

# Confirmation Handbook

## Year Two



WISDOM  
*Understanding*  
COUNSEL  
FORTITUDE  
KNOWLEDGE  
*Piety*  
FEAR OF THE  
LORD (REVERENCE)

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St. Peter Parish  
2021-2022

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*August 2021*

Dear Parent(s):

In Year II of preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation, we will continue and expand on the work of Year I. Year I, is about learning to live a life of commitment and service in a documented and intentional way. Year II will expand on the lessons covered in Year I, and in addition, will examine the steps of this commitment and the experience of the sacrament itself. After the experience of sacrament, we will work to understand it more fully and to examine the life we are now committed to living in a faith-filled way.

In the fall, we will begin formalized catechesis around experiencing the sacramental moment and life beyond it. The steps and process for this sacrament will mirror the work that you have taken in all the important decisions and commitments of your life. This is a part of teaching your teen the importance of making decisions based on a solid basis of knowledge, judgment and wisdom.

As we journey through our own lives, we can be grateful for the wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord that we have been given by God. We can also celebrate the beautiful contributions to life that we are able to make using these gifts.

So, we are now squarely on the path toward the awakening of a new time in your teen's life and development. We hope that you will take time this year to re-experience this part of your journey of faith. It's a good time to 'take stock' of where you are in the use of your gifts. Your teen needs you more than ever as they begin to take on more responsibility and make decisions of lasting consequence.

We always remind the Confirmation candidates that no one is graduating from **God, faith or Church with the sacrament of Confirmation!** This is just the beginning of the next stage of faith and faithful living!

**Confirmation will take place on March 26, 2022 at Our Lady, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral in Toledo at 10:00 AM.**

We have provided in this packet a list of general guidelines and other important information for you. This packet will provide you with the information and forms that are a part of this final year of preparation. Please remember that your successful completion of paperwork and the steps outlined in this process helps us know where you are on the journey.

May God's Grace Abound,

**Marianne Francis**

Director of Religious Education

# Directory

**Parish:** St. Peter  
614 N Defiance St  
Archbold, OH 43502

Parish Telephone: (419) 446-2150

Parish Website: [stpeterarchbold.com](http://stpeterarchbold.com)

Pastor: Fr. Stephen Stanbery  
Email: [stpeter@rtexpress.net](mailto:stpeter@rtexpress.net)

## RE: Religious Education

St. Peter  
Religious Education Office  
614 N Defiance St  
Archbold, OH 43502

RE Office Telephone: 419-405-5052

Director of Religious Education: Mrs. Marianne Francis  
Email: [mfrancis.dre@gmail.com](mailto:mfrancis.dre@gmail.com)

**Due to the nature of ministry or unforeseen circumstances, we may not be available in the office during regular hours; please call before coming to the RE Office at any other time outside of regular RE Classes. Appointments can be made.**



# What is Confirmation?

**What is Confirmation and why would my teen choose it?** Your teen is CHOOSING to be confirmed by participating in Year I and II of preparation. Our parish also offers a High School Confirmation process for teens and their families if they choose to wait to be confirmed. Information about this program is available through the Religious Education Office.

## **The Sacrament of Confirmation...**

- Welcomes us and deepens our belonging to the faith community
- Deepens our relationship with God, as the Creator, Redeemer and Spirit
- Strengthens us as disciples

## **A Sacrament is part of the way that God loves us and calls us...**

- The Gift within Confirmation is that of strengthening us for discipleship and deepening our belonging to the faith community through the Trinity.

## **God uses visible signs to communicate invisible love...**

- To communicate His love, God uses our senses: eyes, ears, touch, smell and taste, and all the elements within our world.
- In Confirmation, the symbols we will celebrate include being anointed with oil and the laying on of hands as we remember the water of Baptism and the nourishment of the Eucharist.

## **God calls and invites us to respond...**

- An attitude of openness communicates a "yes" to God's invitation to a deeper relationship. This "yes" does not mean we know that we will always be faithful or that we are worthy of the gift. "Yes" means we are open to be strengthened by God who calls and loves us.
- In Confirmation, we can say "yes" through the various responses in the prayers.

## **The community witnesses to and celebrates the Sacraments...**

- A Sacrament is a powerful sign that God is alive and present in the world. As a Church, we are called to be Christ, that is, to be God's hand and healing touch in the world. This community that celebrates Sacraments is global, reaching to other faith communities throughout the world and joined in a common bond. The community is also local as a diocese or archdiocese, as a parish and as a community of faith in families.
- In Confirmation, the community witnesses our celebration and provides a sponsor who represents the love of the community for us.

## **Confirmation welcomes us as a Sacrament of initiation...**

- Confirmation is linked to Baptism and the Eucharist
- Confirmation is part of our initiation into the faith community.
- Confirmation honors the spiritual maturity of the individual.

## **We are confirmed in the name of God the Creator, the Redeemer and the Holy Spirit.**

- Confirmation is part of the welcoming initiative of God the Creator.
- Confirmation unites us more firmly to Christ.
- Confirmation strengthens us with the Holy Spirit.

## **Confirmation strengthens us for discipleship, mission and witness to our faith.**

- Confirmation empowers us to be a witness for our faith.
- Confirmation links us to the ministry of Christ and the mission of the Church.
- Confirmation initiates us into the adventure of discipleship.
- Preparation for Confirmation is a time of conversion, which includes celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

## **Confirmation is a celebration of the community of faith.**

- Confirmation joins us to the ministering community.
- Confirmation is received by individuals and celebrated by the community.
- Preparation awakens a sense of belonging to the universal Church and local parish.
- Preparation includes choosing a sponsor who represents the wider faith community.
- Preparation provides an opportunity to partner with families as communities of faith.

## Choosing a Sponsor

Your teen's sponsor is a special person chosen by them to represent the faith community at the Rite of Confirmation. This person also sponsors the confirmand for full membership into our community.

At Baptism, the Church community shares the responsibility for the development and the safeguarding of the grace given to your teen. We too are challenged to safeguard the grace given at Confirmation. The sponsor will journey with your teen throughout the preparation for Confirmation, while supporting and nurturing their faith.

The Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation are intimately connected and because of this the Church encourages candidates for Confirmation to choose one of their baptismal godparents as sponsor. At Baptism the godparents were witnesses, and celebrated your son or daughter being welcomed into a spiritual family. The presence of godparents ritualized and symbolized the presence of the community and their promise to support the newly baptized in a life of faith.

Several years later, your teen is now preparing for Confirmation and they are taking a journey of spiritual remembering-knowing and recognizing the presence of a God who has been, who is, and who always will be in their lives. This is a gift given at Baptism, celebrated at Eucharist, and now revisited in its completeness at Confirmation.

The sacred ground in your son's or daughter's lives is marked by the footsteps of loving community-parents, godparents, nurturers of faith, and challengers to discipleship. It seems fitting that those who held them as an infant through the pouring forth of sacred water and the sealing with blessed oil should once again stand up as reminders to them and their community of the richness of belonging to the Body of Christ. However, if they have developed a close and nurturing relationship with another person, they may certainly choose that person as a sponsor.

## Prayer to the Holy Spirit



PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT  
COME, HOLY SPIRIT,  
FILL THE HEARTS OF YOUR FAITHFUL.  
AND ENKINDLE IN THEM THE FIRE OF YOUR LOVE.  
SEND FORTH YOUR SPIRIT  
AND WE SHALL BE CREATED.  
AND YOU SHALL RENEW  
THE FACE OF THE EARTH.

O GOD, WHO INSTRUCTED THE HEARTS OF THE  
FAITHFUL BY THE LIGHT OF YOUR DIVINE SPIRIT,  
GRANT US BY THAT SAME HOLY  
SPIRIT TO BE TRULY WISE AND TO REJOICE IN  
YOUR CONSOLATION THROUGH THE SAME  
CHRIST, OUR LORD.  
AMEN.

The following are some guidelines for choosing a Confirmation Sponsor that you should use to discuss this important decision with your teen:

- **Has the person been close and supportive to you?**
- **Does the person live near enough to support and guide you?**
- **Is this person willing and able to be a sponsor and to take an active role in your life?**
- **Is this person a baptized Catholic who has received the Eucharist and has been confirmed?**
- **Is this person free to participate in the Sacraments of the Catholic Church?**
- **Is this person a practicing Catholic who has participated in the Eucharistic celebration every Sunday?**
- **Does the person live a good Catholic life?**
- **Is the person at least 16 years of age?**

## **Frequently asked questions regarding Sponsors:**

### ***Who should I ask?***

The Church encourages having one or both of your godparents to sponsor you at Confirmation. However, this is not a requirement.

### ***My Godparents are divorced and remarried to other folks who are not Catholic. Can either of them be my sponsor?***

Being divorced is not a problem. Being remarried without annulment and no longer a practicing Catholic precludes someone from being a sponsor.

### ***Must my sponsor be of the same gender?***

No, the important issue is that the person you choose be a person of faith.

### ***May I have more than one sponsor?***

Yes, you may have more than one sponsor. Please indicate all sponsor names on the Confirmation Information Sheet. However, our preference is for one sponsor to be chosen but you may have two.

### ***Can I have someone who is not Catholic be my sponsor?***

No, your sponsor must be a practicing Catholic in full communion with the Church. However, if you would like to ask that person to be an “official witness” to your Confirmation we can certainly do that, but you are required to have a Catholic Sponsor who is listed in the Sacramental Register.

### ***The person I would like to ask to be my sponsor lives far away and cannot attend the Mass, what do I do?***

You can still choose that person as your “official sponsor” and have someone else stand in for them.

### ***Can a parent be a sponsor to their own child?***

No, parents are not permitted to be sponsors for their own children. Canon Law 874 is the canon that provides for baptismal godparents as well as confirmation sponsors.

## The function of a Sponsor:

The two following statements from the *Rite of Confirmation* illuminate the Sponsor's function:

- As a rule, there should be a Sponsor for each Confirmation candidate. The sponsors present the candidates to the Bishop for the anointing, and later help them to fulfill their baptismal promises faithfully under the influence of the Holy Spirit whom they have received.
- Pastors will see that the sponsors, chosen by the candidates or their families, are spiritually qualified to take on this responsibility and have these qualities:
  1. Enough maturity to fulfill their functions.
  2. Full membership in the Catholic Church and their own reception of Christian initiation through Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist; freedom from any impediment of Church law to their fulfilling the office of sponsor.





# Year II: General Overview & Expectations

*As you read through the packet, please be aware of the various due dates that have been listed. Your teen is greatly encouraged to turn things in ahead of schedule if possible.*

## Weekly Celebration Of The Eucharist

The sacrament of Confirmation is the third and final sacrament of initiation in the Roman Catholic tradition. It hardly seems fitting or logical to complete initiation in a tradition that may not be followed on a weekly basis. Your family needs to be part of the parish's weekly prayer life if this sacrament is to make any sense to your teen. This practice of worship is strictly a family responsibility.

We all know, as parents, that children learn what they live. If your family is not in the habit of participating at weekly Mass, participating in certain devotionals such as the rosary or praying together as a family, your teen will likely not become an active Catholic in adulthood. There will be times in our lives where a strong faith is necessary to make hard decisions and weather great crises and problems, the wisdom of our tradition may not be there for them. Your diligence in this will show your teen that you take your faith and its Traditions seriously and it is still very much relevant to you.

## Classroom Community Of Faith

In Year II of formation for Confirmation, our classroom materials are decidedly geared to Confirmation as a sacrament and commitment of faith. We will concentrate on Confirmation as a primary emphasis this fall. We will also continue to invite teens to question and understand themselves as believers who are part of a larger community of believers. As Roman Catholics, we believe that all sacraments are to be experienced in the context of a community. Our classroom community of faith is a place to speak up, question and encounter our Tradition within the Tradition of our Church. We cannot stress the importance of regular and consistent attendance from our candidates so that we can achieve our goals.

## Attendance

Regular attendance is essential for the continuity and reinforcement of Catholic teaching and spiritual formation and this does include arriving on time and staying for the duration of the session. Regular consecutive attendance is expected of all candidates. Please refer to the class schedule for dates and times.

**Please note that we do expect 100% attendance for candidates preparing to receive Confirmation.**

If a candidate is unable to attend a session the following attendance rules do apply:

- A parent must either place a telephone call or send an email to report the absence to the RE Office as soon as possible.
- Candidates are required to participate in the Commitment Service, Reconciliation, Candidate Sponsor Retreat, the Confirmation retreat, and the rehearsal. All paperwork and assignments must be turned in on time and carefully prepared. In addition, the candidates are expected to attend *Sunday Mass and other Holy Days of Obligation*.
  - If a candidate does not attend our Confirmation Retreat, then it is the parents' responsibility for locating a retreat at another parish and registering their teen with the Religious Education Office there. If any fees are required, it is the parents' responsibility to cover any additional cost. As a courtesy, the RE Office staff can provide a list of other parishes and the dates when they are offering their retreats. We must receive a signed statement that the candidate attended their Confirmation Retreat.
  - Attendance records will be reviewed on an ongoing basis. **Candidates are expected to attend all sessions.**
  - In addition, all requirements must be fulfilled as well. If a candidate's attendance record is poor and or requirements are not met; a meeting will be scheduled with the family to discuss the matter to determine if the candidate is prepared to receive the sacrament.

- If your family is faced with an unforeseen crisis due to illness or extenuating family circumstances, please contact the RE Office directly and we will be most willing to work with your family.

## **Baptismal Records**

We must have a photocopy of your teen's baptismal certificate on file. Please note that your teen will not be able to receive the sacrament of Confirmation if a copy of the baptismal certificate is not on file in the RE Office. We ask that you comply with our request as quickly as possible. Please let us know if your teen was baptized at St. Peter Parish as we can then check the parish records for documentation.

The parish of baptism is responsible for maintaining all sacramental records. Once your son or daughter has been confirmed, the necessary documentation is forwarded to the parish of baptism to be entered into the records as well as recording it in our parish register.

If your teen was baptized in a Christian church other than the Roman Catholic Church, they may need to make a Profession of Faith, or may need to be baptized, or, may not need anything at all. We must review their information and then determine what needs to take place. Please contact the RE Office immediately if your son or daughter falls into this category.

## **First Reconciliation & First Eucharist**

If your teen has not received either of these sacraments, additional formation sessions are required. Please contact the RE Office if your teen falls into this category.

## **Cell Phones**

Candidates are permitted to use their cell phones during class only when given instruction to do so by their catechist. Otherwise, under no other circumstances are cell phones permitted to be used during class or at any other RE sponsored events. If there are special circumstances, prior arrangements need to be made with the RE Office for students to use their cell phones. If our policy is disregarded, the student's phone will be turned into the RE Office by the catechist. Parents will be immediately notified and will need to pick up the cell phone directly from the office.

# Calendar of Confirmation Events & Dates Due:

- **Candidate Enrollment**

October 17, 2021

- **Saint Name Report**

December 1, 2021

- **Copy of Baptismal Certificate**

December 1, 2021

- **Confirmation Information Sheet**

December 1, 2021

- **Sponsor Certification Form**

December 1, 2021

- **Faith Conversations Begin**

January 19, 2022

- **Confirmation Retreat**

January 22, 2022

- **Confirmation Tour of Cathedral**

February 19, 2022

- **Mass Reflection Journals**

February 23, 2022

- **Confirmation Practice and Retreat with Sponsor**

February 23, 2022

- **Bishop's Letter of Request**

February 23, 2022

- **Pastor's Letter of Request**

February 23, 2022

- **Works of Mercy Log Packet**

March 9, 2022

- **Confirmation Candidate Reconciliation**

March 23, 2022 at Our Lady of Mercy

- **Confirmation at Rosary Cathedral**

March 26, 2022 10:00 AM



## Confirmation Candidate Enrollment

Date: October 17, 2021 10:30 AM

This service of commitment is a liturgical step that marks the end of one phase of preparation and marks the beginning of the final phase of preparation before the sacrament. We are a liturgical church and we mark milestones with liturgical actions. This service is **required** of all Confirmation candidates and parent(s). Sponsors are welcome to attend but are not required.

## Confirmation Information Sheet

Due Date: December 1, 2021

Parents and siblings who are trained Eucharistic Ministers or Altar Servers at St. Peter are encouraged to participate at the Confirmation Mass. Please indicate your interest on the back of the Confirmation Information Sheet.

- **Certificate Name**

*Each teen will receive a certificate on Confirmation Day. The name of the certificate will be that which is listed on the baptismal certificate. Traditionally, first, middle and last names are used. You may choose to include your teen's confirmation name if you wish. Please print the name clearly and neatly on the form.*

- **Confirmation Sponsor**

*We need to have the proper and legal name of the sponsor, printed very carefully. This information is required for our Sacramental Records and to complete the paperwork for the parish of baptism. 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.*

**Please Note: We cannot process your teen's Confirmation paperwork until we have a Baptismal Certificate, Sponsor Certification, and the Confirmation Information Sheet are on file in the office.**

## Saint Report

Due Date: December 1, 2021

*A sample of a Saint Report and suggested resources can be found at the end of this packet*

In this packet, we offer a sample report to guide you and your teen in the making his/her own Saint Report prior to approval for Confirmation. **Our Confirmation candidates must know their Saint's names in preparation for the retreat.**

The preferred choice of the Catholic Church is to use the saint's name given at Baptism as a Confirmation name to emphasize the connection between the two sacraments. If the baptismal name is not that of a saint, you should choose a saint's name for Confirmation. It is a Catholic custom to add, in Confirmation, a new name to those we already possess; or rather to place ourselves under the patronage of a patron saint.

It is almost as though, in awe of the new dignity, to which we are raised—that of disciples witnessing to Christ—that we realize our need to have powerful friends in heaven, and so we add another patron saint to those we were given at baptism. It is by this new name that the bishop addresses us as he places his hand upon our head and calls down upon us the Holy Spirit who can, if we allow Him, to transform our lives. Your teen may enjoy taking on a name different than the name given at baptism because it is a name they have chosen. For example, if your son or daughter demonstrates a talent such as music, they might consider Saint Cecilia, the patron saint of musicians or a teen that would like a career as an attorney might choose Saint

Thomas Moore, the patron saint of attorneys.

In Year I, we start to investigate the lives of many saints. Hopefully, your teen found the story of a saint's life that resonates with their own and that you have talked with them about the gifts and talents you see in them. If these things have taken place, your teen is now able to decide that they would like to formally take the name of this saint as their own patron and protector.

It is important that each candidate learn about their chosen patron saint. Your son or daughter is, after all, asking this saint to be a mentor and an advocate for them for the rest of their lives. When our children play sports or a musical instrument, we encourage them to watch and to listen to the best in their given field. Well, it is the same with our saints. They can first, serve as sources of great inspiration and secondly, it is important to study the techniques of the masters. Our saints are great men and women who have trained tirelessly and perfected the art of living virtuous and holy lives. **The saint report must be written about the saint the candidate has chosen for Confirmation.**

The report should include the following information:

- A short biography and history of the saint i.e., when and where he/she lived, what he/she did to become a saint.
- Why the teen chose this saint as their patron for Confirmation.
- List at least 3 reasons why the candidate finds the saint's life interesting or inspiring.

The saint reports **must be typed** and should be about one to two pages in length. We do have some resources available in the RE Office. If you need any additional assistance in locating resources let us know and we will be happy to help! A sample saint report can be found at the end of this packet along with a list of Internet resources. Your local public library may also have some available resources as well.

If your teen decides not to take a saint name for Confirmation and wants to use their baptismal name this is fine. However, they still need to research their name and write a report.

## **Confirmation Sponsor Certification**

**Date: December 1, 2021**

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.

## **Faith Conversations Begin**

**Dates: Will take place after January 19**

*A sample of the Confirmation Interview Questions can be found at the end of this packet.*

All Confirmation candidates will be interviewed to assure they are prepared to receive the sacrament of Confirmation. The interview questions are included in this packet to help them prepare before we break for Christmas. Please note that the questions are only a sample of what may be asked or discussed.

## **Confirmation Retreat**

**Date: Saturday, January 22, 2022 @ 10:50 am- 5:00 pm**

**Please arrive by 10:50am for the retreat. The candidates will attend Mass after the Retreat with their families. The candidates should know their Confirmation Saint Name for the retreat.**

Confirmation candidates are required to participate in our Confirmation retreat. If a candidate does not attend the one offered by St. Peter, they will need to attend a retreat at another parish. Candidates should dress

comfortably for the retreat and appropriate attire for Mass at the end of the retreat. We will serve pizza for lunch. If your teen does not like pizza, please feel free to send a bagged lunch.

**Details are being finalized for the Confirmation Retreat: the location and Mass time will be announced at a later date.**

Candidates traditionally participate in our retreat as part of their formation process and experience. This is done for groups preparing for the sacrament as well as fellowship groups. Our Confirmation Classroom Communities of Faith come together for a Retreat experience prior to Confirmation. This helps them see that they are part of a larger reality in this process. They often encounter school classmates that they did not realize were preparing also. They see that the church is truly universal and not just a classroom. This is also a time when they are 'bridging' into their Youth Ministry years.

## **Confirmation Tour of Cathedral**

**Date: Saturday, February 19, 2022**

Fr. Stanbery reserves the Rosary Cathedral for a tour for the Confirmands. This tour helps connect our parish with the diocese and the symbols, art, and office of the Bishop that will surround the Confirmands on the day of their Confirmation. There are only a few weeks left in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation, the *Pastor Letters of Request* are about to be received by Father. Father utilizes this time, along with the letters, assessing Confirmands readiness.

Our Lady, Queen of the Most Holy Cathedral, is located at 2535 Collingwood Blvd., Toledo, OH 43610. If you are unable to get your student there, I will be driving and can take a couple of students if necessary – please contact me. If your student is unable to participate, you **MUST** contact Fr. Stanbery (he will NOT contact you). Failure to attend or contact Father may result in your student not being recommended for Confirmation.

## **Mass Reflection Journal Sheets**

**Due Date: February 23, 2022**

Each candidate is required to carefully complete a total of 12 *Mass Reflection Journal Sheets*. The reflections may be used at either a weekday or weekend liturgy Mass. **Mass that is televised will not be accepted towards this requirement unless there is a dispensation on Mass attendance.**

## **Confirmation Practice and Retreat with Sponsor**

**Date: February 23, 2022 6:30 - 7:45 PM**

This is a wonderful opportunity for the candidates and sponsors to have time set aside to reflect, share stories of faith, pray and set the tone for Confirmation day. The candidates and sponsors should come dressed comfortably. If the Sponsor cannot attend the retreat, a parent is welcome to attend in their place. **This event is required of all our Confirmation candidates and their sponsors.** We will gather in the church for rehearsal for Confirmation day.

## **Bishop Letters**

**Due Date: February 23, 2022**

*A sample of both the Bishop & Pastor Letters can be found at the end of this packet*

Each candidate is required to write a formal letter to the confirming bishop of the diocese who will be presiding at Confirmation. Bishop Daniel Thimas will preside over our Confirmation on March 26, 2022. The letter should include at least five paragraphs. The contents of the letter should include the following information:

- A formal request to the Bishop to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in the faith of the Catholic Church.
- A statement that your son or daughter is making their own decision about becoming a confirmed Catholic.
- A brief personal history. They can include information about themselves, your family, i.e., where they are from, where

they attend school, hobbies, or dreams about the future.

- Information about how they prepared for Confirmation such as participating in retreats and any service they may have done or would like to continue doing post Confirmation.
- A statement on why their Sponsor was selected as their Confirmation witness.

This is a formal letter and serves as your teen's request for full initiation into the Catholic faith. The letter should be written thoughtfully and be respectful in tone. The letter should be typed and checked for spelling and grammar.

If your teen does not have access to a computer, please let the RE Office staff know. . The bishops ***do read each letter and they match the letters to the parish seating chart.*** Please make sure the letters are appropriate in content and appearance and **deliver them to the RE Office** on or before the above due.

## **Pastor Letter**

**Due Date: February 23, 2022**

*A sample of both the Bishop & Pastor Letters can be found at the end of this packet*

The pastor's letter should be similar in format to the bishop's letter. Fr. Stanbery will read each letter he receives. In both cases, parents are asked to review what their teen has written before turning the letters into the RE Office.

**These letters should not be mailed to the bishop/pastor.** Please turn letters into the RE Office so that we can submit completed packets of letters to the bishop and pastor offices.

Candidates can use the same letter for the pastor. The pastor's letter salutation should read as follows: Dear Father Stanbery,...

## **Works of Mercy Log Packet**

**Due Date: March 9, 2022**

Year II candidates are to fulfill 12 hours of service. Ideally, service hours should be divided as evenly as possible between service to family, parish and the community at large. Candidates need to fill out the service hour forms and turn them into the RE Office. We will review and record the hours and then return them to your teen.

Teens are encouraged to keep record of the service hour forms and document all future community service activities during their high school careers and develop a *Service Portfolio* which could be used later to apply for service-based college scholarships. The forms are also an excellent resource for writing the Bishop's letter.

**The RE Office is not responsible for scheduling or providing service hours.** We recognize the scheduling demands that many parents and teens face and we do our best to suggest, and in some cases provide service opportunities here at the parish. We notify our families via text message, by email or through weekly posts in the Sunday Bulletin about the various service opportunities we become aware of at the parish or the community at large.

# Confirmation Forms

All Confirmation forms are available on the RE page of the parish website at:

<https://stpeterarchbold.com/faith-formation/religious-education/>

Once you are on the RE page, scroll towards the bottom of the page where you will find **CONFIRMATION FORMS** and then click on the one(s) you need.

## Confirmation Liturgy

### Confirmation Ceremony Seating Chart

Each family will receive a copy of the Seating Chart at the rehearsal. On the day of Confirmation, we will also have a copy of the seating chart if anyone needs assistance.

### Name Tags

Remind the candidates to pick up their name tags from the table in the Narthex. Name tags should be placed on the right-hand side directly above where a shirt pocket would be located on a shirt.

### Confirmation Mass

**Date: March 26, 2022**

Each candidate is encouraged to be accompanied by their family as they are the “*first teachers of faith*.” The seating order in the pew is as follows: candidate, sponsor(s). Parents, family and guests may find a pew that is not reserved for candidates and sponsors.. Candidates and their sponsors should arrive by **9:30 am** and all family and guests should be in their pew 15 minutes before Mass begins.

Mass starts with a fundamental respect and understanding of the sacredness of the Mass. It is a time to gather in God's presence, to be nourished in a special way by God and one another. We listen to the *Word of God*, we pray together, and we share the ultimate food for the soul-the Body and Blood of Christ. What does this mean for Catholics and guests? It asks that the presence and behavior of those present throughout the service not detract in any way from the reverence accorded to the Mass.

As the bishop anoints each of our candidates it is important that those gathered remain prayerful and reverent during this time. Please turn off your cell phones prior to the start of Mass. You may wish to pray the Rosary or read a prayer book at this time.

### Receiving the Eucharist

All candidates and their sponsors are greatly encouraged to partake in the Eucharist at the Confirmation Mass. We will have ushers helping to direct those in attendance at the Mass. Please indicate on the *Confirmation Information Sheet* if you need Communion brought to the pew. If on the day of Confirmation, you need Communion brought to your pew but did not indicate it on the form, please inform the Ushers prior to the start of Mass.

### Length of Ceremony

Anticipate the Mass to last about 2 to 2.5 hours. This time allotment does not include transportation to and from the church, family pictures and exiting the parking lot.

### Prayer & Singing

All who participate in the liturgy are encouraged to respond to the prayers and to sing. No doubt some of us



feel we have not been blessed with beautiful voices or may feel uncomfortable singing. But the voices we have are gifts from God.

17

Remember...God is tone deaf and he doesn't hold auditions for prayer. He simply asks that each of us use the voice he has given us. When we all pray & sing, we can truly feel the power of the liturgy embracing the assembly.

We owe it to ourselves and to the others around us to participate as fully as we can to make our experience of worship as rich as it can be. As St. Augustine said, "Singing is like praying twice!"

## **Mass Dismissal**

Everyone is encouraged to sing and remain seated in the pews until the Mass procession and bishop have reached the doors. **Please do not exit church after Communion.**

## **Pictures**

**Please do not take pictures during Mass. We request that all who are in attendance remain seated during the Rite of Confirmation.** So often when we are the photographer, we become an observer and are no longer a participant. We encourage you to be fully present at this very special time. You are welcome to take pictures anywhere in the church. Remember to not place personal items on the altar when posing for pictures. The bishop is most generous about posing for pictures with the candidates after Mass and he and Father Stanbery will pose for a group picture after Mass. After the group picture the Candidates may leave with their parents.

## **Small Children**

Due to the length of the Mass it may be difficult for some smaller children to sit still. Please feel free to take your children out of Mass and make use of the Narthex.

## **Cell Phone Usage**

Use of a cell phone during Mass, which would include texting, is not appropriate at any time.

## **Food**

The Church teaches you should fast for one hour before receiving Communion, which means that you must stop eating solid food and drinking all liquids except water. Candidates are encouraged to receive both species. Please do not eat gum or candy during Mass. In addition, any other "dining" is inappropriate.

## **Clothing**

We ask that dress be appropriate and modest. Clothing items such as tee shirts, jeans, or tennis shoes are not appropriate attire for Confirmation. We ask that young women wear clothing that covers their shoulders and midriffs. Skirts must be appropriate in length. The candidates wear name tags so that the bishop can call them by name. The nametags are peel and stick and will not be comfortable on bare skin. Young men should wear dress slacks and a long sleeve shirt and tie. Suits, sport coats or vests are optional.

## **Certificate Corrections**

The RE Office makes every attempt to make sure that your candidate's information is correct. Again, parents are asked to carefully review the data recorded from the *Confirmation Information Sheet* and notify the RE Office by the due date listed above. We cannot correct the Worship Aid, but the certificates can be redone, if needed. If any corrections are needed, please make the correction on the certificate and place it in the box located outside the RE office. We will contact you when the new certificate is available for pick up.



Candidate Name  
St. Peter Parish  
Saint Report

### ***Joan of Arc***

Patron Saint of Members of the Military

### ***Feast Day-May 30***

I have chosen Saint Joan of Arc as my Confirmation name because I believe she is a wonderful role model for young women. My grandmother's name is Joan and since she is my sponsor, I thought it was a good name for me to choose. My dad is also in the Navy and she is the patron saint of the Members of the Military.

Joan of Arc was born on January 6, 1412 in Domremy, France. She was just an ordinary girl. She could not read nor write. She had to help with the household chores, take care of all the animals in the fields, helped bring in the harvest and she was 'very good with a needle.'

She heard voices when she was 13 years old that called her to save France from the English during the 100 Years War. She also had visions and she believed they were of St. Michael, St. Margaret and St. Catherine of Alexandria. France was at war with England and they were losing the war. The English occupied much of France. She was given troops to command. She wore armor and carried a white banner that represented God blessing the French royal emblem. She stood up to all the people who doubted her, and she was very successful in leading her troops to victory.

She was captured by some soldiers and was sold to the English allies. She was charged with heresy and sorcery. After 14 months she was condemned to death. She was burned at the stake. As she was dying, she asked an English soldier to hold up a cross made out of two-pieces of wood, so she could see it and she kept repeating the name of Jesus. The only thing that remained untouched by the fire was her heart. Her ashes were thrown into the River Seine in case people came to worship her at her grave and treat her as a saint.

The reason I think Joan of Arc is a good patron saint for me is that I want to join the Navy after I finish college. I want to become a nurse and work on a hospital ship taking care of all the sick and injured sailors and soldiers. I think they are all very brave to leave their families and defend our country. I miss my dad very much when he is away on duty, but he always tells us we need to be brave for him so that he can be brave when he does his job.

I also think she is good because even though she couldn't read or write, she didn't let that get in her way of doing what God called her to do. Sometimes I have a hard time with my schoolwork and I sometimes thought that maybe I couldn't become a nurse because of this. But Joan of Arc did really great things even though she couldn't read,

and people made fun of her. She believed in herself and all the gifts God gave her, and she did really great things. My grandma always calls me "her little cookie" because she says I always give even the bad things in life a good taste. I think it is important to make sick people feel better and not just by using medicine but by being nice to them and to talk to them and stuff.

## **Saint Websites**

[www.catholic.org](http://www.catholic.org)

Click the [saints and angels](#) link on the left side panel.

[www.cin.org](http://www.cin.org)

Scroll down looking on the right click the [saints](#) link.

[www.catholic-forum.com](http://www.catholic-forum.com)

Look at the side panel on the right to click the [patron saints index](#) link.

<http://theolibrary.shc.edu/>

Click on the [saint](#) link located inside the box titled Church.

[www.domestic-church.com](http://www.domestic-church.com)

Look center at top to click the [saints](#) link

Candidate's Name  
St. Peter Parish  
Date

Dear Most Reverend Bishop Daniel Thomas,

I, **(Candidate's Name)**, a member of the faith community of St. Peter Parish in Archbold, OH formally request to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday, **date of Confirmation**.

I want to receive the sacrament of Confirmation because ...

- Please write two to three reasons as to why it is important to you that you receive the sacrament.
  - **Example:** I wish to grow and mature in my faith or I want to become a full member of the Church.

I have prepared for the Sacrament of Confirmation by ...

- **Example:** Attended Confirmation preparation sessions, served my community by working in a soup kitchen, and/or participated in two retreats. We encourage you to share some details about any experience(s) you had that may have inspired you, touched you or that were life changing.

I have chosen **(Sponsor's Name)** to present me to you on the day of my Confirmation and to be a witness to my commitment. I have chosen my sponsor because ...

- **Example:** You will want to state here why you chose your sponsor and how they have witnessed their faith to you.

You will seal my commitment to Jesus Christ and His Church by anointing me with oil and calling me by name. The name I wish to be called at my Confirmation is **(Confirmation Name or Birth Name)**. I have chosen this name because ...

- **Example:** Write about your saint and why you have chosen his or her name.

I understand that the gifts of the Holy Spirit will help me build up the Church. I wish to share in the building of the Church by ...

- **Example:** Provide real, concrete and honest ways that you will continue to be active in the Church like being active in Youth Ministry, continuing to volunteer in service events, etc.

Respectfully Yours,

**(Actual Signature)**

**(Candidate's Name)**

Candidates can use the same letter for the pastor. The pastor letter salutation should read as follows: Dear Father Stanbery,

## Sample Confirmation Interview Questions

### *Faith Conversation*

- What are some of the candidate's hobbies, interests, or activities?  
(Icebreaker)
- Is this candidate freely choosing Confirmation? Yes No
- Explain their reasons for choosing to receive the Sacrament
- How does the candidate describe his or her relationship with Christ?
- How does the candidate describe his or her prayer life?
- Where does the candidate wish to grow in his or her faith? Where does he or she feel strongest?
- Since preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation, how do you feel you have grown in your Catholic faith?
- How do you see yourself remaining involved within the parish after you receive the sacrament?
- What do you think of the *Chosen* program? What do you like about it? What didn't you like about it? What would you keep the same? What would you change?
- What questions does the candidate have, if any?

# Mass Reflection Journal

Confirmation Preparation 2021-2022

**Student's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Mass attended:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Priest's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parish Name: (If not at St. Peter Parish)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Liturgical color used at Mass was:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Gospel Reading:** \_\_\_\_\_

**What was one lesson from the priest or deacon's homily that you learned?**

(Responses should be a minimum of five sentences)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Based on the Mass readings and Gospel, how will you be the "Best Version of Yourself" this week?**

(Responses should be a minimum of five sentences)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please turn the Mass Reflections into the RE Office as they are completed.

All Mass reflections are due by February 23, 2022



# 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 intention 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 (or step-parent) of the one to be baptized/confirmed.**

I \_\_\_\_\_ have read and do understand the requirements for serving as a sponsor at  
(Print Name)

Confirmation in the Catholic Church. I 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 by December 1, 2021**



**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 (nor step-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  
mfrancis.dre@gmail.com



## Church Seal



# Confirmation Information Sheet 2022

St. Peter Religious Education Office

**Due Date: December 1, 2021**

**Note:** Please complete this form as neatly as possible as it is used to produce all the necessary documentation for Confirmation. A Baptismal Certificate **MUST** be on file in the Religious Education Office.

**Full Name of Candidate (First, Middle & Last):** \_\_\_\_\_

*(Legal name as indicated on the Birth/Baptismal Certificate)*

**Child's Age as of April 1, 2022:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Confirmation Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

*(Saint name chosen for Confirmation. Please use the full name of the saint. Ex: St. Francis of Assisi)*

**Sponsor Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

*(Legal name as indicated on the Birth Certificate/Driver's License/ Passport)*

**Father's Full Name (First, Middle & Last):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mother's Name (First & Maiden Name):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Home Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Seating Information

Number of people attending the ceremony (please include your teen and sponsor in the number, i.e. Cathy Candidate, Susie Sponsor, Mom and Dad total as 4 people for the space reservation):

NUMBER OF SEATS: \_\_\_\_\_

## Seating Needs

Does your family have special needs or situations that would require specific seating arrangements?

*(Ex: Wheelchair, Walker, Hearing/Vision Impairment, ADD/ADHD, small children)*

Would it be helpful to have Eucharistic Minister provide communion at your seat for someone?

If you are a trained Eucharistic Minister at St. Peter Parish or if one of your teen's siblings is an Altar Server at St. Peter and would like to serve at Confirmation, please indicate here:



*Pray for us, O Most Holy Mother of God!*