its full capacity. More importantly, preparation helps the candidate to be open to receiving these spiritual gifts at Confirmation Mass.

Pentecost saw the Holy Spirit given to the fledgling group of people that was the Church. Peter and the others had now experienced both the presence of the risen Jesus and his Holy Spirit. These remarkable experiences compelled them to begin immediately spreading the Good News that Jesus is Lord. He had risen from the dead. God is the God of welcome and love and the power of God is available to everybody through the coming of the Spirit.

The youth preparing for Confirmation are asking to become full members of the Catholic Church. They are saying yes to believing and living out the Teaching of the Church. The sacrament of Confirmation is not to be taken lightly. It is not just something to check off a list, “because that’s what Catholics do.” Confirmation is not a graduation or end to religious education (faith formation) it is the BEGINNING.

Gifts & Fruits of the Holy Spirit

The Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit help us live our lives more fully committed to Christ:

The Seven Gifts: Knowledge, Understanding, Wisdom, Counsel, Fortitude, Piety and Fear of the Lord.

The Twelve Fruits: Charity, Kindness, Joy, Goodness, Peace, Generosity, Patience, Gentleness, Faithfulness, Modesty, Self-Control and Chastity.

Eligibility

The Archdiocese of Dubuque has set 15 years of age as the minimum age for Confirmation. At St. Patrick, Confirmation preparation is about a one-year process. Preparation will begin during the Spring of 9th grade with Confirmation taking place the Fall of 10th grade. **Two years of previous Faith Formation (or parochial school) in the Catholic Church are required.**

If youth has not had two years of Catholic religious education (formation) or has been homeschooled, they may be interviewed by the priest instead of the Youth Faith Formation Coordinator (Rosie Guerrero) for the 1st Interview. This will be determined by the catechesis assessment all youth will take, prior to the first interview. The assessment is to determine if a youth is adequately prepared to participate in sacramental preparation.

Students who are not members of St. Patrick or are part of another Religious Education program are also eligible for Confirmation at St. Patrick, with special permission from their parish priest. St. Patrick youth wanting to be confirmed elsewhere, need to notify the Youth Faith Formation Coordinator. Fr. Colter does not require special permission to seek Confirmation elsewhere.

The only requirements set by the Church are the candidate be baptized and have received first communion.

There are no additional requirements for eligibility into the program at St. Patrick Parish.

Expectations/Attendance

Confirmation requirements are expected to be completed but will not prevent reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Expectations of the youth participating in the program are active participation during sacramental preparation sessions, completion of service hours, partaking in interviews, attending and participating in Confirmation Retreat, attending the Rite of Enrollment, weekly Mass attendance, involvement in parish ministries, and completion of all assignments/activities and paperwork requested. The Candidate Commitment outlines what each youth is agreeing to by participating in sacramental preparation.

Youth will be assigned parent and sponsor activities such as discussion papers. These are considered "assignments". For each assignment turned in late or not completed, youth will be asked to complete an additional service hour during the summer and/or in the Fall, depending on when assignment is due. A maximum of 5 hours can be accumulated for missed assignments.

No more than one missed session is allowed without consequence. If youth misses more than 1 session, they will need to complete the equivalent in service hours with a maximum of 6 missed session hours allowed. If youth exceed 4 missed sessions or accumulate 25 or more total service hours, they will be asked to withdraw from sacramental preparation.

Retreat attendance is mandatory.

For make-up service hours, a parent or sponsor will be asked to chaperone or lead those make-up service hours. Make-up service hours will be assigned by the YFF Coordinator to monitor completion.

Official Paperwork

The following paperwork is needed before Confirmation takes place.

- (1) Enrollment Form (online registration)
- (2) Candidate Commitment Form
- (3) Rite of Enrollment Form
- (4) Sponsor Selection Form
- (5) Sponsor Eligibility Form
- (6) Saint Name Form
- (7) Baptismal Certificate Request Form (if not baptized at St. Patrick or on file)

Please be aware that obtaining Baptismal Certificates and Sponsor Acceptance forms can take time to process, so please start the process right away.

Role of the Parents

Parents play the most important role in their children's continuing initiation into full membership in the Christian community. Parents of Confirmation candidates don't just help provide snacks during sessions and retreats or make sure candidates turn paperwork or assignments in on time, but they hold them accountable to the commitment of fully preparing to receive the sacrament. Parents:

- Are the primary educators of their children
- Represent the Church by showing their child a Christian example and the importance of faith
- Serve as models for their child by being committed Christians
- Require their child to worship with the parish community weekly at Mass
- Reinforce and promote belief in the home
- Encourage their child to reflect and thoughtfully consider the decision to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation
- Are not permitted to be Confirmation Sponsors for their own child
- Assist their child with the immediate preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation through prayer, study and service
- Stress the initiation aspect of the Sacrament by encouraging their child to continue learning about their faith in the parish life and programs into the high school years
- Help their child in understanding that completing Confirmation service hours are the beginning of a life committed to Christian service
- Commit to daily prayer for the Candidates

Role of The Candidate

As Candidates continue preparing for Confirmation, they must:

- Listen attentively and participate willingly in Religious Education classes
- Respect each other's point of view
- Respect their Catechists and Team Leaders
- Ask questions. (This helps to develop a more mature understanding of Christian beliefs and make their own commitment stronger)
- Attend Mass weekly
- Invite a practicing Catholic to be their Confirmation Sponsor (see the "Sponsor" section of this handbook for details)
- Attend and participate in the Confirmation Retreat
- Complete all "assignments" including sponsor and parent activities/discussions
- Return all necessary paperwork by the dates indicated on the calendar
- Complete the Confirmation workbook (given at the first sacramental preparation session)
- Participate willingly and complete 7 hours of service work
- Participate in two Confirmation Interviews
- Fulfill the Candidate Commitment (copy to be provided at a later date)
- Remain an active part of the Catholic community by continuing to learn about and practice their faith.

Service Hours

God placed us on earth to give him glory but also to care for one another, and this kind of caring is best accomplished within the context of service hours. Consider the expression, "Always and in every place, preach the Gospel: when necessary, use words." Another benefit of these hours is that several opportunities offered require multiple youth, which allows the Candidates to be acquainted with other Catholic youth they may not know. Since many of our teens attend the local public high schools, this Catholic presence is of real importance for those attending Columbus, Hudson, Janesville, or another area high school.

Parish community allows these teams to socialize, form friendships and easily complete their service hours. By doing spiritual activities during service hours or preparation sessions, their identity as the Catholic community grows and hopefully, they will know that they have a lasting place in the Church, a place where they can truly make a difference. Together, with Christ, we can accomplish great things; alone, our efforts are not so certain. Participation in and completion of service hours is expected and is an important aspect of the Confirmation program, so that the teachings of Christ and the gifts of the Spirit might have a living context in which they can take shape and be realized.

During this Confirmation preparation year, youth are expected to complete 7 hours of service by October 10, 2021.

The YFF Coordinator will offer opportunities at the parish or within the community to adequately complete 7 hours of service in a timely manner. 7 hours of service is the minimum to be completed in the program with a maximum of 25 due to make-up hours. See Expectations/Attendance on how make-up hours are accumulated.

Sponsor

A Sponsor is required for the Candidate being confirmed. Canons 872 and 874 of the Code of Canon Law lists those requirements for the valid and lawful sponsorship in Confirmation:

- The Sponsor's role is to assist the person in Christian initiation.
- The Sponsor's role, together with the parents is to present the child for the Sacrament and help him/her live a life befitting a baptized Catholic.

A Sponsor:

1. Must be mature enough to undertake this responsibility.
2. Must have received the three Sacraments of Initiation, namely, Baptism, Communion and Confirmation.
3. Must be no less than 16 years of age at the time of Confirmation.
4. Must know the fundamental truths of the Faith and be a practicing Catholic who goes to Mass every week, receives the Sacraments regularly and sees to the religious instruction of his/her family.
5. Must be a member of the Catholic Church and canonically free to carry out this office. (Those Catholics publicly living in an invalid marriage, ((not according to the church regulations)), and those who are cohabitating, ((living together without marriage)), are ineligible).
6. Must not be father or mother of the one being Confirmed.

Being a Sponsor is not just an honor given to a good friend or relative. Sponsorship implies a real appreciation of the faith, a practice of the same, and a sense of responsibility toward the person being confirmed. Parents cannot be sponsors for their children because they are already their child's most important teacher. Candidates may choose one of their (Baptismal) Godparents to be their Sponsor to show the close connection between Baptism and Confirmation or they may choose a different person. This person should be a confirmed Catholic whom the candidate admires and who bears witness to the Gospel in his/her everyday life. Sponsors will be participating in discussion and various activities with the candidate. They will not be attending any of the sessions, as many are from out of town.

A Sponsor also plays a vital role in the Candidate's continuing initiation into full membership in the Christian community. A sponsor of a Confirmation Candidate:

- Supports the Candidate in their commitment to a Christian life;
- Must know the Candidate and be willing to serve as a strong and long-lasting Christian influence on the Candidate
- May help the Candidate prepare for Confirmation;
- Must be reasonably informed on current Church teachings.

We value the role a sponsor plays during the candidate's confirmation process. We encourage candidates pick someone that will help push them in the Faith and whom they feel comfortable interacting with. If the candidate does not have anyone they feel can be their sponsor, reach out to Rosie (YFF Coordinator).

If your sponsor is unable to attend ~~the~~ Confirmation, a Proxy may stand in. If necessary, a parent may serve as Proxy.

Commented [RG1]:

Each sponsor **must** complete a Sponsor Eligibility Form. Sponsors that are members of St. Patrick do not need their form to be signed by Father Colter. Our parish receptionist can complete the form or I can submit it for authorization. If a sponsor is NOT a member of St. Patrick, the Sponsor Eligibility form needs to be fully completed with priest signature and parish seal from their parish. All forms must be turned in by **May 2, 2021**.

Confirmation Name

Each Candidate will choose to take a new name for Confirmation; however it should be a name from the list of recognized Saints of the Catholic Church. Candidates may choose to keep their baptismal name if it is a Christian name. Names of Saints are chosen to serve as patrons and models for those being confirmed. Candidates should choose a patron whose Christian life and virtues can be imitated. More importantly, as Jesus called Simon and gave him the name Peter, the youth are also called to leave themselves behind to become disciples of Christ (John 1:42) by choosing a Saint name, through the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

The Saint Name Form needs to be completed and turned in by **September 26, 2021**. A sample list of patron Saints is listed in Appendix A on page 11 of this handbook to help candidates begin thinking about the saint's name you might choose and why.

Interviews

Confirmation Candidates will be interviewed individually by the Youth Faith Formation Coordinator. The interviews last approximately 20 minutes and is an opportunity for the coordinator to get to know the candidates better, evaluate their catechesis, and address questions or concerns from the candidate.

The 1st interview will gauge faith life, understanding of Church teachings, feel for what they know about the sacrament, answer questions, and to talk a little about their saints, sponsors, and what to expect throughout the process.

As previously indicated, Fr. Colter may conduct interviews for any youth that is being homeschooled or has not received two consecutive (7th & 8th grade) years of religious education in the Catholic Church.

The 2nd interview will assess if the youth is ready to be confirmed, to answer any additional questions, and to collect the last of the paperwork.

Both interviews also allow the YFF Coordinator to bring up concerns to parents, such as a recommendation to NOT be confirmed (at this time).

Retreat

As part of their preparation, each Candidate is required to attend the Confirmation retreat prior to their Confirmation. The retreat will take place at St. Patrick Parish and is an all-day retreat. Youth will be fed breakfast and lunch during the retreat. There is no fee to attend the retreat. Parents will be asked to help with meal and snack preparation.

Appropriate dress is required for the retreat. Particularly for Mass attendance. Gentlemen must wear dress pants, a collared shirt and comfortable shoes. Young ladies must wear dress pants or skirts, an appropriate sweater or blouse and comfortable shoes. Jeans, shorts, t-shirts, and comfortable clothes are allowed for after Mass. Short skirts and cut-off shirts or others worn above the waist are prohibited.

Personal electronics of any kind are prohibited at the retreat. The purpose of this retreat is to set the spiritual tone needed to prepare the Candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Additional Retreat information will be provided at session 6; when we return from summer break.

Rehearsal and Mass

Attendance at the Confirmation rehearsal is mandatory for the Candidate. Their sponsor (or proxy) is highly encouraged to attend, if distance does not prevent them. A parent can be the proxy or step in for a sponsor if they cannot be in attendance for rehearsal. The same is possible at Confirmation if they become ill or are unable to attend for some unforeseen reason. **Confirmation Mass** will take place on a **Sunday, October 17, 2021** and **Rehearsal** is on **Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at 6:30 pm**. Exact details regarding Rehearsal and Mass will be provided in advance.

Confirmation is a special occasion celebrated in the Church. We are blessed to still be able to host Confirmation at St. Patrick Church. It is important youth be reverent and respect the house of God.

Appropriate attire is required for Confirmation (and rehearsal). The dress code for gentlemen is dress pants and dress shoes with a button up shirt and tie. Suit jackets are preferred but not required. Young ladies may wear dresses, skirts or dress slacks. Items that are NOT appropriate include spaghetti straps, jeans, t-shirts and any type of immodest clothing. A fully detailed list will be provided prior to Confirmation Rehearsal.

Archbishop Jackels will lead us in the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation. To maintain the sacred nature of this time and place, photography and video equipment are prohibited in the church. We will have someone from staff take photos during Confirmation. Following the Confirmation Mass, there will be a reception in the Commons or Youth Center. A group photograph will be taken with the Archbishop before Confirmation Mass. This is subject to change per the Archbishops schedule/request. Photos with the Archbishop will be available during the reception. A link with digital copies of the group photo will be emailed to parents. Any additional photos taken during the Mass will also be made available. The parish is no longer providing printed copies of the group photo.

Workbooks

At the youths first sacramental preparation session, each Candidate will receive a Confirmation Workbook to be completed throughout the preparation sessions and retreat. Details of Workbook requirements are printed in the Workbook.

Parents will also be receiving a Parent Guide to accompany the youth workbook to also be a part of the Confirmation process. The Parent Guides will be given to the youth at the 1st sacramental preparation session.

Sponsor Guides will be mailed or given to sponsors, pending residence, once sponsor is approved by the Faith Formation Coordinator after receiving the Sponsor Form. The Guide is intended to assist the sponsor in their role. For the sponsor to receive their guide in a timely fashion, it is important that the youth complete the Sponsor form by the date requested and turn in the Sponsor Eligibility Form by May 9, 2021.

Please note that the schedule, requirements, and statements in this handbook are subject to change under certain circumstances.

Acknowledgements

Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church 1009 Stafford Avenue Fredericksburg, VA 22401
Parish Office phone 540-373-6491 www.stmaryfred.org

This handbook was taken from St. Mary's program and adapted to fit St. Patrick's Confirmation Program.

Appendix A- Patron Saints

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Actors | Genesius |
| African Americans | Martin de Porres, Charles Lwanga |
| Those with Alcoholism | Matthias |
| Animals, Birds | Francis of Assisi, Nicholas of Tolentino |
| Archeologists | Damasus |
| Archers | Hubert, Sebastian |
| Architects | Thomas, Barbara, Benedict |
| Artists | Luke, Catherine of Bologna, (Bl) Fra Angelico |
| Astronomers | Dominic |
| Athletes | Sebastian |
| Authors | John the Evangelist, Francis de Sales |
| Aviators | Therese of Lisieux, Joseph of Cupertino |
| Accountants / Bankers | Matthew |
| Blacksmiths | James |
| Blind people | Lucy, Thomas |
| Booksellers | John of God, Thomas Aquinas |
| Boy Scouts | George |
| Bricklayers | Stephen |
| Builders | Barbara, Vincent Ferrer |
| Cabinetmakers | Anne |
| Cancer patients | Peregrine Laziosi |
| Carpenters | Joseph, Thomas the Apostle |
| Catholic Charities | Elizabeth of Hungary, Vincent de Paul |
| Catholic Schools | Elizabeth Ann Seton |
| Catechists / Catechumen | Julie Billiart/Robert Bellarmine |
| The Universal Church | Peter |
| Chefs | Martha, Lawrence |
| The Universal Church | Peter |
| Civil Engineers | Ferdinand III of Castille |
| Civil Servants | Thomas More |
| Clergy | Charles Borromeo |
| Climbers / Skiers | Bernard |
| Clock Makers | Joseph |
| Comedians | Lawrence, Genesius |
| The Compassionate | Benjamin |
| Composers | Cecile |
| Computers/Computer Science | Isidore of Seville |
| Contemplative Life | Mary Magdalene / Madeleine |
| Conversion of Heart | Paul |
| Craftsmen and Women | Dymphna |
| Dancers | Genesius |
| Deacons | Stephen |
| Those in the Diplomatic Service | Gabriel |
| Doctors, EMT's | Luke |
| Eloquence, sacred | Anthony, John Chrysostom |
| Emigrants | Francis Xavier Cabrini |
| Enemies of Religion | Sebastian |
| Environment / Ecology | Francis of Assisi |
| Those with Epilepsy | Genesius |

Appendix A (cont'd)- *Patron Saints*:

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|-------------------------------|--|
| Equestrians | James |
| Those with Eye Diseases | Raphael |
| Those Falsely Accused | Raymond |
| Families | Joseph, Maximilian Kolbe |
| Farmers | Isidore the Farmer |
| Those suffering from Fevers | Genevieve (Genofeva) |
| Firefighters | Florian |
| Fishermen | Peter, Andrew |
| Florists | Therese of Lisieux, Rose of Lima |
| France | Joan of Arc, Therese of Lisieux |
| Friendships | John the Apostle |
| Gardeners | Agnes, Rose of Lima, Fiacre, Adam |
| Goldsmiths / Jewelers | Dunstan, Luke |
| Grandparents | Anne |
| Hairdressers | Mary Magdalene/Madeleine |
| Hardware | Sebastian |
| Homeless Children | Jerome Emiliani |
| Homemakers | Anne, Martha |
| Horses | Martin of Tours, Hippolytus |
| Hunters / French Horn players | Hubert |
| Impossible Situations | Rita of Cascia, Jude |
| Ireland | Patrick |
| Lawyers | Thomas More |
| Learning | Ambrose, Catherine of Alexandria |
| Lithographers | John the Evangelist |
| Loneliness | Rita |
| Machinists | Hubert |
| Married Couples | Joseph, Anthony |
| Mass Servers | John Berchmans |
| Mathematicians | Hubert |
| Those with Mental Illness | Dymphna |
| Men in Armed Forces | George |
| Merchants | Francis of Assisi |
| Military Chaplains | John of Capistrano |
| Miners | Barbara |
| Missionaries | Francis Xavier, Therese of Lisieux |
| Monks / Farmers | Benedict |
| Mothers | Mary, Mother of God, Monica, Anne |
| Musicians / Church Music | Cecilia / Gregory the Great |
| Nurses | Camillus de Lellis, Elizabeth of Hungary |
| Orators | Anthony of Padua |
| Orphans | Jerome Emiliani, Ivo of Kermartin |
| Painters | Luke, (Bl) Fra Angelico |
| Parish Priests | John Mary Vianney |
| Pharmacists | Luke |
| Photographers | Veronica |
| Poets | David, Columba |

Appendix A (cont'd)- *Patron Saints*:

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Police Officers | Jude, Michael |
| Politicians | Thomas More |
| The Poor | Anthony of Padua, Lawrence |
| Potters | Catherine of Alexandria |
| Pregnant Women | Gerard Majella, Margaret of Antioch |
| Prisoners | Vincent de Paul |
| Public Schools / Services | Martin de Porres |
| Publishers | John the Evangelist |
| Right to Life | Margaret of Castello, Guadalupe |
| Sailors | Brendan, Nicholas of Myra |
| Salespersons | Lucy |
| Scholars | Bridgid of Ireland, Thomas Aquinas, Jerome |
| School Teachers | Gregory, John Baptist de la Salle |
| Scientists | Albert the Great, Dominic |
| Sculptors | Claude, Luke, Louis |
| Scotland | Margaret, Andrew The Sick Camillus |
| Singers / Performers | Cecile, Andrew |
| Social Workers | Louise de Marillac, John Francis Regis |
| Soldiers | Joan of Arc, Sebastian, Ignatius of Loyola |
| South America | Rose of Lima, Guadalupe |
| Spiritual Directors | Charles Borromeo |
| Stockbrokers | Matthew |
| Those with Stomach Disorders | Timothy, Charles Borromeo |
| Stone Workers | Louis, Stephen |
| Students | Catherine, Thomas of Aquinas, Lawrence |
| Tax collectors | Matthew |
| Teachers | Francis de Sales, Catherine of Alexandria |
| Teenagers | Maria Goretti, Aloysius Gonzaga |
| Telecommunications | Gabriel |
| Telephones / Television | Clare |
| Theologians | Augustine, Thomas Aquinas, Catherine of Siena |
| Travelers | Travelers |
| Translators | Raphael, Joseph, Christopher |
| Those with Tuberculosis | Jerome |
| Unborn Children and Mothers | Theresa |
| Unity | Gianna Beretta Molla |
| Veterinarians | Gregory |
| Vocations | Blaise, James |
| Waiters, Waitresses | Alphonsus Liguori, Andrew |
| Workers | Martha |
| Workers, Youth | Joseph |
| Writers | John Bosco |
| Youth | Francis de Sales, John the Evangelist |
| | Aloysius Gonzaga, Maria Goretti, John |
| | Berchmans Raphael, John Bosco, Stanislaus Kostka |

Need more options? See:

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

Appendix B- Interview; A few review questions

Here are some good questions to reflect upon. They may come in handy in the Interview, and certainly will contribute to discussions. Mostly, they are meant to help you focus on important aspects of your faith and how connected you are to it.

1. How would you describe your relationship with Jesus Christ? With God?
2. What does it mean to be a follower of Christ?
3. What are the characteristics of a faithful Catholic?
4. With what activities or ministries in the parish or community have you helped out? Do you have gifts or talents leading you to a particular ministry in the parish community?
5. How much is prayer a part of your life?
6. How much is reading the Bible a part of your life?
7. How much is weekly Mass a part of your life?
8. Is the pattern of celebrating Mass every week the center of your life as a Catholic?
9. What saint did you choose for your Confirmation name? Why was this saint so inspiring to you?
10. What two actions can you take to improve your participation in Mass?
11. What has your experience Faith Formation classes been like?
12. Why do you want to be confirmed?

See if you know the answers to these. You might use these in group discussions to review what you've been learning in Faith Formation classes (or in school).

Questions (answers are on the reverse side of this page):

1. What is Confirmation?
2. What does Confirmation accomplish in me?
3. Who is the Holy Spirit?
4. Who is the minister of Confirmation?
5. How is Confirmation administered?
6. What is Sacred Chrism?
7. What are the words spoken by the Bishop?
8. Why am I anointed with Sacred Chrism?
9. Who can receive Confirmation?
10. Who should be chosen as a sponsor for Confirmation?
11. Why is Confirmation important at this time?

Do you know?

Sign of the Cross, Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, The Ten Commandments, Seven Sacraments, Apostles Creed, Act of Contrition, Magnificat, Angelus, and Nicene Creed

Are you familiar with these forms of prayer?

Adoration/Blessing, Petition, Thanksgiving, Praise, and Intercession Meditation/Contemplation

Ex: The Rosary, Ignatian Prayer, Lectio Divina, Guided Meditation, Perpetual Adoration/Benediction

Appendix B (continued) *a few answers*

Answers:

1. What is Confirmation? Confirmation is one of the seven sacraments which are outward signs instituted by Christ to give grace. In Confirmation, the Holy Spirit comes to us in a special way. Confirmation means strengthen, as that is what the Holy Spirit does in guiding us in our faith.
2. What does Confirmation accomplish in me? Confirmation does three things for me: 1. Binds me more closely to the Church. 2. Deepens my commitment to love, study, defend and spread the faith. 3. Confers an indelible or permanent mark that consecrates me to be a witness to Christ.
3. Who is the Holy Spirit? The Holy Spirit is God and the third Person of the Blessed Trinity.
4. Who is the minister of Confirmation? The minister of Confirmation is the Bishop, but priests may confirm with special permission.
5. How is Confirmation administered? Confirmation is administered by tracing a cross on the person's forehead with sacred chrism and saying the proper words.
6. What is Sacred Chrism? Sacred Chrism is a mixture of olive oil and balsam blessed by the Bishop on Holy Thursday.
7. What are the words spoken by the Bishop? The words spoken while being confirmed are: Bishop: "N. be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit". Candidate responds: "Amen". Bishop places his hand on the shoulders of the newly confirmed and says "Peace be with you," Candidate responds: "And with your spirit".
8. Why am I anointed with Sacred Chrism? I am anointed to set me apart for a special mission which is to give witness to Christ.
9. Who can receive Confirmation? Any baptized person who was never confirmed can receive Confirmation.
10. Who should be chosen as a Sponsor for Confirmation? A sponsor should be a practicing Catholic whose duty is to support the candidate in living the faith and by good example.
11. Why is Confirmation so important at this time? Confirmation is important because I am making the decision to choose Christ and the Church for myself.

Appendix C- NOTES _____

