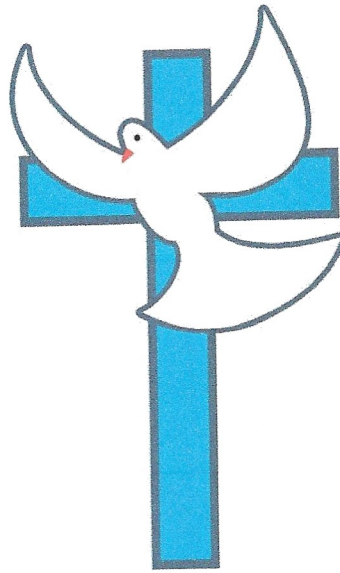


# *Discernment Project*



*Confirmation*

*Giana Roybal*

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## Where do I find God?

When I look back at my faith journey, I have never really needed to put too much thought into it. This was because my parents made the decisions to get me baptized, teach me my prayers, take me to church and even make sure that I received my first holy communion. I was going through the motions and although I believed in God, said my prayers every night and made sure to treat people with kindness, I didn't truly understand what it meant to believe and have faith.

Now as I make the decision to continue with my catholic faith and going through confirmation class, I can see that faith and religion go deeper than prayers and church. I am starting to see that God is everywhere and in everyone. I can see that the littlest acts of kindness can go a long way and are God's work. Through my service hours, I saw that just a small portion of my time can be life changing to someone else. When I helped at the Veteran's Day Parade, meeting and listening to the stories from veterans not only helped them, but it also helped me. You get to see God's work through others, whether it is fighting for our country or just being an ear for someone. Or packing boxes of non-perishable food for my community and even for some kids I go to school with can really put things into perspective. You never know what someone is going through.

Confirmation class, especially this second year has really made me see and be more aware of the world around me. I feel that I have grown closer to God in a way that my eyes are more open. Although I sometimes see what is going on in the world and even to people I know and I wonder why I have been so much more blessed, but instead of questioning, I need to start looking at it as I can be help to others in need. I am blessed to see God within all members of

my family and will use them as a role model on my growth. There wasn't necessarily anything keeping me away from my growth before, but I feel that as I get older and don't have all decisions made for me, I can now see things for myself.

I know there will always be bad people and things happening in this world, but that is where I need to have my faith more than ever. I have been fortunate enough to be raised in a loving home with both parents who are supportive and are able to provide for me, but I know that is not the case for everyone. This is where I need to see how I can make a difference. I do feel God's work in my life, but I want to grow and feel him more within me. To be guided into my work and live the life I am supposed to. Even before confirmation class, my parents always made sure to remind me to thank God and to pray for those in need.

I believe God is the Father, Son and our Creator who created us all individually in his own vision. He is someone who will always be there to turn to and to forgive you when needed. His love is the greatest. I pray and I know there is work that I can do to help others, but I really would like to feel him more. Not just in my life but within me. I want my relationship to grow as I do.

For confirmation I chose Saint Cecilia as my saint. I chose her because she is the patron saint of music and musicians, and music has always been a huge part of my life. All my life I have either been singing, dancing, or singing to music. Music makes me happy. Music is so powerful that it can both tell a story and make you feel a certain way.

For my sponsor, I chose Alejandro Romero, my uncle. I chose him because he has always been there for me. He does not have any children of his own and my siblings and I are the only nieces and nephew that he has, which means he treats us like his own. He is someone I

can talk to and has supported me in everything I do. My uncle makes sure to guide me towards God and continuing to attend church, he will be a good example for me.

Once I am confirmed I would like to grow my faith and get closer to God. Although participating in the last two years of confirmation class has at times pushed me out of my comfort zone, I do plan to continue to help the church wherever I can. I have in the past and will continue to assist with the Summer Bible School and volunteer at functions such as the fiestas. I want to also continue to give back to my community and share my blessings with those in need, whether it is continuing to send care packages to soldiers overseas, packing food boxes for my neighborhood or donating clothing to the Viking Closet at school to help less fortunate classmates.

This has been a long journey but one that has made me grow in my faith.