



ST. JAMES FAITH FORMATION

429 Route 25A Setauket, NY 11733

(631)751-7287

www.stjamesre.org

CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2018

Dear Candidate,

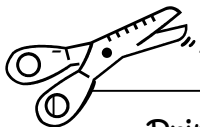
Many students are seriously considering taking part in the Confirmation Preparation Program that begins now. You may be wondering what this involves. When you were baptized, your Godparents spoke for you and promised that you would live a good Christian life. Now the time has come for you to speak for yourself.

Confirmation is the sacrament in which baptized Catholics receive the seal of the Holy Spirit, the gift of the Father and the Son. The Spirit gives you the strength to live as a follower of Christ. Confirmation is not a magical ritual. The bishop or minister of the Sacrament of Confirmation can say the right words and perform the right actions, but it is you who must recognize the action of the Holy Spirit within yourself. The Holy Spirit affects change in people who are open to grace and whose attitude is: "Come, Holy Spirit."

We hope that during this time of preparation, through prayer, study and service, you will grow in faith, hope and love, so that at the end of this time you will seek to make the commitment to follow Jesus as a Catholic confirmed in Faith. Please complete the form below and return it to me. The parish family is willing to help you in any way we can. Please call on us to be of service to you.

Love and Prayers!

Louise DiCarlo
Director of Faith Formation



Print Candidate's Name in Full: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

_____ Your cell for texts: _____

Email address: _____

Print again: _____

School presently attending: _____ Date of birth: _____

I am ready and willing to begin the Confirmation preparation process.

Candidate's Signature: _____ Date: _____



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Dear Parents,

Your child has reached a milestone in the life of a Christian. The time has come for him or her to make a commitment to a more immediate preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. This preparation period at our parish is designed to help Confirmation candidates make a decision about receiving the sacrament.

Through study, prayer and service, they will be prepared to make a personal profession of faith in Jesus Christ. We have every confidence that when your son or daughter makes a public profession of faith and when the bishop or minister of Confirmation imposes his hands to confirm that faith; your child will be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Jesus has promised:

I will ask the Father and He will give you another
Paraclete to be with you always; the Spirit of truth.

John 15: 16-17

To help you during this important time of preparation, please read through the accompanying materials with dates and times and mark them on your family calendar:

We look forward to working with you and your child during this time of preparation. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us.

Thank you!



Louise DiCarlo
Louise DiCarlo, Director
Religious Education & Family Faith Formation



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

TESTIMONY OF DESIGNATED SPONSOR

The role of sponsor is an important one for the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. Today some may see the role as honorary, but the Church sees the sponsor, popularly called a godparent, as a fully-initiated Catholic who actively supports the newly Baptized or Confirmed by good example and instruction in the Christian life.

In order to be admitted to the role of sponsor, the law of the Church directs that a person must be designated specifically by the parents of the infant or the individual who is to be baptized or confirmed. To be a sponsor, a person must be a Catholic, at least sixteen years of age, and have already received the Sacraments of the Most Holy Eucharist and Confirmation. In addition, he or she must be leading a life in harmony with the faith and not be bound by a canonical penalty.

I, _____, declare that I have been chosen to act as a sponsor for _____, who is to receive the Sacrament of Baptism/Confirmation on _____ at the Church of _____ in _____.

In assuming this responsibility, I testify that:

- **I am at least sixteen years of age.**
- **I have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.**
- **I am living a life in harmony with the teachings of the Catholic Church in faith and morals.**

Understanding the role of sponsor as prescribed by the Church and aware of the obligations and responsibilities of this role, I attest that I am willing and able to accept the role of sponsor in the Catholic Church.

By my signature, I solemnly swear that I fulfill all of the requirements to be a sponsor as described above. I attest to the truth of this statement. so help me God.

Date

Designated Sponsor

Parish

Pastor/Delegate

Parish Seal:

Revised 1/1/2016



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YOUR CONFIRMATION NAME

Confirmation is one of the three sacraments of initiation celebrated in the Catholic Church. One of the graces received through the Holy Spirit in this sacrament is a strengthening in giving witness to Jesus Christ as well as a strengthening in the virtues. By celebrating this sacrament after the age of reason, the baptized Christian is given the opportunity to freely **choose** to profess faith in Jesus Christ as well as to accept and practice the Catholic Christian faith.

For centuries, it has been a common practice that individuals who are to receive the sacrament of **Confirmation** select a “confirmation name.” The purpose of this selection is twofold: First, the “new” name is a reminder that as we receive the sacrament of **Confirmation**, we are undertaking a new responsibility in life—taking a “new” life, as an active, participating, responsible member of the Catholic community. Secondly, the name chosen is, by tradition, the name of a patron saint who we admire; someone whose life we will seek to model our own upon, and upon whom we will rely for spiritual assistance and intercession. It is not necessary to select a completely “new” name (although most people do). Your current name, if you are named after a saint of the Church, could serve as your confirmation name as well.

It would be good to pray about your confirmation name. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you choose a confirmation name. Ask God what name He wants you to take. Give God permission to name you. Research the lives of the saints. Learn a little about them. Be aware of any attraction you may have to a particular saint and what is the reason for the attraction. Narrow your list of possibilities down to several and finally just one. Then present that name to God and in prayer ask Him if that is the name for you. As a general guideline in your discernment, follow your peace and interior feelings. God’s Will is always found in peace.

- ❖ One of the traditional practices in the Church at the time of Confirmation is choosing a name that will **remind you of this sacrament**.
- ❖ Your **prayerful reflection** will help you decide on that name.
- ❖ You have a choice to **keep your baptismal name**, signifying that you are confirming the faith that was given to you at your Baptism.
- ❖ You may also **choose to add a name**, to signify your new and deeper awareness of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus.
- ❖ If the choice is made to add a new name, **it is to be a Christian name**.
- ❖ It should reflect a saint whom you can admire and imitate.
- ❖ Check out some web-sites to learn more about some people who really lived the “Catholic Way of Life.”

Reflections on the celebration of the Eucharist

The Sunday Liturgy (Mass) is the gathering of the faithful to pray and give praise to God. During the liturgy we hear the Word of God proclaimed, the celebrant or deacon shares his thoughts on the Word, and we are to take the Word with us as we leave the Church. One way for us to truly live out the Word of God is to spend some time reflecting on what these words mean to us.

In Level 8, each candidate, with the help of his/her parent(s), must write a reflection on the Gospel and homily for three (3) Eucharistic celebrations—**one** in Ordinary Time, Ash Wednesday, **and** one during the celebration of the Triduum. *There are designated pages in this workbook for your reflection.*

Suggestions on how to write these papers:

- Bring a pad of paper with you to church and write down some thoughts or words you hear in the Gospel and homily. ***(Do not bring your workbook)***
- Write down the Scripture reference (e.g. Luke 5:1-5) of the Gospel so you can refer back to it when you are writing your paper
- Discuss what you heard and wrote down on the way home in the car, asking everyone to participate.
- As yourself and your family what the Scripture and homily have to do with your life to-day
- When you get home, write your reflection while it is fresh in your mind.

Remember, this is a reflection paper; what you write is what you feel the Scripture is saying to you at this moment in your life's journey.

SAMPLE: SUNDAY MASS REFLECTION

Date: January 6 Epiphany

Time: 9:30 Mass

Celebrant (Priest's Name): _____

Gospel Evangelist: Matthew Citation (Chapter & verse): 2:1-11

Brief Summary of the Gospel:

The Magi come searching for the King of the Jews. They followed a star and found Jesus in the city of Bethlehem. They offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Reflection on what the Gospel means for you.

How does it challenge you and your lifestyle?

It makes me ask the question of how faithful I am in following/searching for Jesus in my own life.

The Kings come to Jesus through a star whose light lead them. How do I come to Jesus, what leads me to Him? Parents, Church, friends, nature? What are the signs that direct me to Jesus and allow me to proclaim Him the King, the Lord and truth of my life?

The Gospel also makes me ask—what are the gifts that I offer to Jesus? How willing am I to offer them to Jesus or other people? I guess my gift is my time with family, especially when I help out at home. Also my being respectful of other people, especially if they are different from me.

Most importantly it is to be like the Kings and listen to how God calls me to come to Him, to follow Him. So I know that it is important to make sure I pray every day and go to Mass.

REFLECTION FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

Date: _____ Mass Time: _____

Celebrant (Priest's name): _____

Gospel: _____ Citation: _____

Brief Summary of the Gospel:

What the Gospel means for you.

How does the Gospel challenge you and your lifestyle?

YOUR NAME _____

REFLECTION ON A TRIDUUM CELEBRATION (Holy Thursday/Mass of the Lord's Supper, Good Friday, The Easter Vigil or Easter Sunday)

Date: _____ Mass Time: _____

Celebrant (Priest's name): _____

Gospel: _____ Citation: _____

Brief Summary of the Gospel:

What the Gospel means for you.

How does the Gospel challenge you and your lifestyle?

YOUR NAME _____

***Outline of your Letter to the Pastor Requesting
The sacrament of confirmation***

Date

Pastor's Name
Church Name
Parish Address

Dear Father,

In the Book of Isaiah 11:2-3, the Gifts of the Holy Spirit are described. In the passage the gifts are considered ones that the Messiah would have possessed. Through Jesus, we also receive the Gifts of the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation. What gift of the Holy Spirit do you wish to receive at Confirmation and why? (Gifts of the Holy Spirit can be found on page 15)

Candidate's Signature

Have your parents witness the letter with their signatures.

****This letter should be typed or neatly handwritten on good stationery and placed in an envelope with the Candidate's name on it****

The Candidate's letter is presented to the **Pastor and the parish community** during a weekend celebration of the Eucharist.

BASICS

OUR POPE'S NAME: Pope Francis, Bishop of Rome

OUR BISHOP'S NAME: Bishop John Barres 5th Bishop of Rockville Centre
(Walter P. Kellenberg, Founding Bishop; John R. McGann, 2nd Bishop; James T. McHugh 3rd Bishop, William F. Murphy, 4th Bishop)

OUR PASTOR'S NAME: Fr. James Mannion

THE LITURGICAL SEASONS OF THE YEAR OF GRACE

Advent: The season begins four Sundays before December 25 and ends at the Mass on Christmas Eve. The season color of vestments is violet, signifying a time of expectation. Symbols of the season are the Advent wreath, Advent calendar and the Jesse Tree.

Christmas Season: The season begins at the Mass on Christmas Eve and ends on the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. The seasonal color vestments is white or gold, signifying a time of joy at the presence of Christ. Symbols of the season are the Crèche and the 'Angel's' Star/ Epiphany Star.

Lent: The season begins on Ash Wednesday, forty days before Easter, and ends on the Thursday of Holy Week. The seasonal color of vestments is purple or violet signifying a time of penance and reflection. Symbols of the season revolve around the sense of starkness and absence: a sense of the desert. Hence, the starkness of Church decoration, the absence of holy water in the fonts, the absence of the Alleluia being sung, plus the focus on the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and most traditionally—ashes.

Triduum: These three days in which the Church remembers the Death and Resurrection of Jesus are the most important time of the Church's year. The Triduum begins on Holy Thursday evening with the Mass of the Lord's Supper, continues on Good Friday with the celebration of the Lord's Passion, reaches it's high point on the evening of Holy Saturday at the Easter Vigil, and ends on the evening of Easter Sunday, the great feast of the Resurrection of the Lord. The seasonal color of vestments is in sequence of the days: white, red, white or gold signifying a time of joy, sorrow and sheer ecstasy in the victory of Christ. Symbols of the season are the return of the Alleluia, the return of holy water, the return, in abundance, of color and flowers, especially lilies and most traditionally in the celebration of Baptism and the reception of catechumens.

Easter Season: This season of fifty days, the *Great Easter*, begins on the Monday of Easter week and ends on the feast of Pentecost. The seasonal color of vestments is white or gold signifying joy of the season. Celebrations in this season: Ascension Thursday, *forty days after Easter*, Pentecost (the giving of the Holy Spirit), *fifty days after Easter*.

Ordinary Time: The season begins on the Monday after Pentecost and ends on the last Sunday of the year, the feast of Christ the King. The seasonal color of vestments is green, signifying hope.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

1. I, the Lord, am your God: you shall not have (other) strange gods besides me
2. You shall not take the name of the Lord in vain, for it is holy
3. Remember to keep holy the Sabbath (Lord's) Day
4. Honor (respect) your father and mother
5. You shall not kill
6. You shall not commit adultery
7. You shall not steal
8. You shall not bear false witness (lie) against your neighbor
9. You shall not covet (lust) your neighbor's wife
10. You shall not covet (be jealous of) anything that belongs to your neighbor

THE BEATITUDES

1. Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven
2. Blessed are they who mourn, for
they will be comforted
3. Blessed are the meek,
For they will inherit the land
4. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they
will be satisfied
5. Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy
6. Blessed are the clean of heart, for
they will see God
7. Blessed are the peacemakers,
For they will be called children of God
8. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is
the kingdom of heaven

THE GREAT COMMANDMENT

You shall love the Lord your God

With all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength; You shall love your neighbor as yourself

THE SEVEN GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. Wisdom
2. Understanding
3. Knowledge
4. Right Judgment
5. Courage
6. Reverence
7. Wonder and awe

THE FOUR MARKS OF THE CHURCH

One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic

THE WORKS OF MERCY

THE VIRTUES

Spiritual

1. Share our knowledge with others
2. Give advice to those who need it
3. Comfort those who suffer
4. Be patient with others
5. Forgive those who hurt us
6. Give correction to those who need it
7. Pray for the living and the dead

Theological

1. Faith (Belief)
2. Hope (Trust)
3. Charity (Love)

Corporal

1. Feed the hungry
2. Give drink to the thirsty
3. Clothe the naked
4. Help the imprisoned
5. Shelter the homeless
6. Care for the sick
7. Bury the dead

Cardinal

1. Prudence (Right Judgment)
2. Justice
3. Fortitude (Constancy of Resolve)
4. Temperance (Moderation/Balance)

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

1. Jesus is condemned to death
2. Jesus takes up His cross
3. Jesus falls the first time
4. Jesus meets His Mother
5. Simon helps Jesus carry His cross
6. Veronica wipes the face of Jesus
7. Jesus falls the second time
8. Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem
9. Jesus falls the third time
10. Jesus is stripped of His garments
11. Jesus is nailed to the cross
12. Jesus dies on the cross
13. Jesus is taken down from the cross and placed in His Mother's arms
14. Jesus is buried in the tomb

THE ROSARY

A rosary has a cross, followed by one large bead and three small ones. Then there is a circle with five 'decades.' Each decade consists of one large bead followed by ten smaller beads. Begin the rosary with the sign of the cross. Recite the Apostle's Creed. Then pray one Our Father, three Hail Mary's and one Glory to the Father.

To recite each decade, say one Our Father on the large bead and ten Hail Mary's on the ten smaller beads. After each decade, pray the Glory to the Father. As you pray each decade, think of the appropriate Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious or Luminous Mystery, or a special event in the life of Jesus and Mary. Pray the Hail, Holy Queen as the last prayer of the rosary, finishing with the sign of the cross.

JOYFUL

The Annunciation (The angel Gabriel announces to Mary that she will bear a son)
The Visitation (Mary visits her cousin Elizabeth, mother of John the Baptist)
The Nativity (The birth of Jesus in Bethlehem)
The Presentation (The presentation of Jesus in the Temple)
The Finding in the Temple

SORROWFUL

The Agony in the Garden
The scourging at the Pillar
The Crowning with Thorns
The Carrying of the Cross
They Dying on the Cross

GLORIOUS

The Resurrection of Jesus from the dead
The Ascension of Jesus into Heaven
The descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles (Pentecost)
The Assumption of Mary into Heaven
The Coronation of Mary, Queen of Heaven

LUMINOUS

Jesus' Baptism in the Jordan
The Miracle at the Wedding at Cana
Jesus announces the Kingdom of God
The Transfiguration
The Institution of the Eucharist

HAIL HOLY QUEEN

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy; our life,
our sweetness, our hope
To you do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to you do
we send up our sighs,
mourning and weeping in this vale of tears.

Turn, then, most gracious advocate, thine
eyes of mercy towards us;
and after this our exile, show unto us the
blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus

O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary Pray for
us O holy Mother of God, that we may be made
worth of the promises of your Son. Amen