

How to write a letter to the Bishop

All Confirmation candidates are required to present a well-written, typed letter explaining what Confirmation means to them personally and why they wish to be confirmed. The purpose of this letter is to help clarify what is happening in your faith lives and what it means to you to be confirmed. Since Confirmation is very much a spiritual, internal journey, this letter will help express the changes experienced in your interior life.

Diocesan guidelines state:

"In the letter, candidates should tell what they have been doing with Christian Service (Activities) and Faith Formation to ready themselves for the sacrament and why they wish to be confirmed as a Catholic Christian."

The Religious Education Office will send the letters to Bishop Byrne as a package.

Do not mail your letters individually, they are to be returned to the catechist when the final copy is done.

A rough draft will be done in class.

Make sure you include:

- Address letter as "Your Excellency" or "Most Reverend Peter Byrne"
- Sign the letter with your handwritten signature and include your typed name below it

Write about the following topics in your letter:

- Introduce yourself; name, age, grade, family
- What do you enjoy doing? Hobbies? Sports
- Why do you want to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation?
- Why does Confirmation mean to you?
- What have you done to prepare for Confirmation?
(i.e. Faith Formation, retreats, religion class, small groups, etc)
- What service have you done?
- How has your service work impacted you?