



*Stewardship
as a way of life*

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January 2019

Dear Parents of Confirmation Candidates,

What an exciting time this will be for you and your family! It may seem like it is far into the future, but in just a few short months your son/daughter will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and become fully initiated into the Catholic faith!

Enclosed in this packet you will find:

- Confirmation Information Sheet
- Saint Report
- Testimony of Designated Sponsor
- Stewardship Project

Please carefully review these instructions before completing the forms in this Confirmation packet:

1. Read and review the entire Confirmation packet before proceeding.
2. The **Confirmation Information Sheet** is due on or before February 11th. This form updates your contact information, lists the name of the person chosen as sponsor, the relationship of that person to the candidate, and the confirmation name the candidate has chosen. Please write the complete name of the saint selected. For example, if the name selected is St. Francis, please indicate St. Francis of Assisi or St. Francis de Sales.
3. Each student is asked to complete a **Saint Report** on the name of the saint or the virtue that they have chosen to emulate. It should include the life of the saint or the meaning of the virtue, and why the candidate has selected it as their Confirmation name. The saint report is due on or before February 11th.
4. The Diocese of Rockville Centre has mandated that all parishes obtain a **Testimony of Designated Sponsor**. This is a form that the *sponsor* is to fill out and have signed by his/her parish delegate – even if the sponsor is a parishioner of St. Patrick. It is a declaration by the *sponsor* that they are a Catholic in good standing and able to serve as a sponsor for Confirmation. This form is due on or before February 25, 2019.
5. All candidates are required to complete a **Stewardship Service Project** in the parish and/or community in response to our call to service as Catholics. Through serving others, we learn lessons and put our lives into perspective. You have many talents and time that can be used to benefit those that are less fortunate. If you have completed your project during the spring semester the form may be turned in before your last class. All Stewardship forms are due by the second class in September 2019.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation with these matters.

Joyfully in Christ,

Carrie Reinhold
Director of Religious Education



Confirmation Information Sheet

Please complete this form to provide the Religious Education Office with the necessary information regarding the Confirmation Candidate and his/her sponsor.

A sponsor is a witness who will be recorded in our Sacramental register. This person should be a good role model, the type of Catholic Christian you intend to be after you are fully initiated when you receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

For this reason, the sponsor you choose:

- 1. Must be over 16 years of age*
- 2. Must be fully initiated themselves (must have received Roman Catholic Confirmation)*
- 3. If they are married, they must have been married in the Roman Catholic Church (Catholics who have not been obedient to Catholic marriage laws may not be godparents or sponsors and may not receive Communion)*
- 4. A parent may **not** serve as a sponsor*

*Please return form by **February 11, 2019***

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

CONFIRMATION STUDENT INFORMATION

Full Name of Student: _____

Chosen Confirmation Name: _____
Saint Name, Virtue, or your First Name (Baptismal Name)

Room Number: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

CONFIRMATION SPONSOR INFORMATION

Sponsor's Full Name: _____

Relationship to Confirmation Candidate: _____

Sponsor's Date of Birth: _____



Saint Report

As we go through our sacramental preparation for Confirmation, we choose a Confirmation name. When choosing a Confirmation name, choose the name of a saint you want to be like, as well as someone who can pray for you from heaven.

Through the process of canonization, when someone is declared by the Church to be a saint, the Church is proclaiming that this member of the faithful practiced heroic virtue during their life on earth, ‘the Church recognizes the power of the Spirit of holiness within her and sustains the hope of believers by proposing the saints to them as models and intercessors’ (CCC 828).

To aspire to be like a saint is the same as trying to imitate a famous person; a confirmation saint is someone we want to be like!

Now that this name has been chosen, students are required to **write a short essay of 250 words about this saint**. It should include the life of the saint, what qualities or virtues you admire about the saint, and why you chose their name as your confirmation name.

To help with your research, your *Chosen* textbook has a section in each chapter called “The Hero of the Week”, which gives brief biographies on the saints. Other sources of information include several Catholic websites, such as www.catholic.org/saints, the Religious Education Office, and your local library.

This short essay may be sent electronically in PDF format to stpatreo@stpatrickbayshore.org or submitted to your catechist at class. All reports are due by **February 11, 2019**.



Confirmation Stewardship Project

*"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another
as good stewards of God's varied grace."
– 1 Peter 4:10*

We have all been gifted by God with many talents. As part of our call to service you are being asked to give of your time and talents. We suggest at least two hours of time should be given and ideally your sponsor should be involved with you. This project is not just a job well done, but a selfless and loving help to those in need. Please reflect upon how your project is helping you take on the mind and heart of Christ, fulfill the needs of others, and build up the Christian community. This project should be done voluntarily and without monetary gain.

Please return form by second class in September 2019

Suggested Projects

Find out what your parish or school organizations are doing. Join in one of their projects or help in one or more of the following ways:

- Write a letter to our service men and women
- Collect food for our Parish Food Pantry
- Rake leaves, run errands, wash windows, etc for infirmed or elderly neighbors
- Organize a car wash to raise money for our Parish Social Ministry
- Read or help a young child with assignments
- Collect and wrap loose pennies from family and donate the money to a charity
- Host a collection drive to gather toiletries for Outreach

Student Name: _____

Address: _____

Room Number: _____

Service Project Description: _____

Date(s) and hours performed: _____

Confirmation Candidate Signature: _____

Confirmation Sponsor Name: _____

Confirmation Sponsor Signature: _____



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 FALL 2019 at the Church of SAINT PATRICK in BAY SHORE.

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:

The Requirements of Sponsor

The role of *sponsor* is an important one for the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. The Church sees the *sponsor* as a fully-initiated Catholic who supports the one receiving the sacrament with example and instruction. Because of the seriousness of this ministry, the Church has the following requirements:

- The sponsor must be a fully-initiated member of the Catholic Church through Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.
- The sponsor must be at least sixteen (16) years of age.
 - In this case, the Catholic who is younger than 16 must be fully initiated.
- The sponsor must have an active life of faith in the Church and provide good example.
 - Someone married outside the Church is not able to receive Communion and is not able to be a sponsor.
 - Also, a Catholic who has left the Church is not able to be a sponsor of a new member into the Church.
 - Therefore, a Catholic who has left the Catholic Church cannot be a sponsor and cannot be a "Christian witness" if they join another Christian communion.
- The sponsor cannot be either parent.
- When there are two sponsors, they are “spiritual parents” and are to be a godfather and godmother.

Christian Witness – (A baptized non-Catholic Christian)

Provided there is one Catholic sponsor, a baptized non-Catholic Christian may serve as a Christian witness for Baptism only. This person is a *Christian witness* and not a *sponsor*.

- Requirements to be a Christian Witness:
 - at least sixteen years old
 - a validly baptized Christian
 - living an upright life
 - cannot be either parent
 - cannot be a Catholic who has left the Church
- A Christian witness may never be a non-baptized person. For example, Jewish or Muslim godparents are not permitted by universal church law.
- The notation "Christian witness" is placed under the name of the non-Catholic Christian witness in the baptismal register.



Confirmation Information

Summary of Dates

Confirmation Preparation at the Parish of Saint Patrick is a three-year process beginning with two full years of instruction in Confirmation I and Confirmation II. Confirmation III begins in the fall and culminates with the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Important Dates

Monday, February 11, 2019

Confirmation Information Sheet Due
Saint Report Due

Monday, February 11, 2019

Testimony of Designated Sponsor Due

Monday, April 8, 2019

All Completed Stewardship Projects Due
*If you have not completed yet, all projects **must be completed by the second class in September 2019***

Confirmation Date

We will not receive the date for Confirmation until sometime near June. This date is assigned to us by the Bishop. As soon as we are made aware, we will let all families know.

The calendar for classes for fall 2019 will be set during the summer months. As soon as the calendar has been finalized, we will let families know.

Confirmation III - Retreat

All students are required to attend this retreat as a requirement for Confirmation. It is a weekday full-day retreat at the Shrine of Our Lady in Eastport, NY. This mandatory retreat takes place in the fall. Attendance at the retreat is considered an excused absence for public school students. All public school principals and superintendents will be notified once the date has been finalized.