



CHOSEN

YOUR JOURNEY TOWARD CONFIRMATION

St. Peter Catholic Church
Confirmation Requirements
 Religious Education Classes
 2017 - 2018

Requirement		Due Date
1	Candidate Enrollment	October 1, 2017
2	Saint Name Report	January 10, 2018
3	Copy of Baptismal Certificate	January 31, 2018
4	Sponsor Certification Form	January 31, 2018
5	Mandatory Retreat	February 24, 2018
6	Confirmation Faith Conversations	March 14, 2018
7	Works of Mercy Log Sheet	March 21, 2018
8	Bishop's Letter of Request	March 21, 2018
9	Confirmation	April 7, 2018
10	Journal	Checked weekly

Contents of Notebook

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2. Confirmation Sponsor Certification
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1. Confirmation Requirements

Catechetical preparation for the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist) begins in the family and continues through the preparation provided by the parish – *Most Reverend Daniel Edward Thomas, Bishop of Toledo*

- Faith Formation
 - Mass Attendance
 - ❖ Participate regularly in the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist.
 - Prayer – individually and with family.
- Faith Instruction
 - Regular attendance of Religion class.
 - ❖ Because Religious Education on Wednesday evenings is limited on time, a student can be excused for no more than TWO (2) Wednesday night classes.
 - All students should have a minimum of 4 years of Religious Education completed upon entering the 7th grade.
- Enrollment
 - Attendance at a special enrollment ceremony for those preparing for Confirmation.
- Confirmation Faith Conversation
 - An opportunity to discern readiness for celebrating the sacrament by meeting with either Fr. Stanbery or Mrs. Kunesh.
- Retreat
 - Attendance at a retreat is required. The retreat is a time during which the candidate prayerfully reflects and discerns his/her invitation and desire to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation.
- Sponsors
 - Each Confirmation Candidate is required to select a Sponsor to help them on their Spiritual Journey
 - ❖ The new Code of Canon Law specifies that parents are NOT to be sponsors for their child.
- Confirmation Name
 - The baptismal name may be chosen, or a new name may be selected. It should, however, be the name of a Saint.
- Works of Charity
 - It is expected that all candidates will take part in activities during their time of preparation which can be categorized under each of the 14 works of mercy.

2. Confirmation Sponsor Certification

According to the *Code of Canon Law*, Insofar as possible, there is to be a sponsor for the person to be confirmed; the sponsor is to take care that the confirmed person behaves as a true witness of Christ and faithfully fulfills the obligations inherent in this sacrament.

A sponsor has a great honor and responsibility to be a witness of Christ and help you throughout your lifelong faith journey. When you are choosing a sponsor, you should keep the following guidelines in mind:

- A sponsor should set an example as a good practicing Catholic, living accord with Church teaching, including moral expectations.
- A sponsor must be *actively* practicing the faith and a registered member of a parish.
- A sponsor must be at least 16 years of age.
- A sponsor must be a confirmed Catholic.
- A sponsor *cannot* be your mother or father.
- Only one sponsor may be chosen. If a sponsor is unable to attend the Confirmation Mass, another person (by-proxy) may act as a substitute. A parent may *not* be a by-proxy.
- It is desirable that the person who undertook the role of Godparent at Baptism should also be designated sponsor at Confirmation.
- The person designated *must obtain certification to be your sponsor*.

When choosing a sponsor, first pray for guidance from the Holy Spirit, then ask yourself:

- Why am I choosing this person?
- Does he/she share and live his/her Catholic faith?
- Is he/she mature, confirmed, and practicing his/her faith?
- Does this person exhibit his/her commitment to Christ and the Church?
- Does the person have knowledge of her/her faith?
- Can I talk comfortably with this person?
- Will this person spend their lifetime in spiritual relationship with me?

Confirmation Sponsor Certification: Your sponsor *must* go to their parish and present the form titled 'Confirmation Sponsor Certification' to their parish priest. The priest will sign the document and affix the parish's seal testifying that the sponsor meets all the requirements of a sponsor.

Confirmation Sponsor Certification

Part 1

From the Catholic Church's Code of Canon Law:

#893-1

To perform the role of sponsor [at Confirmation] it is necessary that a person fulfill the conditions mentioned in a canon #874 [which outlines the requirements to serve as a Godparent at a baptism].

#874-1

To be admitted to the role of a sponsor, a person must:

- A) *[if the person to be baptized is a minor]* **be designed** by...the parents or the one who takes their place or, in their absence, by the pastor or minister
[for persons over 18 years of age, the person to be confirmed may designate the person to be their sponsor]

And have qualifications and intension of performing the role;

- B) **have completed their sixteenth year:**

- C) **be a Catholic who has been confirmed and has already received the sacrament of the Most Holy Eucharist and leads a life in harmony with the faith and the role to undertaken;**

[this means that the Catholic person is fully initiated catholic (having celebrated Baptism, Confirmation and First Eucharist) and actively practices their Christian faith in a way of life and in their participation in their Catholic parish and the sacraments of the Church]

- D) **not be bound by any canonical penalty legitimately imposed or declared;**

[This means that if the intended sponsor is married, this marriage must be a recognized valid marriage in the Catholic Church. Catholics who are either civilly married, married by common law or living together are not in valid church marriage, and this, by law, have a canonical penalty imposed upon them. The penalty is that the person may not participate in the full sacrament life of the church. Specifically, they may not receive communion, nor may they act as godparents at Baptism or as sponsor of Confirmation. Therefore, if you are married outside of the Catholic Church, you do not meet the requirements for being admitted to the role of Confirmation sponsor.]

- E) **not be the father or mother of the one to be baptized/confirmed.**

I _____
(Print Name)

have read and do understand the requirements for serving as a sponsor at Confirmation in the Catholic Church. I do solemnly swear that I am fully initiated Catholic; that I practice my faith in the way I live and through participation in my parish and the sacraments of the Church; and that, if married, my marriage is recognized by the Catholic Church as valid sacramental marriage. Therefore, I am eligible to be admitted to the role of sponsor.

(Signature)

(Date)

Return to Director of Religious Education at St. Peter Catholic Church, Archbold, Ohio

**Confirmation Sponsor Certification
Part 2**

NAME OF CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE: _____

SPONSOR REQUIREMENTS:

- 1) The sponsor must be 16 years of age or older.
- 2) He/she has received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.
- 3) He/she is a practicing Catholic who can receive Eucharistic (Communion) at Mass.
- 4) If married, he/she is married in the Catholic Church, or if single, he/she is not cohabiting.
- 5) He/she is not the parent of the Confirmation candidate.

NAME OF SPONSOR (as should appear on Confirmation Certificate/registry):

Sponsor Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Sponsor's Parish _____ City/State _____

My relationship to the candidate _____

I meet all the requirements listed above and will have this form signed by my own parish priest

Sponsor Signature _____ Date _____

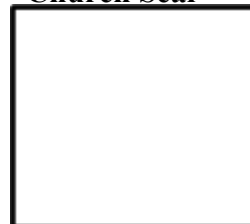
THE FOLLOWING IS TO BE COMPLETED BY SPONSOR'S PARISH PRIEST:

The sponsor above is a member of our parish, and to the best of my knowledge, is a practicing Catholic in good standing and qualified to act as a Sponsor for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Signature of Priest _____ Date _____

Return to: St. Peter Catholic Church – Religious Education
614 Defiance Street
Archbold, OH 43502
419-446-2150
stpeter@rtceexpress.net

Church Seal



3. Confirmation Saint Name Report

You have been called by name (Isaiah 43:1)

Almost everyone has two names: A first name and a last name. Your first name tells others who you are. Your last name tells others what family you belong to.

Names are a sign of identity. One of the benefits of the Sacrament of Confirmation is choosing, or reaffirming, your Christian identity by choosing a new confirmation name or sticking with your baptismal name. Because the Sacrament of Confirmation is an opportunity to enter into a deeper relationship with God and with the Church, the Church asks you to either reaffirm your Catholic-Christian identity by being confirmed with your baptismal name, or by choosing a new name, one of a saint or blessed in the Church, from whom you will draw inspiration. The Church's preference is that you are confirmed with your baptismal name, if it meets the aforementioned condition, but all candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation, are invited to choose a new name for their Confirmation if they desire to do so.

At Confirmation, you will choose a saint's name that will become your patron and a role model for you to follow all through life. As Catholics, we believe in the Communion of Saints so we are all spiritually united with each other and those who have died and gone to heaven. At your baptism your parents chose your name, but now you have the opportunity to choose a saint that you can emulate and ask to intercede for you. The saint you choose should have significance to you, and also have a holiness you would like to have as you go forward on your lifelong faith journey.

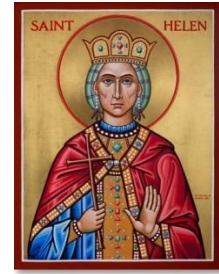
Candidates are required to complete the 'Confirmation Saint Name Report' and return it to their catechist.

How to choose a Confirmation Saint Name

- First and last step: Pray for guidance from the Holy Spirit.
- Be sure to investigate the life of the saint you are considering. How did he or she live a life of holiness? How does this inspire you?
- Think of activities you like to do and pick the patron saint of that activity.
- Think of a name that you share or that you like or admire and pick the saint by name.
- Think of a few key dates in your life and pick the saint by date.
 - <http://www.catholic.org/saints/>
 - <https://catholicsaints.info/>
 - <http://www.roman-catholic-saints.com/>



St. Peter Catholic Church
Office of Religious Education
614 Defiance Street
Archbold, OH 43502
419-446-2150
stpeter@rteexpress.net



Confirmation Saint Name Report

CANDIDATES NAME: _____

Name of chosen saint: _____

Saint's date of birth: _____ **Saint's date of death:** _____

Country where saint was born and/or lived: _____

Brief summary of saint's life and accomplishments: _____

When was this saint canonized? (recognized as a saint by the Church) _____

Why did you choose this saint? _____

4. Works of Mercy

The Works of Mercy component of the Confirmation Program is designed to help you learn what unselfish service really means; it is the good works we do to help are brothers and sisters in need.

The works of charity proper for every Christian life take on concrete form in the seven spiritual and seven corporal works of mercy.

While no requirement of any particular number of hours may be imposed upon a candidate for Confirmation, it is expected that all candidates will take part in activities during their time of preparation which can be categorized under each of the 14 works of mercy.

This is to be some kind of help or act of kindness not required and for which you have not been reimbursed in any way. From this the Confirmands realize that they have many gifts from God and it is important to share these with others who may need our help. It is the definition of 'Stewardship'.

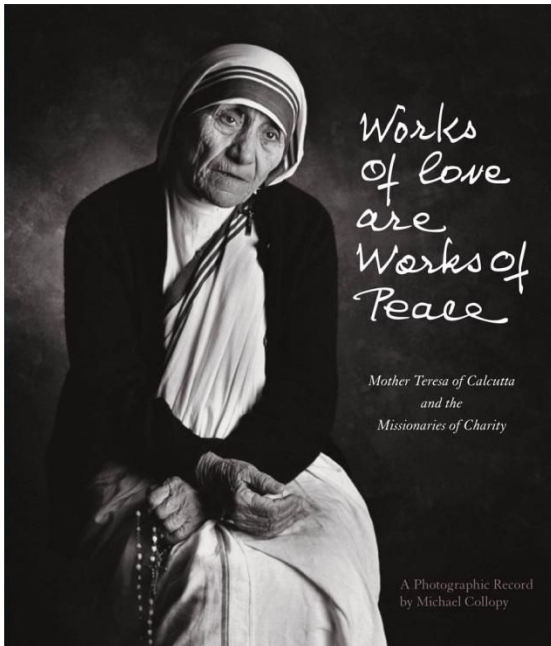
Sample Works of Mercy:

1. Help as a teacher's aide during Religious Education
2. Set up for parish events
3. Help serve coffee and donuts on Sunday's
4. Assist senior citizens with their chores
5. Rake leaves, shovel snow and help the elderly and the poor
6. Visit the elderly in the nursing home
7. Help a needy family
8. Collect items for the Fish Pantry
9. Tutor a peer or younger student
10. Collect items for recycling
11. Work at a food pantry, soup kitchen or church free meal nights
12. Collect and distribute clothing for the homeless
13. Collect and distribute baby clothes for a crisis pregnancy center
14. Donate Bibles or spiritual reading materials to a prison
15. Visit a cemetery and pray for the dead

Works of Charity

Corporal Works of Mercy

- FEED THE HUNGRY
- GIVE DRINK TO THE THIRSTY
- SHELTER THE HOMELESS
- VISIT THE SICK
- VISIT THE PRISONERS
- BURY THE DEAD
- GIVE ALMS TO THE POOR



Spiritual Works of Mercy

- COUNSELING THE DOUBTFUL
- INSTRUCTING THE IGNORANT
- ADMONISHING THE SINNER
- COMFORTING THE SORROWFUL
- FORGIVING INJURIES
- BEARING WRONGS PATIENTLY
- PRAYING FOR THE LIVING AND THE DEAD

Student Name: _____

'Works of Mercy' Log Sheet

Work of Mercy	Date of Activity	Work Performed	Location	Activi
Feed the Hungry				
Give Drink to the Thirsty				
Clothe the Naked				
Shelter the Homeless				
Comfort the Sick				
Visit the Imprisoned				
Bury the Dead				
Correct the Sinner				
Instruct the Uninformed				
Counsel the Doubtful				
Comfort the Sorrowful				
Be Patient with Those in Error				
Forgive Offenses				
Pray for the Living and the Dead				

5. The Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit

The moral life of Christians is sustained by the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

1830: Catechism of the Catholic Church

GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- **Wisdom** is both the knowledge of and judgment about "divine things" and the ability to judge and direct human affairs according to divine truth.
- **Understanding** is penetrating insight into the very heart of things, especially those higher truths that are necessary for our eternal salvation—in effect, the ability to "see" God.
- **Counsel** allows a man to be directed by God in matters necessary for his salvation.
- **Fortitude** denotes a firmness of mind in doing good and in avoiding evil, particularly when it is difficult or dangerous to do so, and the confidence to overcome all obstacles, even deadly ones, by virtue of the assurance of everlasting life.
- **Knowledge** is the ability to judge correctly about matters of faith and right action, so as to never wander from the straight path of justice.
- **Piety** is, principally, revering God with filial affection, paying worship and duty to God, paying due duty to all men on account of their relationship to God, and honoring the saints and not contradicting Scripture.
- **Fear of God** is, in this context, "filial" or chaste fear whereby we revere God and avoid separating ourselves from him—as opposed to "servile" fear, whereby we fear punishment.



The fruits of the Spirit are perfections that the Holy Spirit forms in us as the first fruits of eternal glory.
1832: Catechism of the Catholic Church

FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- **Charity.** The Holy Spirit is Love and gives us the infused theological virtue of charity to prefer God over everyone and everything.
- **Joy.** Happiness is realized when we live for God and know someday we will be with Him now and forever in heaven.
- **Peace.** The Holy Spirit gives us order in our souls and a clean conscience. He also gives us order to our family, friendships and duties of life.
- **Patience.** When one is close to God, everything else falls into its place so that one can have patience and tranquility. Love is patient.
- **Kindness.** This is the virtue of kindness to others.
- **Goodness.** We renounce evil and seek what is good. We repent of our sins and strive to do God's will.
- **Generosity.** Perseverance in the mission God has given us and the ability to stay faithful over the long time.
- **Gentleness.** This gives us the moral virtue temperance that helps us overcome our natural tendency to be rough or angry.
- **Faithfulness.** This is a theological virtue given to us in Baptism. It gives us the Divine grace to be able to assent to the revealed truth of God. We put God as the absolute authority.
- **Modesty.** This includes how we act and dress. These are external signs of our interior modesty. It gives us the preference to purity of mind and heart in sexual matters.
- **Self Control.** This is the virtue to control sexual and other appetites in a holy manner like in marriage when one spouse because of sickness cannot have relations.
- **Chastity.** This is the self-giving of oneself to God completely as a priest, religious or consecrated layman. All vocations are called to have chastity in their way of living. This includes married people to be faithful to their spouses. It also gives the grace for all those waiting to get married to be sexually pure.

6. Letter of Request to Bishop

As a Confirmation Candidate, you will write a letter to Bishop Thomas, the eighth bishop of the Diocese of Toledo, requesting permission to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. In the letter, you must indicate your readiness and desire to receive Confirmation. Please mention something about yourself, the parish you attend, and something about your family. In your own words, explain how you have become more knowledgeable about the truths of the Catholic faith through your religious instruction classes, and are prepared to welcome to share something about your Confirmation saint's name, such as, what impressed you about your saint. You may also want to include something about your Works of Mercy activities.

Candidates are required to complete the 'Bishop's Letter of Request' sheet and return it to their catechist.

Please make sure that your writing is clean, legible and readable. Use proper grammatical skills (capitalization, punctuation, and spelling).

The Most Reverend Daniel E. Thomas
1933 Spielbusch Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43604
(419) 244-6711

Letter of Request for Confirmation

Your Excellency Most Reverend Daniel E. Thomas,

It is my desire to receive an increase of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit through the Sacrament of Confirmation. I have been preparing for these Gifts during the past Religious Education year at St. Peter Catholic Church, Archbold, OH.

I would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation because _____

During my life I would like to achieve _____

The Gift of Confirmation will help me achieve this by _____

I chose my Confirmation Sponsor because _____

My Sponsor influences my spiritual life by _____

I have chosen Saint/Blessed _____ as my Confirmation Saint. The reasons for this

Include _____

Bishop Thomas, I feel I am prepared to commit myself to Christ and His Church, and bear witness to the truths of my faith. Therefore, I respectfully petition you to permit me to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at the Rosary Cathedral on Saturday April 7, 2018.

Sincerely,

_____ Printed Name _____

Confirmation Candidate's Covenant

I, _____, a member of St. Peter Church, Archbold, Ohio desire to affirm my belief in Jesus and His Church through the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Therefore, I ask to become a candidate for the Sacrament of Confirmation, and enter the program of preparation being offered to me by my parish.

To the best of my ability, I agree to take part in the learning sessions, the retreat, the service commitments, and the other activities that are part of the program of preparation.

I will actively participate in the Saturday or Sunday liturgies.

I accept the responsibility to open my mind and heart to the guidance of the Holy Spirit during this time of preparation.

Signature of Candidate

Signature of Parent(s)

October 1, 2017

7. Dress Code for Confirmation

- There is a strict dress code that MUST be adhered to for the Confirmation Mass:
 - Jeans, sweats, leggings (not properly covered by a tunic top or dress), low cut tops, halter tops, t-shirts, shorts, tennis shoes and flip-flops are not appropriate.
 - Girls' shoulders should be covered. If they wear sleeveless, strapless, or spaghetti-strap dresses, then they MUST wear a sweater or shawl as well.
 - Males are to wear a collared, button down dress shirt with a tie; suit jackets are optional.
 - *This dress code also needs to be followed for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion as well as Sponsors.*
- **Note: Wear sensible shoes with a rubber sole; the floor is marble and extremely slippery!

8. Catholic Church Etiquette

How we worship, praise and give thanks to our Lord and Savior at Mass as members of His Community of believers, is reflective of our individual Catholic Christian Faith.

The A-B-C's of Catholic Church Etiquette

A – Adoration

Silence, Prayer, Response: Before Mass we are quiet as we listen and speak to God in the silence of our hearts. During Mass we respond to God Who speaks to us in the liturgy of Word and the Eucharist. After Mass we joyfully spread the Good News to family, friends and the world.

B – Behavior

Please be 'prayerfully silent'. Refrain from unnecessary talking as it distracts others who are intently praying and reflecting. Refrain from socializing during Liturgy; we are in the Liturgy to greet God with our prayers and worship, not to distract others.

No gum or candy allowed.

Cell phones MUST be turned off upon entering the Church and are to remain off throughout the duration of the Mass and photographs afterwards.

C – Clothing

Please remember when you come to Mass you are entering the House of the Lord; give great attention to your manner of dress as a demonstration of respect to God. Inappropriate clothing is a distraction and diminish the reverential aspect of the Mass.

Journaling

1. Why did you choose your sponsor? Include sponsor's name, parish and relationship to you.
2. What did the saint you chose do that inspired you and why would you want to emulate/be like this saint?
3. Describe your experience performing Works of Mercy. What, if any, impact did this have on you?
4. Explain how each project enabled you to demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ to the persons you served.
5. Describe two things you learned about yourself and two things I learned about other people in doing my Works of Mercy?
6. Describe how you have practiced each Work of Mercy during your Confirmation preparation journey.
7. In what new way could you practice one of the Corporal Works of Mercy on a personal level?
8. In what new way could you practice one of the Corporal Works of Mercy on a wider social or even political level?
9. People often say that practicing the Corporal Works of Mercy is very rewarding. What do you think they mean by that?
10. What gift of the Holy Spirit do you especially need and why? How would you use this gift?
11. If you could change something about the Catholic Church, what would it be? How would you make the change possible? Why do you believe the Church needs to make this change?
12. What does service have to do with Confirmation and being a disciple of Christ?