

CONFIRMATION

ALL THE “FINE PRINT” IN ONE HANDY PLACE!

What does being Confirmed really mean?

First of all, it is important to know that being

confirmed does not mean that you have graduated from church.

The Sacrament of Confirmation is the spiritual enlightenment that

takes place when an individual decides to make Jesus Christ the

central part of their own life. Formal religious education

continues throughout the 12th grade, and of course,

we never really stop learning.

It is our growth in our spiritual life. Nothing given or taken away from us in the material world will guarantee this spiritual enlightenment.

DECISIONS, DECISIONS, DECISIONS

The most asked question in many programs is this: “How can that person be confirmed?” Each person is confirmed on an individual basis. Although we work in a group setting, we try our best to look at each person for who they are and how ready they are to receive the sacrament. The Spirit works through each of us on different levels.

Three specific areas will influence YOUR decision

1. The church
2. Your parents
3. Yourself. Each of these areas influence YOUR choice in whether or not YOU can be confirmed.

At the end of our classes, each Candidate will meet one on one with Father for an interview to determine readiness. This will be the October 16 meeting we discussed.

BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATES

If you were baptized at either St. Albert's, St. Kunegunda's, St. Mary's, St. Peter's or St. Theresa's all we need your name, the parish where you were baptized and the approximate date of your baptism.

If you were not baptized at either of the above parishes, then you must bring your "original" baptismal certificate ASAP. We will make a copy and return to you immediately.

CHOOSING A SPONSOR

When selecting your sponsor please give serious prayer and thought to your choice. All sponsors must be Confirmed in the Catholic faith, 18 years old and a practicing Catholic. Parents may NOT be your sponsor. (According to Canon Law)

Sponsors do not need to live close-by, however they should be close to you. You will want to be in close contact with them throughout this Journey.

Sponsors, mentors (someone standing in for the sponsor during this process) and parents are always welcome to attend classes with you.

LETTER TO THE BISHOP

All Candidates must write a letter of intent to the Bishop. Once you have neared completion of your program, and you have decided to accept this great gift from God, you will need to express this by asking to be confirmed.

Your letter should clearly express a couple of points:

1. Receiving this sacrament is your decision
2. You have prepared for the sacrament through study and instructions
3. You have already accepted the responsibility of living a mature Christian life by being of service to the community
4. Some personal information about you, your interests, your family etc.

SERVICE HOURS

A minimum of 25 service hours are required to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. These hours can be done in a variety of ways, although not all 25 should be done in just one area. Some service suggestions are listed below. Please don't limit yourself to just these suggestions.

Church Service:

Lector

Minister of Music (weekly or holiday) Usher

Altar Server

Help with afternoon CCD Programs Cleaning the church

Yard work of the grounds PCCW

Community Service:

Christmas Caroling

Volunteer with the local PTA

Tutor/Coach/Work tournaments

Red Cross

Humane Society

Boy/Girl Scouts Public Library

HOW ABOUT WE START WITH SOME GOOD PRAYERS....

THE SIGN OF THE CROSS

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day, daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen

THE HAIL MARY

Hail Mary, full of grace! The Lord is with thee, blessed art thou among, women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus, Holy Mary, Mo of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER

Glory Be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

GRACE BEFORE MEALS

Bless us O Lord, and these Thy gifts, which we are about to receive through Thy bounty, through Christ Our Lord. Amen

GRACE AFTER MEALS

We give Thee thanks for all Thy benefits. O Almighty God. Who and reigns forever. Amen

THE ACT OF CONTRITION

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong, and failing to do good, I have sinned against You, whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with the help of your Grace, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ, suffered and died for us, in His name, my God have mercy. Amen

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, Our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into Hell; the third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen

PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do Thou o Prince of the Heavenly Hosts, by the power of God, thrust into Hell, Satan and all the evil spirits who wander about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen

PENITENTIAL ACT

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin., all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters. to pray for me to the Lord Our God.

THE NICENE CREED (PROFESSION OF FAITH)

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth. all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ. the Only begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light. true God from true God. begotten, not made. consubstantial with the Father; through Him all things were made. For men and for our salvation He came down from heaven. (at the word, follow. up to and including and became man. all bow) And by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and His kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit the Lord the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. I believe in one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen

RESPONSE TO THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only the word and my soul shall be healed.

SOME OTHER IMPORTANT STUFF

YOU NEED TO KNOW...

THE EVANGELICAL COUNSEL

1. Voluntary Poverty
2. Perpetual Chastity
3. Perfect Obedience

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

- 1 . I am the Lord thy God. Thou shalt not have strange gods before Me.
2. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.
3. Remember to keep holy the Lord's day.
4. Honor thy father and thy mother.
5. Thou shalt not kill.
6. Thou shalt not commit adultery.
7. Thou shalt not steal.
8. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.
9. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife.
- 10 . Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's goods.

THE EIGHT BEATITUDES

1. Blest are the poor in spirit; the reign of God is theirs.
2. Blest are the sorrowing they shall be consoled.
3. Blest are the lowly; they shall inherit the land.
4. Blest are they who hunger and thirst for holiness; they shall have their fill.
5. Blest are they who show mercy; mercy shall be theirs.
6. Blest are the single hearted for they shall see God.
7. Blest are the peacemakers; they shall be called children of God.
8. Blest are those persecuted for holiness' sake; the reign of God is theirs.

THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

1. Wisdom
2. Knowledge
3. Counsel
4. Fortitude
5. Understanding
6. Piety
7. Fear of the Lord

THE MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

1. Prophecy
2. Ministry
3. Teacher
4. Exhorter
5. Contributor
6. Administrator
7. One who shows mercy

THE CARDINAL VIRTUES

1. Prudence: disposes us in all circumstance to form right judgements about what we must do or not do.
2. Justice: disposes us to give everyone what belongs to him.
3. Fortitude: disposes us to do what is good in spite of any difficulty.
4. Temperance: disposes us to control our desires and to use rightly the things which please our senses.

THE SEVEN SACRAMENTS

1. Baptism
2. Confirmation
3. Penance
4. Anointing of the Sick
5. Holy Eucharist
6. Holy Orders
7. Matrimony

THE FOUR LAST THINGS

1. Death
2. Judgement
3. Heaven
4. Hell

THE HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

1. The Immaculate Conception (December 8)
2. Christmas (December 25)
3. Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God (January 1)
4. Ascension Thursday (40 days after Easter)
5. The Assumption (August 15)
6. All Saints' Day (November 1)

HOW TO PRAY THE ROSARY...

1. Begin on the crucifix and say the Apostles' Creed.
2. On the 1st bead, say I Our Father
3. On the next 3 beads, say Hail Mary.
4. Next, say I Glory Be. Then announce and think of the first Mystery and say I Our Father.
5. Say IO Hail Mary and 1 Glory Be to the Father.
6. Announce the second Mystery and continue in the same way until each of the five Mysteries of the selected group or decade is said.

THE PRECEPTS OF THE CHURCH

1. To assist at Mass on all Sundays and holy days of obligation.
2. To fast and abstain on the days appointed.
3. To confess our sins at least once a year.
4. To receive Holy Communion during Easter time.
5. To contribute to the support of the Church.
6. To observe the laws of the Church concerning marriage and other sacraments

THE SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY

1. To convert the sinner.
2. To instruct the ignorant.
3. To counsel the doubtful.
4. To comfort the sorrowful.
5. To bear wrongs patiently.
6. To forgive all injuries.
7. To pray for the living and the dead.

THE CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

1. To feed the hungry.
2. To give drink to the thirsty.
3. To clothe the naked.
4. To visit the imprisoned.
5. To shelter the homeless.
6. To visit the sick.
7. To bury the dead.

THE THEOLOGICAL VIRTUES

1. Faith: the virtue by which we firmly believe all the truths God has revealed, on the word of God revealing them, Who can neither deceive nor be deceived.
2. Hope: the virtue by which we firmly trust that God, Who is all-powerful and faithful to His promises, will in His mercy give us eternal happiness and the means to obtain it
3. Charity. the virtue by which we love God above all things for His own sake, and our neighbor ourselves for the love of God

THE MYSTERIES OF THE ROSARY

The Joyful Mysteries

1. The Annunciation of the Angel Gabriel to the Blessed Virgin
2. The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin to her cousin, St. Elizabeth
3. The Birth of Our Lord
4. The Presentation of the Infant Jesus in the Temple
5. The Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple

The Sorrowful Mysteries

1. The Agony of Our Lord in the Garden
2. The Scourging at the Pillar
3. Our Lord is Mocked and Crowned with Thorns
4. The Carrying of the Cross
5. The Crucifixion and Death of Our Lord

The Glorious Mysteries

1. The Resurrection of Our Lord
2. The Ascension of Our Lord into Heaven
3. The Descent of the Holy Spirit
4. The Assumption of Our Lady into Heaven
5. The Coronation of Our Lady as Queen of Heaven & Earth.

The Luminous Mysteries

1. The Baptism of Jesus
2. The Manifestation at the Wedding Feast of Cana
3. The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God
4. The Transfiguration
5. The Institution of the Eucharist