



The Journey toward
The Sacrament of Confirmation and Beyond

Date of Confirmation: TBA

*From: Mrs. Stephanie Freeh
Director of Religious Education*

ROBE FEE – \$20.00 Checks made out to “Notre Dame of Bethlehem”

Due Date: September 24, 2018. Please place in a white enveloped marked “Confirmation Robe”

- The fee gets turned in along with the tan Robe order form. If you have a Confirmation Robe from last year’s Confirmation class, and it fits, then you do not have to order a robe.
- Each candidate must have a robe form turned in whether or not they are ordering a robe.

SAINT PROJECT

Due Date: October 22, 2018

- Turn in 2 copies, one to your teacher and one to Mrs. Freeh

SPONSOR FORMS

Due Date: November 5, 2018

- Sponsor Request Form: Submit “purple” form only if your sponsor is from Notre Dame.
- Sponsors from another parish must acquire a Sponsor Form from the parish in which they are registered.

CONFIRMATION FEE - \$30.00 Checks made out to “Notre Dame of Bethlehem”.

Due Date: December 10, 2018. Please place in a white envelope marked “Confirmation Fee”

- This fee goes for items such as; copying throughout the two-year period, flowers on the altar for Confirmation Day, Certificates for Confirmation, and for the items distributed at the Confirmation Retreat.

COMMUNITY SERVICE FORMS

Due Date: December 10, 2018 into the Religious Education Office

- 20 hours total
- Projects completed in the summer BEFORE and AFTER 7th Grade are accepted

LETTERS OF INTENT

Due Date: January 7, 2019

1. Letter to the Bishop (Content must be different from Letter to the Pastor)
 - a. Letter to the Bishop - must be typed with 1inch margins and no spelling errors
Sample: Dear Bishop,
 1. Introduce yourself
 2. Tell the Bishop about your Saint and why you chose that Saint
 3. Explain why your Sponsor is a model for you for a practicing Catholic.

Respectfully submitted,

(your name)

January 2019 (Final Interview) Date: TBA

Candidates will be asked the Bishop's Questions along with a few additional questions asked of the Candidate.

January 24, 2019 - Confirmation Retreat, St. Francis Center for Renewal

Sacrament of Penance: Approximately two weeks before Confirmation

Candidates will go over to church for confessions during class time.

TBA - Practice for Confirmation. This will be held on the Sunday prior to the date of Confirmation after the noon Mass. Candidate and Sponsor must come to practice.

Day of Confirmation: TBA

ATTIRE for the Day of Confirmation

BOYS

Red Robes on top of
Button down dress shirt w/collar
RED Tie (mostly red, may have pattern)
Dress slacks
Dress shoes (no flip-flops/no sneakers)

GIRLS

Red Robe will be worn over
Dress or Skirt & Blouse
Dress shoes (no flip-flops/sneakers)

WHO WILL YOU CHOOSE???

- ✚ Carefully read the Requirements for Sponsors listed on the purple form before asking a person to be a sponsor. This person must attend Mass and documentation of their attendance must be done through the use of their Sunday Envelopes.
- 1. You must be able to look up to this person as an example of how to be a Practicing Catholic.
 - a. A practicing Catholic is an individual who is 16 on the day of Confirmation, registered in a parish, attends Mass weekly, has received the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist), and receives Penance and Holy Eucharist on a regular basis in the Catholic Church.
- 2. Have them fill out the form, sign and return it to the parish office.

Only IF YOUR SPONSOR IS FROM NOTRE DAME

- 1. Please have them use the purple Sponsor Request form

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IF YOUR SPONSOR IS FROM ANOTHER PARISH they do not use the purple form in this packet.

- 1. Have the Sponsor contact his/her parish in which they are members. The requirements are the same for all parishes.
- 2. Ask the parish office/rectory for a Certificate to be a Sponsor for Confirmation
- 3. Make sure the Candidate's name is on the form
- 4. Make sure the Church Seal is affixed to the Sponsor Form that you submit.
- 5. Send the Sponsor Certificate into the parish office in an envelope marked:
Sponsor Certificate for _____ (Candidate's name).

PROXY FOR CONFIRMATION: A PROXY MAY NOT BE A PARENT

As we approach Confirmation, if your Sponsor is unable to make it on the day of Confirmation:

- 1. Call the Director at 610-866-1418 so the proper notation is made
- 2. You then need a PROXY who must also fulfill all the same prerequisites as a sponsor.
- 3. A Proxy may not be a parent
 - a. You must acquire the necessary paperwork on another person (NOT THE PARENT) and that paper work must be handed into the Director prior to Confirmation.
 - 1. If you're unable to locate a "proxy", contact Mrs. Freeh at 610-866-1418 and we will help to get someone who fulfills all the prerequisites to stand in as Proxy for your Candidate.



ALL INFORMATION WILL BE VERIFIED THROUGH OUR DATA SYSTEM

Candidate's Name: _____ Relationship to Candidate: _____

Person requesting to be a Sponsor: _____

Sponsor's Stewardship Envelope # _____ (MUST be filled in). If a sibling under 18 is requesting to be a sponsor, the **Family's** Stewardship Envelope will be referred to. You may contact me at the following numbers if you have any questions,

Contact information for potential Sponsor – Home _____ Cell _____

Carefully read and initial on the line before each of the following Prerequisites of Canon Law.

_____ I am a registered member of Notre Dame of Bethlehem Parish in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania and currently receiving stewardship envelopes. My number is noted above.

_____ I am a Catholic fully initiated in the Catholic faith who has received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist.

_____ I am a practicing Catholic who reflects, Catholic values in my words, my actions, my attendance at weekend Masses, by my continued reception of the Sacraments, and by giving to the support of my parish in stewardship and service.

_____ I attend Mass regularly on weekends and Holy days of obligation.
Attendance at Mass may be documented through my use of Sunday Envelopes being placed into the collection at Mass. In the event that I'm having financial difficulties, I mark on my envelope; "unable to give this week".
Please note that cash placed into the collection basket cannot be documented.

_____ I have recently moved into the parish of Notre Dame. My attendance may be documented through my use of my stewardship envelopes for at least four months prior to the Sacrament. In times of financial difficulty, I mark on my envelope, "unable to give this week". (New parishioners with less than four months at Notre Dame, should request a sponsor form from their previous parish.)

_____ I am a sibling and will be sixteen (16) years of age or older on the day of Confirmation. My ability to be a sponsor may be documented by my **Parents' stewardship envelopes** placed into the weekly collection.

_____ I am not the parent of the person to be confirmed.

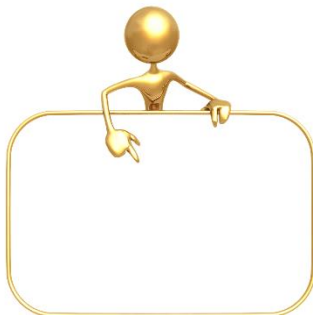
_____ If I'm married, I am validly married in the Catholic Church.

By signing this form, I affirm that all of the above requirements are true.

I recognize that I will be called upon to be an example of the Catholic faith to my Candidate. I also recognize that this requires that I truly practice my faith by attending Sunday Mass, by prayer, generous concern for others and by living an upright Catholic life under the mercy of God. With this in mind, I promise to be the best possible example in word and deed.

Signature of Sponsor: _____ Dated: _____

All About My Sponsor



**A Model of the
Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit**

My Name:

My Sponsor's Name: _____

Address: _____

Parish: _____ **Phone** _____

Tell why you chose your Sponsor. Tell how he/she participates in their parish.

Gifts of the Holy Spirit – wisdom, understanding, right judgment (or counsel), courage (or fortitude), knowledge, reverent love (or piety) and holy fear

Fruits of the Holy Spirit – Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Generosity, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-control

Describe one of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit your sponsor demonstrates to you.

Describe one of the Fruits of the Holy Spirit your sponsor demonstrates to you.

What aspect of your Sponsor's Catholic faith attracts you to him/her?



Due Date: December 10, 2018
Community Service accepted
From the April of 6th grade until December of 8th grade

**ACTS OF KINDNESS THROUGH
COMMUNITY SERVICE
ON THE JOURNEY TO CONFIRMATION AND BEYOND**

CANDIDATE'S NAME: _____

Date Parish Program Hours Served Signature

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Date Parish Program Hours Served Signature

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Date Parish Program Hours Served Signature

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Date Parish Program Hours Served Signature

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Date Parish Program Hours Served Signature

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Tell about your experience helping these people and organizations: Must be filled in

Date

Parish Program

Hours Served

Signature

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Date

Parish Program

Hours Served

Signature

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Date

Parish Program

Hours Served

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Date

Parish Program

Hours Served

Signature

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ACTS OF KINDNESS – 20 hours plus

Community Service is reaching out beyond ourselves and helping those around us. Community Service would not be anything that would earn you a badge in Scouting, since the badge is the reward. The following list will hopefully get you started;

Children's Liturgy of the Word: 1 hour is earned helping during the 10:30 am Mass on Sunday mornings. Contact Stephanie Freeh 610-866-1418.

Altar Serving: If you are an altar server 5 hours count towards your Service hours.

Extended Care: School and PREP families can volunteer. Help with smaller children in the Extended Care program after school. Contact Mrs. Simmons 610-861-9178

Lenten Soup Suppers: Friday evenings during Lent. Contact Mrs. Thorley 610-866-2231.

Rake leaves: In the fall, Monsignor would love the help on Saturday morning to rake leaves in front of the rectory and around church. Just come on a Saturday morning, let one of the priests know you are there and bring a rake. You could easily earn at least 1 hour each Saturday as there are a lot of leaves on those trees.

Shovel Snow: Help is always welcomed in the winter for snow removal. If you can safely get to Notre Dame please come and help clear the sidewalks.

Knights of Columbus Breakfast: Volunteer with the Knights to serve breakfast. Please contact Kevin Collins at kgcollins396@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul Society: Help is occasionally needed with special jobs. Please contact Fran Gallagher galfrannie@aol.com

Mary's Shelter: Mary's Shelter is a home for mothers in need, the home prepares mothers with newborns for independent living and a vision of hope for the future. You will be volunteering with Mrs. Muething. This can only be done during the summer months. For more information and scheduling please email Mrs. Muething at annemueth@hotmail.com.

Share Care: Share Care is a group that helps the elderly of our parish. Help is needed to hand out wipes at Musikfest (August) and Celtic Classic (September). This is the biggest fundraiser for Share Care. Students will also have the opportunity to visit residents at Manor Care and Holy Family Manor if they wish with adult members of Share Care. Please contact Mrs. Mueller at amgaka3@gmail.com (610) 694-0916 to make arrangements.

Look in the Parish Bulletin:

There are many items throughout the year

**EVERY PARENT MUST COMPLETE and
HAND IN THIS FORM**

CONFIRMATION ROBE



Please Order a Robe:

Candidate's Name: _____

_____ *Yes, please order a Confirmation Robe for my child. I've attached a check for \$20.00*

_____ *No, I do not need a robe, I have a donated robe from a previous Notre Dame Parish Confirmation*

Check # _____ Amount \$ _____

Make checks payable to "Notre Dame"

We will measure your child for their robe during class time.

Parent Signature: _____

Diocese of Allentown
The Bishop's Confirmation Questions
(From the Basic Catechism)

1. WHAT IS CONFIRMATION?

Bishop, Confirmation is the sacrament in which the Holy Spirit comes to us in a special way to join us more closely to Jesus and His church and to seal and strengthen us as Christ's witnesses.

(Page 107)

2. WHAT ARE THE SACRAMENTS?

Bishop, The Sacraments are sacred signs through which Jesus gives us His Spirit and makes us holy and pleasing to Him by grace.

(Page 78)

3. HOW MANY SACRAMENTS ARE THERE?

Bishop, There are seven sacraments.

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4. WHAT ARE THE NAMES OF THE SEVEN SACRAMENTS?

Bishop, The seven sacraments are: Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Eucharist, Penance, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders and Matrimony.

Mrs. Freeh's Notes: Candidates must know Sacraments IN ORDER. They are not in the order that you receive them, but instead they are in the order of

1) Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist

2) Sacraments of Healing: Penance and Anointing of the Sick

3) Sacraments in Communion of Service: Holy Orders and Matrimony

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5. HOW IS CONFIRMATION GIVEN?

Bishop, The bishop extends his hands over the person and anoints the forehead in the form of a cross while saying: "Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit." The person being confirmed answers, "Amen," meaning, "Let it be so." The Gift is the Holy Spirit Himself. He is the Gift of the Father and the Son to us.

(Page 109)

6. WHAT IS CHRISM?

Bishop, Chrism is a blessed mixture of oil and balm used during the baptismal ceremony, in Confirmation, during the ordination of priests and bishops, and in the consecration of churches, altars, and other things.

(Page 85)

7. WHO IS THE MINISTER OF CONFIRMATION?

Bishop, The bishop is the ordinary minister of Confirmation.

(Page 107)

8. WHAT ARE THE EFFECTS OF CONFIRMATION?

Bishop, The effects of Confirmation are: an increase of sanctifying grace, the gift of a special sacramental grace and the imprint of a lasting character on the soul.

9. WHAT ARE THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT?

Bishop, The gifts of the Holy Spirit are wisdom, understanding, right judgment (or counsel), courage (or fortitude), knowledge, reverent love (or piety) and holy fear.

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Information about my church...

THE VATICAN - Church in Rome:

The **Vatican** is where the Pope lives.

Vatican City is located in **Italy**.

The **Pope** is the head of the Catholic Church

Our present Pope is **Pope Francis**

The website for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops: www.usccb.org

MY DIOCESE:

The name of our Diocese is the **Allentown Diocese**.

Website for Diocese: www.allentowndiocese.org

The Bishop in charge of our Diocese is **Bishop Alfred Schlert**.

In meeting the Bishop we address him as: **Bishop** .

The website for the Allentown Diocese: www.allentowndiocese.org

MY PARISH

Name of our parish: **Notre Dame of Bethlehem**

The name of our Pastor: **Rev. Msgr. Thomas Baddick**

IMPORTANT: The saint you choose is your Confirmation name.



The Life of My Saint

Saint's Report Requirements and Format

- The title of your report will be the name of your saint
- The report is to be typed using MLA format. For reference you may use the Purdue Online Writing Lab at https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_overview_and_workshop.html
- The report needs to include a Works Cited page
- You must use at least 3 sources for your report, 1 of which may be a book, magazine or journal. The report may not be totally internet generated.
- The report should contain 5 paragraphs & consume at least 2 pages.
- The report should include information about:
 - When & where the saint lived along with details about their life.
 - Why this person was canonized a saint, and how they taught others to follow Jesus' teachings.
 - How others can model their lives to be more like the saint you have chosen.
- Reminder: Plagiarism is against the law! This means the report must be written in your own words, using the notes from your resource materials.
- The report is due on Monday, October 22, 2018.
- Three excellent websites to research your saint are:
 - www.catholic.org/saints
 - www.catholic-forum.com/saints
 - www.catholic-pages.com
- **Notre Dame School students, please follow the proper format that Mrs. Santoro issued in class.**

Please make 2 copies, one for Mrs. Freeh and one for your teacher.



2018-2019 TIME LINE
8th grade

8th Grade			
September 18, 2018	Final Confirmation Meeting	Parent & Student attends 7:00 in the church hall	.
September 23, 2018	Theme Mass- III		10:30 am Mass
September 24, 2018	Robe form handed in with check or cash		Hand in at class
October 22, 2018	Saint Project due	2 Copies due. 1 to your teacher 1 to Mrs. Freeh	Hand in at class
November 5, 2018	Sponsor Forms due into the Religious Education Office	Turn in to the Religious Education Office	Hand in at class
December 10, 2018	Confirmation Fee and Service hours due	Turn in to the Religious Education Office	Hand in at class
January 6, 2019	Theme Mass-IV		10:30 am Mass
January 7, 2019	Turn in Letter to the Bishop	Turn in to the Religious Education Office	Hand in at class
January 24, 2019	Confirmation Retreat	St. Francis Center for Renewal	8:30 am-2:30 pm
Week before Confirmation (approximately)	Sacrament of Penance	Notre Dame of Bethlehem Church	Candidates will be taken over to church during class time
Confirmation Practice Date TBD		Candidate with Sponsor must attend	
Confirmation Date TBD	CONFIRMATION	Usually during the week	4:30 pm