



Confirmation Parent Packet

August 2019 Confirmandi

What is the Sacrament of Confirmation? Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation are called the Sacraments of Initiation. Through these sacraments, we become members of the Catholic Church, a community of Spirit-filled people who have been saved by Christ and who witness Christ's love in the world.

By means of *Baptism*, we are made sons and daughters of God, our sins are forgiven, and we are welcomed as members of the Church. *Confirmation* impresses the candidate with a special character. Through this sacrament, the candidates are enriched by the gifts of the Holy Spirit, are bound more perfectly to the Church, and are strengthened in faith. They are enabled to witness more courageously to Christ by word and deed, to spread and defend the faith. The *Eucharist* unites the people of God as a family of Christ, whose body and blood they share.

By means of these sacraments of Christian initiation, the faithful receive in increasing measure the treasures of divine life and grow toward the perfection of charity.

The Role of those to be Confirmed-Those to be confirmed should be suitably instructed and properly disposed. They must be willing to be involved in the preparation program with the intention of remaining faithful to Christ and his Church.

The Role of Parents-Parents play a primary role in the sacramental preparation program. You help your son or daughter grow in faith as you prepare him or her for fruitful reception of the sacrament. Your attendance at the parent meeting and the Sunday parish celebrations of the Eucharist is vital. There is, and can be, no substitute for your actual presence at such moments. Your interest, involvement, and concern make a difference in your son's or daughter's perception of what this sacrament and the Christian life are all about.

The Role of the Sponsor-Each candidate is responsible for choosing a sponsor. It is recommended that, if possible, the baptismal sponsor also be the confirmation sponsor. This choice would express more clearly the relationship between Baptism and Confirmation and would make the function of the sponsor more effective. There is no regulation determining that men be sponsor for boys and women be sponsors for girls. **Church law states that the sponsor must be at least sixteen years of age. He or she must be a confirmed Catholic who has received Holy Eucharist and is also a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church. The sponsor may not be a mother or father of the one to be confirmed. It is the responsibility of the sponsor to give assurance of his or her qualifications.** Sponsors take on a lifelong commitment to help their candidate fulfill the obligations of the sacrament. During preparation, sponsors are encouraged to take an active role in the Confirmation program. Sponsors should be present at Confirmation practice (if possible) and ceremony.

Their immediate role demands time, commitment, and willingness to engage in faith-sharing activities with their candidates.

Selecting a Saint Name and the Living Wax Museum

During Confirmation, your child will enter into a deeper relationship with God. One Confirmation custom is to choose a name which symbolizes this relationship. A Confirmation name reflects the choice of a saintly patron. Your child may claim for his/herself the name received at Baptism or may choose a different name.

Some questions you might ask your child before he or she chooses a name: What is your complete baptismal name? Why were you given these names? Think of a saint you admire and wish to be like...what is his/her name? What is the feast day, is it a special day in your life? Are there any miracles associated with this saint? Is it the name of your sponsor? Is there a family name or confirmation name that is passed through the generations? What do you want your Confirmation name to be? Why? What does your Confirmation name and your Confirmation Saint mean to you?

You may need to help your child research possible saint names. There are numerous resources available online. If you need additional resources, please contact us.

Students should conduct research on their saint and be prepared to dress in simple costumes to present the life of their chosen saint. The "Museum" will be set up in the gym and parents/visitors will walk from saint to saint to hear their stories.

Presentation details *may* include:

- The name of the saint, date of birth, death date, feast day and if this saint is a patron of something
- A little history about the saint and other interesting information. Also include why and when he or she was canonized
- Why you chose this saint
- What you admire about this saint and how he/she might be an example in how you live your life.
- Names and/or examples of people in your everyday life who hold qualities similar to that of your saint.

Additional details will be provided through either St. Boniface School or PSR communication, as applicable.

Candidate may select a saint of either gender and/or someone in the process of Sainthood (e.g. Blessed). Old Testament Prophets names are acceptable, but the report could be written about another chosen modern saint.

Please understand that the Confirmation Name chosen will be the one that the Bishop will announce at Mass during the Rite of Confirmation.

PSR Museum Date will be May 8th.

St. Boniface School Museum Day will be May 6 (5th & 6th grades) and May 9th (3rd & 4th grades).



Confirmation Checklist & Registration Form



Category	Explanation	Due Date
Candidate and Sponsor Information Form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidate & Sponsor information • Saint name identified • Include copy of baptismal certificate if not baptized at St. B 	March 15th, 2019
Saint Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choose a saint • Research history of saint • Present saint during "Wax Museum" event 	PSR-May 8, 2019 St. B School- May 6th and May 9th
Religion Class	active participation and regular attendance	Ongoing
Sunday Mass	regular attendance	Ongoing
Confirmation Retreat & Reconciliation Service	All day retreat for students and parents at Fr. McGivney HS beginning with Mass and including penance service.	Sunday, August 18, 2019 12:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Confirmation Rehearsal	Walk-through for students and sponsors in the church.	August 21st, 2019 6:00-7:00 p.m. for Saturday Confirmation 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. for Sunday Confirmation
Conferring of the Sacrament	Bishop Paprocki confirms the current 3rd and 4th graders during Mass Bishop Paprocki confirms the current 5th and 6th graders during Mass	August 24, 2019 at 6:30 pm August 25, 2019 at 10:15 am

Please contact Laura Kretzer at lkretzer@st-boniface.com or Jennifer Hoeflerlin at jhoeflerlin@st-boniface.com concerning any questions, difficulties or problems with the various aspects of Confirmation.

ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM

Online form is available on the St. Boniface website at www.st-boniface.com/quick-links or by scanning the QR code.

REGISTRATION FORM SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY March 15th.



