

Divine Redeemer Catholic Church

Confirmation Packet

926 Farragut Avenue
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80909

Dear Candidate/Confirmand,

Words cannot express how thrilled we are to journey with you during your confirmation year! Your formation year is vital to your spiritual life, and therefore, we are preparing for it in detail. In order to best serve you, we have created this Confirmation packet. The sections within the packet will provide you with all the necessary information as you begin your formation journey. Should you have a conflict with a requirement, we will make every effort to help you complete it.

Students attending Catholic School will receive their instruction during the school day. There are a few times that they will be asked to participate in activities, retreats & church rites outside of school hours. Those attending Public School will have class on Sunday mornings, from 9:30 – 10:45am (Please see “Important Dates & Requirements” Calendar).

In addition, there are Assignments/Objectives within this packet that both Catholic & Public School students will be asked to complete. These are to be done at home and turned in during your classes. A dated list of when each paper/letter is due is provided. Please adhere to these due dates, as it effects how long it takes to process information.

The Sponsors that were at your child’s Baptism are the same Sponsors for Confirmation. They do not need to fill out any paperwork as they are already your child’s Sponsor. If the Sponsors are no longer a suitable model of the faith or has passed away, please contact Fr. Jason or Kathy Bull.

Lastly, towards the end of the year, in April, we will set up an interview with you to discuss your understanding and readiness to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. This will also provide you the opportunity to get answers to any remaining questions you may have as you make final preparations to receive the sacrament. If you have questions, please feel free to contact us at any time. We will be praying for you as you grow in your faith and discipleship of Jesus Christ!

Yours in Christ,

Kathy Bull & Father Jason Keas
Divine Redeemer
926 Farragut Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80909
Email: kbull@divineredeemer.net
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Office: (719) 633-5559

Important Dates & Requirements for ALL Confirmandi (Catholic & Public School)

<u>EVENT DATE:</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT/OBJECTIVE:</u>
September 27 @ 12:15 or September 29 @ 3:15pm or September 30 @ 3:15pm	<u>DR School & PSR Student Confirmation Introduction.</u> Meet at All Saints Center (Church Office Building) <i>Parent(s) MUST attend.</i>
ASAP	<i>Due: Copy of Baptismal Certificate</i>
November 19 (DR students) November 22, 2020 (PSR students)	<i>Due: Confirmation Saint Biography Paper</i>
December 9 (DR students) December 6 (PSR students)	<i>Due: 1st Draft of Petition Letter to Bishop</i>
January 22-24, 2021	CONFIRMATION RETREAT (Cost \$75)
February 28 (PSR students) March 4 (DR students)	<i>Due: Final Draft of Letter of Petition for Confirmation to Bishop Sheridan</i>
April 25 (PSR students) April 30 (DR students)	<i>Due: Completed Service Hours Log</i>
April, 2021	Confirmandi Interviews
(Confirmation Date: TBD)	Rehearsal & Confirmation Mass w/ Bishop (Date & Time TBA)

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS (FOR ALL CONFIRMANDI)

- All Students must attend regular Sunday Masses and observe Holy Days of Obligation.
- All Students must do their best to live exemplary Christian lives, following the Precepts of the Catholic Church (CCC# 2041-2043) to the best of their ability.
- All Students must attend the Confirmation Retreat on *January 22-24, 2021* (cost - \$75 per/person), and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) before being confirmed.
- All Students must complete AT LEAST 33 hours of service over at least 3 activities.

Public School Religion Class Schedule—Classes will be held from 9:30-10:45am

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>DATES OF CLASSES</u>
September	13, 27
October	11, 25
November	8, 22
December	6, 20
January 2019	10 22-24 – Confirmation Retreat
February	14, 28
March	14, 28
April	11, 25
May	9, 23 (depending on when Confirmation is scheduled)

Students MUST NOT have more than 3 absences from Confirmation class. If a class is missed, a make-up will be assigned. If the student does not complete the make-up work given, they may not be considered well-formed to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Public School Students must also bring their Parent or Sponsor to each class, along with their “Chosen” Student Workbook, and any due assignment’s/objectives listed above under “Important Dates & Requirements.”

Picking a Confirmation Saint Name/ Saint Biography Paper

Upon your Confirmation, you will be given a new name. The Tradition of the Catholic Church, both written and oral, shows us that a new name is given or received when a person takes on a new role or mission from God.

Now that you are about to be Confirmed, it is time to choose a name that will be a sign of your growth and maturity in the Catholic Faith. Your Confirmation name should reflect the NEW role/mission you will undertake as a fully initiated Catholic, with a fresh unleashing of the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit!

The Saint Biography Paper is due:

November 19 (DR Students)

November 22 (PSR Students)

This practice can be traced back to the Old Testament, and one specific example of this is when Abram was called to trust in God's providence and enter into covenant with Him. In Genesis 17:5, we read that God the Father changes Abram's name, which meant "father of many," to Abraham, meaning "the father of many nations." In Matthew 16:17-18, we find Jesus, God the Son, changing Simon's name to Peter, meaning "the Rock," because he was to become the Rock, the first pope, upon which Jesus founded His Church.

Once you have decided upon a Saint for your name, you need to write a 1 page paper about the saint you chose. This paper must talk about: who the saint is, when they lived, where they are from, what they are known for, what they are "patrons of", and why their life story and example appeal to you.

The Saint Biography must be at least 3 paragraphs long, consisting of 5 sentences each, with 1 inch margins, and written in size 12 Arial or Times New Roman font. Each paragraph must contain 5 complete sentences each. Your letter must be at least one page in length, without narrowed margins.)

Below are a few websites that you can visit to learn more about the saints of the Catholic Church. In addition, you might visit a Library like the Diocesan Library downtown to look through books about saints.

Websites for Research on the Saints

- † www.catholic.org/saints
- † <http://www.catholic.org/saints/stindex.php>
- † www.americancatholic.org
- † www.catholic-saints.info
- † <http://www.sacred-texts.com/chr/lots/index.htm>

Recommended Books for Helping in Your Research of the Saints:

- † Lives of the Saints (aka Butler's Lives of the Saints) by Fr. Alban Butler
- † The Book of Saints: A Comprehensive Biographical Dictionary, Edition 8. By Basil Watkins

EXAMPLE OF LETTER FORMAT FOR PETITION LETTER TO BISHOP MICHAEL SHERIDAN

DATE

Your Full Name

*
*
*

****(4 lines of separation between date and addressee)***

Letter of Petition for Confirmation

Most Reverend Michael John Sheridan

228 N. Cascade Ave.

Colorado Springs, CO 80903

*

****(2 lines of separation)***

Dear Most Reverend Bishop Sheridan:

(Indent the body of your letter 5 spaces, or 1 tab for each paragraph. The letter must be typed, **NOT HAND WRITTEN**, with 1 inch margins, and written in size 12 Arial or Times New Roman font. Each paragraph must contain 5 complete sentences each. Your letter must be at least one page in length, without narrowed margins.)

The BODY of the letter needs to:

- Introduce yourself and formally request to be confirmed by the Bishop.
- State several reasons why you would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation (*Sentences must be specific and not generic sayings like, "it will bring me closer to God" etc.*)
- Explain how you've been growing, preparing, and praying for this sacrament.
- Describe why you chose your Confirmation sponsor; tell who they are in your life, and why they will help you as a role model in living out your Catholic faith.
- State your Confirmation Name, and briefly describe your saint. Tell why you have chosen them, and how they reflect/model this new change which you seek to have the Holy Spirit develop in your person.
- Explain how you plan to continue living out your faith and how you will continue being involved within the normal life of the Church here at Divine Redeemer and within the Diocese of Colorado Springs. Will you help in the choir, serve as an usher or as a Lector, or will you help in the youth group as a Junior COR, etc.?

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****(3 lines of separation between the body and the closing of the letter)***

Sincerely,

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*
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****(4 lines of separation to make room for your signature)***



Your Name (typed out, which will be under your actual signature.)

The Petition Letter is due:
First Draft –
December 6th – PSR students
December 9th – DR students
Final Draft –
February 28 (PSR Students)
March 4 (DR Students)

