

Each of the following guidelines play an essential part in preparing our Candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation:

Full Participation in Life Teen

The Sacrament of Confirmation completes a Christian's initiation into the Catholic Church. It is not the end but the beginning of growing in a deeper and more mature relationship with Christ and His Church. Life Teen provides community and the ongoing growth in understanding our faith and living it out in our daily lives. Only those high school students who regularly and actively participate in Life Teen are eligible to be candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation. It is also expected that, following Confirmation, the newly confirmed will remain as full and active participants in the Life Teen program and take other roles of service in the parish community.

Four Preparation Sessions

These four sessions of preparation on Sunday evenings before Life Teen are a unique and special time in the life of our Confirmation Candidates. Candidates are required to attend each and every session. While their participation in the Life Teen program assures them of an ever-increasing knowledge of their Catholic faith and of a growing personal relationship with Jesus Christ, these special sessions are designed to give them immediate preparation for the reception of this great Sacrament of the Holy Spirit. In the event of an unavoidable absence, a makeup session or a reading and writing assignment will be assigned to ensure knowledge of the content.

Weekly Mass Attendance

Being an active member of the parish includes keeping the Lord's Day holy. Regular and active participation in Sunday Mass is a basic requirement for reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation. Envelopes, provided to each candidate, are to be placed in the collection basket during one of the weekend Masses here at Church of St. Peter. If the candidate is going to be out of town or wishes to attend Mass at another Catholic Church, they must turn in a bulletin from the parish they attended to the Confirmation Basket at Life Teen.

Saint Presentation

Candidates, with the help of their Parents and Sponsor/Mentor will choose a Saint to whom the Candidate feels a connection with. The Candidate will take on this Saint's name. Candidates will complete the Saint Report Outline about his/her chosen Saint. The reports will be shared with the members of the Candidates' small groups at a Confirmation Session.

Write a Letter to the Bishop

It is customary in the Church of St. Peter for each Candidate to write a personal letter to the Bishop expressing their desire to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. The purpose of this letter is to introduce yourself to the Bishop, explain what Confirmation means to you personally, why you wish to be confirmed, and that you are asking for the Sacrament freely. Letters will be turned in at class and mailed together.

Sponsor/Candidate Activities

Candidates for Confirmation seek the spiritual help of a sponsor. This sponsor must be a confirmed, active member in the Catholic Church. Neither the father nor mother of a Candidate can be a sponsor. Sponsors must obtain a letter from his/her parish priest endorsing the sponsor. The Sponsor and Candidate will meet, at least, 4 times during the preparation for Confirmation. In addition, the Sponsor and Candidate must attend a Sponsor Meeting, October 27th at 4pm and Confirmation Sunday, March 15, 2020.

Attend a Retreat

Candidates for Confirmation must attend at least one retreat during their preparation. We provide several opportunities throughout the year which meet this requirement: The Life Teen Fall Retreat (Nov. 8-10) or the Steubenville Conference (summer) If neither of these work into your schedule you can contact the Net Center at 651-450-6833 and attend one of their monthly Confirmation retreats or attend at TEC retreat.

Basic Facts & Prayers

Candidates must be able to recite and explain the Ten Commandments, the Seven Sacraments, the Lord's Prayer and the Apostles' Creed.

Christian Service

By the Sacrament of Confirmation the baptized are more perfectly bound to the Church and are more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith by word and deed. To prepare for this, Candidates will complete 10 hours of service divided between the home, the church and the community.

Common Misconceptions About Confirmation

1. Many Catholics view the Sacrament of Confirmation as a type of “graduation”.

The Sacrament of Confirmation does not signify the end of your religious education or formation. Likewise, it is not the end of the parents’ responsibilities either. Confirmation is not an end; it’s a new beginning.

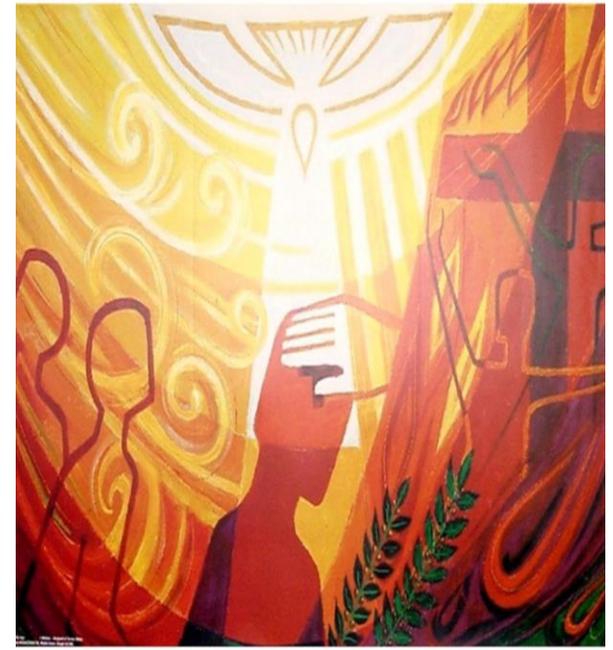
2. Some Catholics think that Confirmation is a time for the teen to “confirm” or “accept for themselves” what was begun at their Baptism.

Again, this is incorrect. Confirmation completes the reception of grace that was begun with the grace of Baptism. It’s not about what you have to proclaim. It is about the Church confirming what happened to you at Baptism and saying that you are ready to receive the Holy Spirit in this manner.

3. Some think that a sponsor has to be a relative or the godparent.

Just because you were named for “Great Aunt Agatha” doesn’t mean she is spiritually prepared for the duty. The sponsor should not only be a confirmed Catholic who goes to mass every week, but an example of what it means to live the faith. It doesn’t have to be your godparent or even a family member. The choice is yours. Find someone you look up to and respect in the faith, in or out of your family tree, and prayerfully consider them.

Source: www.lifeteen.com



Confirmation Program Information Guide 2019/2020

“You will receive POWER when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem. Throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Acts 1:8

For more information on Confirmation preparation please contact:

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