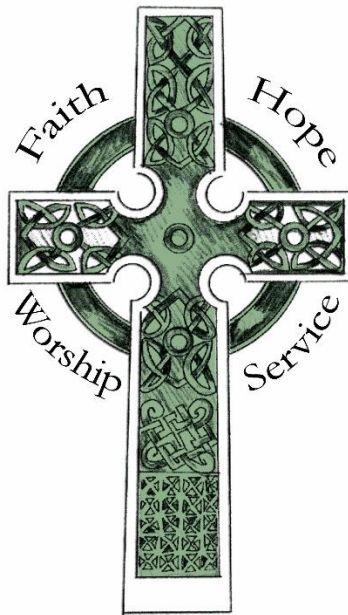


C1 Confirmation Resource Booklet



2017-2018

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A Little Background Information...

Confirmation is: one of the three Sacraments of Initiation. It continues a process of full membership in the Church that was begun at Baptism. Confirmation strengthens and celebrates the presence of God's Spirit in our lives.

At St. Patrick's, preparation for Confirmation is a two-year process for young people in high school as requested by our Archdiocese. The Confirmation program uses a curriculum that fosters the development of knowledge and maturity needed for an adult level of participation in all areas of parish life. At the conclusion of this program there is a beginning of complete membership in the parish community. Each part of the series focuses on different aspects of community and different levels of understanding of the Catholic Faith. In addition there will be a strong emphasis on Catholic Social Teaching and the need for regular charity in our Christian lifestyle.

Contact Information:

Bryan Collins – Director of Youth Ministry – 651- 621-1562 | bcollins@churchofstpatrick.com

General Expectations ...

Candidates are expected to participate in Family Faith Formation sessions for their age level during both ninth and tenth grades. They are also expected to complete service and participation requirements as listed in this resource booklet. Candidates must also choose an appropriate sponsor to help them on their journey by working with them, praying for them, and being able to support their decision that they are ready to fully join the Church (see page 4 for sponsor details). Finally, candidates must decide if they are ready to commit to fully joining the Church, and, if they are, receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in the spring of tenth grade. Confirmation is to be the beginning of an active life as an adult member of the Church- a joining ceremony. Confirmation is not the end, but rather a beginning of life long active faith.

Parents/Guardians are expected to help their child focus on what is expected as a candidate, support and pray for their child, and do any "at home" work requested. While parents should encourage their child to want to be a full member of the Church, the young person should be allowed to make the final decision themselves about whether or not they are currently ready to fully commit to adult membership, participation and responsibility in the Church. During the two years of preparation, parents can help the young people make useful service choices, attend Mass and parish events and see the ways that belonging to a parish are important to the family. At the end of this time, the young person must determine their readiness for Confirmation.

Candidates in C1 & C2: In order to be Confirmed, the family of the candidate must be members of the parish. This is a Church expectation- not just a St. Patrick's expectation. The candidate must have already received the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation and Eucharist. A Baptismal certificate must be on file in the office. If the candidate was **NOT** baptized at St. Patrick's Church please provide a photocopy of the original Baptismal Certificate from the parish where the candidate was baptized. A copy may be obtained by calling the parish of baptism and requesting a copy. The candidate must then complete all the requirements of the program. If he/she decides not to be Confirmed at the end of the program, please contact the Faith Formation Office.

LEVEL 1 - in more detail

Confirmation Level 1 (C1): usually happens in 9th grade but can be later if desired/needed. In addition to attending the regular formation sessions for their level (approximately 12 sessions), the candidates complete the following:

- Focus on the Sacraments and understanding their role in the Church
- Choose an appropriate sponsor. Sponsors will be asked to attend 5 sessions with the candidates during the C1 and C2 years. You will be asked to talk with your sponsor after each and every session (see page 4 for sponsor details)
- Complete the information form on Page 7 of this packet
- Complete 3 **different** service projects and corresponding sheets on page 9 of this packet
- Attend weekly Mass
- Attend sessions and retreats as listed on the Faith Formation calendar
- Complete a short interview in the spring to determine progress and growth

Attendance/Calendar: All required formation sessions and Confirmation meetings, events, and retreats are listed on the master formation calendar. This calendar is available on line at www.churchofstpatrick.com. We understand that young people must sometimes be absent due to illness. Please notify the faith formation office as far in advance as possible, make up any work immediately, and make absences as rare an occurrence as possible. **Families with high absenteeism will be contacted to determine a solution to the situation. Confirmation may be postponed if there is a high level of absenteeism.**

Sponsor: A sponsor will need to be selected at the beginning of the C1 year. Sponsors will help the candidates prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation through discussion and their willingness to act as a role model. It is important for candidates and sponsors to discuss their faith often before the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Who can be a sponsor? Given the nature of the sacrament of Confirmation as a Sacrament of Initiation, and its close relationship with Baptism, sponsors will need to stay in close contact with the candidates as they move through the remainder of the preparation. **At the completion of the process the sponsor will be required to present the candidate to the Catholic Church community as fully prepared to enter into the community as an adult member. This can only be done through regular contact and dialogue after each and every session.**

Please note:

- Given the guidelines of Canon Law a sponsor cannot be a parent of the candidate
- The sponsor must be an active practicing Catholic 16 years or older, and received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation
- The sponsor must be an excellent model of adult Catholic living in the world
- C1 Sponsors will be asked to attend 2 different sessions:
 - Wednesday, December 13, 2017 at 6:30 PM
 - Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 6:30 PM
- If a sponsor is unable to attend a sponsor session, a parent should come in the sponsor's place.

Confirmation Service Opportunity:

Due to the importance of the regular practice of service in the lives of active Catholic adults all C1 and C2 learners will be required to complete **3 different service entries** of community service each year, 3 during the C1 year and 3 during the C2 year. Through the positive exercise of this service opportunity you should learn the value of regular service, and thus be prompted to partake in future service experiences.

The guidelines are:

- Service must be completed for a nonprofit organization.
- There needs to be a connection between who we are as Christians and the motives behind the service.
- Each service opportunity should be a different activity. It is important that learners experience different forms of service. This allows learners to come into a greater understanding about how they would like to serve as Christians after Confirmation.
- **Although admirable, membership on sports teams does not fulfill the service opportunity.**
- The candidates need to be able to complete a service entry form for each service site activity answering the questions on the form.
- At the completion of the service, all candidates will need to get a signature and phone number from the supervisor at the service site.
- Service events will be scheduled by SPY and promoted on the SPY website as well as during Faith Formation sessions.
- Candidates are welcome to attend SPY events or find other service opportunities on their own.
- If you are unsure about service sites, please ask.
- Do not wait until the last minute, please plan ahead.

Examples of acceptable parish events:

- Haunted House October 29, 2017
- All Saints Party October 29, 2017
- Epiphany Performance January 7, 2018
- Vacation Bible School
- SPY Outreach events as scheduled
- Other opportunities will be emailed out throughout the Faith Formation year.

Examples of acceptable outreach events:

- Feed My Starving Children – www.FMSC.org
- Neighbors Inc. - <http://neighborsmn.org/>
- Wilder Foundation - <http://www.wilder.org/>
- Volunteer match - <http://www.volunteermatch.org/>
- Events within your school, including NHS hours

Please look for the Service Form on Page 9. Additional forms will be available at future sessions.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. *How many hours of service do I need to do?*

A. There is no set number of hours. You are required to perform service a **minimum** of 6 separate times, 3 **during** your C1 year and 3 **during** your C2 year.

Q. *I already volunteer for a sport that I participate in. Can I just use that?*

A. No. A service project should be completed here at the parish or an acceptable non-profit organization.

Q. *I babysat my cousins/raked my neighbor's lawn/helped my grandma/etc. Can I use that for my service project?*

A. No. These are all great ways to serve one another, and should be done on a regular basis, but do not fulfill the service opportunity.

Q. *I did all my requirements, but I didn't fill out any forms. Do I really have to fill them all out?*

A. Yes. During the Confirmation process, we are trying to assess whether or not you are prepared for adult life in the faith. When you participate in the different aspects of the program, you are demonstrating preparation for an active Catholic adult lifestyle; we need to be sure that you understand why you are doing what you are doing.

Q. *The person I want for my sponsor lives out of town. Is that okay?*

A. Yes, as long as they meet the sponsor requirements listed earlier in this packet. All of the sponsor information can be done over the phone, but it is very important that they are there for the Confirmation Ceremony. Please bring a parent or other adult to sit in at sessions in the Sponsor's place.

Q. *Why is this program two years long?*

A. The Confirmation process is a two year process for a few important reasons. This program is based on the understanding that learners will grow and mature over the different years they attend the program. When all learners enter the C1 year, each has similar foundations in Faith Formation. Through consistent encouragement and relationships with each learner the program seeks the development of candidates into mature active Catholic adults. Faith Formation is not something that can be rushed, nor can learners test out of sessions. The value in each session, retreat, and gathering is the discussion and growth within a community of believers, an aspect central to our Catholic faith. In addition, the standards set forth by the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis call for parishes to develop a two year program for many of the same reasons listed above.

C1 Confirmation information 2017 to 2018

***Please fill this form out and return it to by
Wednesday, October 11th, 2017***

***If you have any questions please contact Bryan at 651-621-1562
or by e-mail at bcollins@churchofstpatrick.com.***

Learner's full name as it will appear on the certificate of Confirmation: (no shortened names please)

(Last)

(First)

(Middle)

Parent(s) or Guardian: _____

Church of Baptism _____ City _____ State _____

Sponsor Information

Sponsor's Name: _____

Sponsor's address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Church of St. Patrick Confirmation Service Form

Service Form Entry (circle one): 1 2 3

Entry 1 Due: December 13, 2017

Entry 2 Due: February 7, 2018

Entry 3 Due: April 18, 2018

Please note: We ask that each service opportunity be a different activity. Service MUST be for a nonprofit organization.

Name of Learner: _____

Service Site Name and Location: _____

Name and **Signature** of Service Supervisor: _____

Service Supervisor's Phone Number: _____

Date of Service: _____

Please use complete sentences to answer the questions; one-word or short phrases are not acceptable ways describe your service experience.

Questions:

Please provide a description of the service performed (what did you do?)...

What is the mission or goal of the organization you served? Why did you serve at this organization?

As Christians we are called to service, how was your service connected to your faith?

What did you learn from the experience?

	C1 Calendar		
Wed., 9/20/17	Kick off Mass and Catechist information night	6:30 to 8:00 pm	
Wed., 9/27/17	Session # 1	6:30 to 8:00 pm	C1 and C2 parent meeting
Wed., 10/11/17	Session # 2	6:30 to 8:00 pm	
Wed., 11/1/17	Session # 3	6:30 to 8:00 pm	All Saints Mass
Wed., 11/15/17	Session # 4	6:30 to 8:00 pm	PCYI Session
Wed., 12/13/17	Session # 5	6:30 to 8:00 pm	SPONSOR Session
Wed., 1/10/18	Session # 6	6:30 to 8:00 pm	
Wed., 1/24/18	Session # 7	6:30 to 8:00 pm	
Sat., 1/27/18	C1 day retreat and Mass	1:00 to 6:00 pm	Includes Lunch
Wed., 2/7/18	Session # 8	6:30 to 8:00 pm	
Wed., 2/21/18	Session # 9	6:30 to 8:00 pm	SPONSOR Session
Wed., 3/7/18	Session # 10	6:30 to 8:00 pm	
Wed., 3/21/18	Session # 11	6:30 to 8:00 pm	
Wed., 4/18/18	Session # 12	6:30 to 8:00 pm	

* Calendar subject to change,
please check the website for
latest details.