

Street address
City, State, zip code
Date

The Most Reverend Dennis J. Sullivan, D.D.
Bishop of Camden
631 Market Street
P.O. Box 708
Camden, NJ 08101

Dear Bishop Sullivan:

This paper contains the guidelines for you to write a letter to our Bishop requesting to be confirmed this year. Your letter should be in your own words but grammatically correct, carefully written or typed, on plain white paper. Include your address in the heading; The Bishop's address should be included exactly as it is on this paper as an inside address. Do not return your letter in an envelope. We will then give these letters to our pastor, Father Pete and then they will be sent along to the Bishop.

The letter should contain at least **4** paragraphs. The topics for each of the paragraphs are as follows:

1. Introduce yourself: tell the Bishop who you are, a little about yourself, and that you are a member of our parish, and why you are writing to him.

2. Tell the Bishop why you wish to be confirmed. This should be for a spiritual reason. You might like to talk this over with your parent or sponsor before you compose your thoughts. Confirmation is the sacrament that strengthens the **graces and gifts of the Spirit** in us so we are able to live and share our faith and so to build up the Kingdom of God on earth. You have to say it in your own words, however. You may wish to discuss the gifts and how they will help you in the future. Please include your knowledge of and how you put the Corporal and or Spiritual works of Mercy into action. (Make a connection between your service activities and the Works of Mercy, ie: Making sandwiches- Feed the Hungry- Toys for Tots- Township Clean UP) You might also like to talk about some of the activities you have participated in this past two year in preparation to be confirmed. (For example: guest speakers, Eucharistic Adoration, Confirmation retreat, Penance service, Parish Mission, etc.)

3. Tell the Bishop the name of your sponsor and why you have chosen that person. You may also tell him the name you are taking in Confirmation and why that name has significance to you. Again, these should be spiritual reasons.

4. In the closing paragraph, thank the Bishop for taking time to read your letter and tell him you are looking forward to meeting him. If you mean it, it would also be appropriate to offer to pray for him.

When you are finished a first draft of your letter, please ask a parent or teacher to go over it with you to be sure it is correct.

Return your finished letter to class or the Religious Education Office no later than on 6 weeks before Confirmation.

Sincerely,

Your Signature

Printed Name