**LETTER TO THE BISHOP**

**REQUESTING THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION**

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**Due by class on Jan 12, 2020**

Your one to two-page letter is your personal acknowledgement to the Bishop that it is your desire to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Be assured that we take these letters very seriously as they are a testament to your personal journey. As a Confirmation Candidate, you are encouraged to write your letter from the heart. At the same time, it needs to convey your understanding of the sacrament, your desire to receive the sacrament, and how this will change your faith life.

The questions below should help you reflect on some of the things you may want to include in your letter to the Bishop. Answer the questions below and then write a first draft of your letter. Then, after leaving it sit and praying on it for some time, write your final draft. Your letter should be one, no more than two, typed pages long.

Your letter should be formatted as shown below.

 **Date:**

***Dear Bishop Haines,***

**Paragraph 1:** **Introduce yourself**. Include: 1) the name of your parish, 2) general information about your family, 3) the name of the school you attend, 4) your activities, hobbies and/or interests.

**Paragraph 2**: **Request the Sacrament of Confirmation.** Indicate this is your decision. Tell your reasons for wanting the sacrament of Confirmation. Will being confirmed bring you into closer relationship with Jesus? If so, how? How will being confirmed help you as you move into your Christian adult life?

**Paragraph 3**: **Explain how you have prepared for the sacrament**. It is important that you tell about specific parts of your preparation: your prayer life, your celebration of the other sacraments, your service to others in the community and in the parish, etc. Tell him about your faith life. You might mention a particular class presentation, topic or retreat that particularly enlightened or touched you. What have you learned about yourself during the preparation process?

**Paragraph 4:** **Thank him for taking the time to read your letter**. You might include something like - I look forward to meeting you and celebrating this sacrament with you on **May 20, 2020 at St. Catherine of Alexandria.**

**Closing Salutation:** Sincerely, Yours Truly, Thank You, Respectfully, In Christ, etc.

**Your Signature:** Sign your letter in ink between the salutation and your typed name.