

St. Thomas More Parish

Sacrament of Confirmation Student preparation packet

2010



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Mrs. Sandra Morgan, Director of Religious Education
Mrs. Charlotte Herr, Administrative Assistant

*I will give you a new heart and
Place a new spirit within you... (Ezek 36:26)*



Confirmation Preparation Requirements

All students must meet attendance and preparation requirements

Confirmation Commitment Prayer:

October 27 (School)

November 4/5 (Religious Education)

School students: Signed copies of the commitment form will be presented on October 27 at Mass.

Religious Education students will have a Confirmation Commitment prayer service during class on November 4/5. You will be asked to reflect on your responsibility to prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and sign the Commitment form.

Saint Report Due: November 11/12

School students should follow the instructions given by their teacher.

Religious Education students should follow the instructions below.

You must summarize the saint's life in a report. Some sources for research are:

- www.newadvent.org
- www.nccbuscc.org
- www.catholic.org

The report should include the following information if available:

- The report should be typed, double-spaced.
- The cover page should include the saint's name, your name, your catechist's (teacher) name and picture of the saint.
- Name and feast day of saint
- Your reason for choosing this saint
- Summary of saint's life story in chronological order; birth, death, major events and dates
- Beatification and sainthood dates and under what circumstances
- Saint's special virtues – ways they were like Jesus
- Ways you can imitate saint
- Most impressive aspects of the saint's life and why



Due Sponsor Certificate: November 11/12

You are required to choose a mature adult to serve as your sponsor. Sponsoring invites an adult into a new relationship with you. Sponsoring may involve teaching. You may choose an adult sponsor who can explain the Bible or doctrine in a way you can understand and live. A sponsor is a guide who helps a you become acquainted with people and activities in the parish community. A sponsor should be a person with Christian qualities and values of which you would like to share. A sponsor listens and walks this year's journey with you. They give support in struggling with stress in your life. A sponsor has the responsibility of living the example of Christ, sharing faith, and listening to your ideas and concerns about living in discipleship with Christ.

A sponsor must meet the following requirements:

- Be at least 16 years old
- A practicing Catholic who has received all the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation)
- In good standing with the Church
- If married, in a valid Catholic marriage
- NOT the father or mother of the candidate

Whenever it is possible, the Church encourages you to select one of your Baptismal sponsors as your Confirmation sponsor.

The sponsor's home parish must verify the sponsor as a practicing Catholic. Your sponsor must fill out a sponsor certificate and this sponsor be approved by the Director. A Sponsor form is attached to this packet and is available on the website. The Sponsor sheet should be turned into your Religion Teacher.



Parent Meeting

We will be holding a parent meeting on **Thursday, October 15, at 7:00 p.m. in the gym.** All parents are encouraged to attend (at least one parent for each child must be present). Students do not need to attend!



Sharing Fellowship and Fun in Christ!!!!

Confirmation Retreat: December 9

A very important part of the Confirmation preparation program is a day of retreat, which will be held at St. Thomas More School on December 9, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. As this is a school day, we will notify the principal of Wilbur Wright of the retreat. In the past, the students were excused from school for the retreat and were able to make up any assignments or tests. **However, parents must send a note to the school at least one week in advance of the retreat date to receive this excuse.**

Dress for the day is casual, but appropriate to a Christian activity. **We will be ordering Retreat T-shirts, which should be worn the day of the Retreat.** You may wear jeans. No cargo pants or shorts.

Cell phones are not to be used during Retreat Day.

All students should be respectful and courteous during the retreat.

After School Religious Education: There is a \$25.00 fee for Confirmation, which is assessed at registration. This covers payment for retreat day snacks, lunch and T-shirt. Also your ribbon, pin and certificate on Sacrament Day have been included in this fee. This fee is billed with the tuition for the After School Program.

St. Thomas More School Students: Please submit the \$25.00 fee by December 1, 2009 in an envelope to your Religion Teacher to cover these sacramental fees.



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"PLEASE EXCUSE MY MOTHER, THIS IS MY FIRST INTERVIEW."

Interview Assignment -- Due December 16/17

Part 1: You are to interview your parents and your sponsor using the following guide:

- When did you become a Catholic?
- Why do you want to live your life as a Catholic?
- What role do Mass and the Sacraments play in your life?
- What do you think is the most rewarding aspect of your life as a Catholic?
- What do you think is the most challenging aspect of your life as a Catholic?
- What do you feel you are called to do as a Catholic?
- Does being a Catholic make a difference in your way of life?

Part 2: Record their responses in a report that should be typed and turned into your Religion Teacher by **December 16/17**. The report should include:

- Your name
- The name of the person interviewed
- Their comments
- Your reaction to their comments
- What do you think is the most challenging aspect of *your* life as a Catholic.





Acts of Service: February 24/25

*“Christ has no body now on earth, but yours;
No hands but yours; no feet but yours.
Yours are the eyes through which He is to go about doing good;
Yours are the hands with which He is to bless people now.”*
-- St. Teresa of Avila

Christ asks of us to be His hands, feet and eyes. In preparation for the reception of Confirmation, you are expected to participate in **7 acts of service**. You should select deeds that are geared to your own special talents and abilities. Each Service act should reflect one of the gifts of the **HOLY SPIRIT**. Service should reflect work done beyond the usual chores and duties required at home. The service should not have financial rewards.

Fill out a reflection form for each act of service and give to your Religion Teacher by

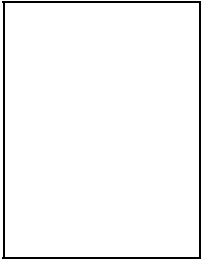
February 24/25.

Dress Code for Holy Confirmation Mass with Bishop Melczek

- *Boys: Dress slacks, dress shirt, tie (jacket or sweater optional, long necktie is mandatory.)
No jeans, athletic shoes or T-shirts

- *Girls: Dress, skirt with appropriate sweater or blouse, or pantsuit
No low cut, spaghetti-strap, strapless or backless tops
No tight fitting clothing
Skirts should be at knee-length.

- *Do not wear any ornamentation that denotes non-Christian attitudes and values.



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We will be holding a parent meeting on **Thursday, October 15, at 7:00 p.m. in the gym.** All parents are encouraged to attend (at least one parent for each child must be present). Students do not need to attend.

CONFIRMATION DATE

The Bishop will notify us of the date for Confirmation in January.
We will send a notice home with the students as well as post the information in the bulletin and on the website.

