

MARY, QUEEN OF PEACE CATHOLIC CHURCH

CONFIRMATION BOOKLET

2019



CONFIRMATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

According to the CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, Confirmation is a Sacrament which perfects Baptismal grace; it is the sacrament which gives the Holy Spirit in order to root us more deeply in the divine filiations, incorporate us more firmly into Christ, strengthen our bond with the Church, associate us more closely with her mission, and help us bear witness to the Christian faith in words accompanied by deeds.

Confirmation, like Baptism, imprints a spiritual mark or indelible character on the Christians' soul; for this reason one can receive this sacrament only once in one's life.

A candidate for Confirmation who has attained the age of reason must profess the faith, be in the state of grace, have the intention of receiving the sacrament, and be prepared to assume the role of disciple and witness for Christ, both within the ecclesial community and in temporal affairs.

(CCC1316-1319)

GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit help Christians live more fully committed to Christ. These gifts are:

WISDOM
UNDERSTANDING
COUSEL
FORTITUDE
KNOWLEDGE
PIETY
REVERENCE FOR GOD

FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

From the Gifts of the Holy Spirit come the Fruits, which are:

CHARITY	JOY
PEACE	PATIENCE
KINDNESS	GOODNESS
LONG-SUFFERING	MILDNESS
FORTITUDE	MODESTY
CONTINENCY	CHASTITY

SECTION 7: CONFIRMATION 7.1 INTRODUCTION (CANON 879)

7.1.1 The Sacrament of Confirmation represents for the Church the great day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles. In that moment the Apostles were given a great grace, which prodded them on towards the mission of making disciples for the Lord. It was the Holy Spirit which helped them to carry out the Lord's command, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." (Matthew 28:19-20)

7.1.2 The candidates who present themselves for Confirmation become "more perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit." (CCC 1285) Like the Apostles, this "special strength" urges the confirmed to spread the good news of Jesus Christ. Thus, they are missioned to work for the fostering of the Kingdom of God here on earth.

7.1.3 We see this descent of the Holy Spirit symbolized in the rite through the laying on of hands and the anointing with chrism. The symbols clearly and effectively express the passing on of the same grace bestowed at Pentecost, the presence of the Holy Spirit.

7.1.4 Confirmation, however, must not be seen as a sacrament in isolation. Together with Baptism and Eucharist, Confirmation "constitute[s] the 'sacraments of initiation' whose unity must be safeguarded." (CCC 1285) It is important then that we catechize the faithful, especially parents, that while Confirmation is not necessary for marriage in the Church, "reception...of Confirmation is necessary for the completion of baptismal grace." (CCC 1285) As in baptism the Sacrament of Confirmation imparts an indelible mark and therefore cannot be repeated. (cf. CCC1304)

7.1.5 Confirmation, then, should be seen as a sacrament of initiation, conversion and renewal. When it is celebrated after First Eucharist, it completes the process of initiating the candidate into the Body of Christ. It also allows the candidate to experience conversion and renewal by having a deeper encounter with the Living God. However, the sacrament is not a rite of passage serving to mark a certain milestone of adulthood. Further, it does not complete one's formation in the Christian Life.

7.1.6 It is important to remember the diversity of times at which Confirmation can be celebrated in the Universal Church, from infancy to adulthood.

7.1.7 The sacrament of Confirmation is required for some roles in the life of the Church, i.e. Holy Orders, entrance into consecrated life and serving as a sponsor for baptism or Confirmation. It is not, however, required for the sacrament of holy matrimony.

7.1.8 The particular law of the archdiocese requires the sacrament of Confirmation to be received before one can be delegated by the archbishop to serve as an extraordinary minister of Holy Communion.

7.4 THE CANDIDATES (CANONS 889-891)

7.4.1 Every baptized person not yet confirmed and only such a person is capable of receiving Confirmation. (c. 889 § 1) To receive Confirmation licitly outside of danger of death requires that a person who has the use of reason be suitably instructed, properly disposed, and able to renew the baptismal promises. (c. 889 § 2)

7.4.2 In order to provide for suitable instruction the periods of preparation are established as: a. Ongoing Faith Formation includes infancy and adolescence. During this period all young people should be actively participating in faith formation either at a Catholic school or in a parish catechetical program to further develop the formation that they are receiving from their parents, who are the primary teachers of the faith. b. Sacramental Preparation includes the period of a parish based sacramental catechesis specific to the Sacrament of Confirmation, an interview with a member of the parish clergy or catechetical team, a retreat, service experiences and preparation for the liturgy itself. The process of completing the required elements of Confirmation preparation established in this document should begin no more than twelve (12) months prior to reception of the sacrament.

7.4.3 Ongoing Faith Formation

7.4.3.1 Parents and pastors of souls, especially pastors of parishes, are to take care that the faithful are properly instructed to receive the sacrament and come to it at the appropriate age. (c. 890)

7.4.3.2 The Church views the role of parents in religious formation of children as both a privilege and an obligation. Having presented their child to the Church for Baptism, they are distinctly reminded that they have the responsibility to “bring [their child] up in the practice of the faith” (Rite of Baptism 56). This privilege and obligation extends to all sacramental preparation. Parents, being the primary religious educators; both are responsible for forming and informing the faith of the candidates. Parishes are encouraged to assist parents in this endeavor by providing opportunities for spiritual growth through meetings, presentations, retreats, prayers, adult formation classes, etc.

7.4.3.3 Pastors should take great care to inform parents at baptism and continuously thereafter that it is their responsibility to form their children in the faith. In order to assist them, pastors must ensure that they have viable faith formation programs for the youth of their parish, that can pass on the Catholic faith, including teachings on the moral life, which are age appropriate.

7.4.4 Sacramental Preparation

7.4.4.1 Preparation for Confirmation should aim at leading the Christian toward a more intimate union with Christ and a more lively familiarity with the Holy Spirit-his actions, his gifts, and his biddings-in order to be more capable of assuming the apostolic responsibilities of Christian life. To this end catechesis for Confirmation should strive to awaken a sense of belonging to the Church of Jesus Christ, the universal Church as well as the parish community. (CCC 1309) 7-11

7.4.4.2 To accomplish this goal, the period of sacramental preparation will include twelve to fourteen (12-14) hours of parish based sacramental catechesis covering the following topics:

- Trinitarian Understanding of the Holy Spirit as the Bond of Love
- The Relationship between Baptism & Confirmation
- Understanding of the Mass
- Reconciliation & Mercy: The Sacrament of Reconciliation
- The Vocational Call: Priest, Prophet & King • The Gifts & Fruits of the Holy Spirit
- Prayer: Personal and Communal
- Faith Lived: The Ongoing Journey of Formation & Living as a Witness

7.4.4.3 These parish based sessions will be required of all young people seeking Confirmation whether they are enrolled in a Catholic school or the parish school of religion.

7.4.4.4 The structure of the sessions is at the discretion of the individual parishes. However, the total number of hours is not to exceed fourteen (14). This does not include the retreat.

ROLE OF THE FAMILY ESPECIALLY PARENTS

The church views the role of Parents in the Religious Education and formation of their child as both a privilege and an obligation. When parents present their child to the church to be baptized, they are distinctly reminded that they have the responsibility “to bring [their children] up in the practice of the catholic faith.” (Rite of Baptism of Children 56)

The obligation and privilege extends to sacrament preparation. Parents need to be incorporated into the overall vision of the parish’s planning for their child’s preparation. Pope John Paul II, in 1994, reasserted the privileged responsibility of parents when he wrote:

Parents are the first and most important educators of their own children, and they all possess a fundamental competence in this area: they are educators because they are parents.

Letter to Families #16

It is vital that we remember a child first comes to Faith through their families. And, it is within the family that a child will continue to practice their faith and witness the daily example of Catholic believers.

We invite you to walk this journey with your child and reflect, chapter by chapter with them as they process toward Confirmation.

We encourage families to pray together, including the Sacred Scripture from each chapter. We ask that you share your faith and your faith journey with your child.

We ask that you worship as a family by attending Mass together.

We ask that Parents support their child and assist as necessary in completing the child’s service project.

Parents according to Canon law are no longer permitted to be Sponsors for their child for Confirmation.

MARY, QUEEN OF PEACE CONFIRMATION REQUIREMENTS FOR CANDIDATES

REGULAR CLASS ATTENDANCE (No absences)

COMPLETED SERVICE PROJECT OF 6 HOURS OR MORE EITHER IN THE CHURCH OR COMMUNITY that are not used for other reasons

FREELY CHOOSES TO BE CONFIRMED

LETTER OF INTENT TO PASTOR JOHN TRAN and emailed to him

SHOW KNOWLEDGE OF FAITH AND WILLINGNESS TO PARTICIPATE IN ALL CLASSES AND THE RETREAT

ATTEND CONFIRMATION RETREAT

SELECT A SPONSOR AND MEET WITH SPONSOR ON A REGULAR BASIS

ATTEND RITE OF WELCOME

ATTEND MASS WEEKLY

7.4.5 Mass Attendance

7.4.5.1 Confirmation preparation should encourage all candidates to actively participate in the life of the Church by regularly receiving the sacraments in their parish community.

7.4.5.2 To this end, there should be continual emphasis on the grave obligation to attend Holy Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.

7.4.5.3 While this is an obligation that the candidates should be living out, there will not be a process of verification as part of Confirmation preparation. Instead, we must invite, encourage, remind, and assist the candidates to attend Mass faithfully

RECEIVE THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION BEFORE CONFIRMATION

MUST BE IN A STATE OF GRACE

MUST BE FULLY PRACTICING THEIR FAITH

Must attend Interview

7.4.4.5 The Interview

a. Members of the parish catechetical team should conduct interviews with the candidates for Confirmation at least 30 days prior to the Sacrament. The purpose of these interviews is to assess the readiness of each individual candidate for Confirmation. This can be judged by asking about their practice of the faith and their understanding of Confirmation in the context of the sacraments of initiation. b. The interview can also be an opportunity for the candidate to give voice to any particular questions or difficulties that may have arisen in the course of preparation for the sacrament.

MARY, QUEEN OF PEACE

CHOOSING OF A CHRISTIAN NAME FOR CONFIRMATION

In the Rite of Confirmation, you will be choosing a Confirmation name. You are encouraged to take your Baptismal name because Confirmation is the completion of the initiation you began in your Baptism. If you prefer, you may choose a different Saints name. If the Baptismal name is not the name of a recognized Catholic saint you should choose another name. The Saint is chosen to serve as a model for you throughout your life. Find out more about your chosen Saint by doing this project. Please complete the project as follows:

- 1. Cover Page**
 - A.) Saints Name**
 - B.) Your Name, Date of paper**
 - C.) Teachers name**

- 2. Give a brief summary of the Saint's life.**
 - A.) Include information such as Feast Day, Saint's place of Birth, where the Saint lived**
 - B.) Find out and include information about the Saint's family, occupation, life and death**
 - C.) What virtues did the saint practice in life?**
 - D.) What aspect of this person's life attracted you?**
- 3. How is this Saint a model for Catholics today?**
- 4. Ask your parents or whoever named you why they chose your Baptismal name for you. If you chose a different name tell why you chose the name yourself.**

GUIDELINES FOR SERVICE HOURS

7.4.4.6 Apostolic Hours (Service Program) a. Recognizing that the Holy Spirit sends us out as a people of God to serve in the kingdom here on earth each candidate will participate in four to six (4-6) apostolic hours. b. This will give candidates the opportunity as Christians to live out their vocation of Christian charity in a concrete way. This is not meant to be the only time candidates participate in service but to either be a start and/or continuation of the work they will be doing for the rest of their lives. c. These hours may be done either as a group with all the candidates participating, in small groups, or as individuals. In any case, all the experiences should be followed by a time of theological reflection to help candidates understand the connection between the apostolic work and the sacrament that they are preparing to receive, as well as, the continual mission to serve. d. The coordinators of Confirmation are encouraged to help students pick experiences that relate to the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy. This will help them to better understand the apostolic work as a lifelong commitment.

HOURS: 6 Hours minimum of good service

- 1. The student must contact the organization on their own and make the necessary arrangements.**
- 2. The service must be given freely; you cannot be paid for it or be reimbursed in any way.**
- 3. This service may have been done any time in the last 12 months or it may be done NOW.**
- 4. It cannot be done in your own home or family business.**

REFLECTION PAPER

Your Reflection Paper should answer the following:

- A. What service did you do?**
- B. How did you bring Christ to another in this service?**
- C. How did this service affect you? (How did you feel about it?)**
- D. What good is accomplished by this service?**

MARY, QUEEN OF PEACE CONFIRMATION RETREAT

WHO: All Confirmation students (mandatory retreat)

DATE: Arrive Camp Abbey at 8:45am on Saturday, September 15

Do not be late. Retreat will start and end on time. Please have someone here to pick you up at 9:00pm

NO one may drive their own car. Parent must bring student and pick up student at Camp Abbey.

LOCATION: Retreat will be held at Camp Abbey in Covington. In case of emergency parents may call MQP at 626-6977 or Jewell Bayhi at 985-778-6277

INFORMATION:

On Saturday you may wear shorts if they are of an appropriate length and t shirts. No skin can be showing in midriff etc. Please wear appropriate shoes for hiking or other activities. No flip flops, tube tops, tank tops or biking shorts

MEALS: will be provided by Camp Abbey. PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE DIETARY REQUIREMENTS AHEAD OF TIME.

PLEASE DO NOT BRING THE FOLLOWING:

Alcohol MP3 players or radios, etc. Homework Vape materials

Tobacco (of any kind) Outside reading materials Cell phones Computers and I pads

You will be sent home if you do not cooperate.... Cell phones may be checked in on arrival and picked up at end of retreat.

PLEASE DO BRING YOURSELF WITH AN OPEN HEART AND AN OPEN MIND!

No Visitors will be allowed on campus and security will be present.

CALL MRS. JEWELL IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS 674-9794

SPONSORS

7.5 SPONSORS (CANONS 892-893)

7.5.1 When possible there is to be a sponsor for the person to be confirmed. The sponsor serves as a role model and mentor to the confirmand to ensure that the person lives a life in accord with Christ's commandments and continuously practices the faith by participation in the sacramental life of the Church. (cf. can. 892)

7.5.2 In order for a person to be a sponsor he/she must: a. be designated by the one to be confirmed, by the parents or the person who takes their place. If necessary, the pastor may be requested to select a sponsor for the candidate; b. be a Catholic who has celebrated Confirmation thus becoming fully initiated into the life of the Church; c. be living a life in harmony with the Catholic faith and understand the role of a sponsor; d. not be bound by any canonical penalty; e. not be the parents, natural or adoptive, of the person being confirmed (cf. canons 893 & 874); and f. be active in the Church and can serve as a model of faith.

7.5.3 In order to highlight the relationship between baptism and Confirmation, it is appropriate to choose as sponsor the one who undertook the same function in baptism. (canon 893 §2)

7.5.4 In order to standardize the process parishes use to certify that sponsors meet the requirements of canon law a Testimonial Form is attached in the appendix of this policy for use in all parishes of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. This allows pastors and coordinators of Confirmation to take the Sponsors 'at the word of their sworn statements' and eliminates the need for any other attestations regarding their 'good standing' in the Church, reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation, etc.

ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW ORLEANS
Godparent/Sponsor Testimonial for Confirmation

Date: _____

Name of Person to be Confirmed:

Criteria to Serve as Godparent/Sponsor for Baptism/Confirmation

1. The Godparent/Sponsor must be a Catholic in good standing with the Church who has been Confirmed and regularly practices his/her Catholic faith;
2. The Godparent/Sponsor must be at least sixteen years of age;
3. If married, the Godparent/Sponsor must be in a marriage recognized as valid by the Catholic Church. Person may not be cohabiting (living together without marriage);
4. If not previously attended, the Godparent/Sponsor will attend appropriate preparation for fulfilling this role (Baptismal or Confirmation seminar, RCIA session, etc.)

Statement of Godparent/Sponsor

"I meet the above-stated criteria to serve as a Godparent/Sponsor, and I will do all in my power to assist the parents of this child to raise their child in the Catholic faith, or - if an adult - to assist him/her in living faithfully as a Catholic Christian."

By signing below, the proposed Godparent/Sponsor solemnly swears that he or she has read the above criteria, and that the statement above is a true and correct indication of his/her intentions.

Godparent/Sponsor's Signature:

Godparent/Sponsor's Name Printed:

Signature of Pastor or Delegate (In Parish where the sacrament is to be celebrated) _____

Mary, Queen of Peace Church
1501 W. Causeway Approach Mandeville, La. 70471
985-674-9794 jbayhi@maryqueenofpeace.org

PARENT/GUARDIAN CONSENT FORM AND LIABILITY WAIVER

PARTICIPANT'S FULL NAME _____
STUDENT EMAIL _____
BIRTH DATE: _____ **SEX:** _____ **SCHOOL:** _____
PARENT/GUARDIAN FULL NAME:
Mother: _____ Father: _____
HOME ADDRESS:
_____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
HOME PHONE: _____ **STUDENT CELL PHONE:** _____ **CELL PHONE DAD** _____
CELL MOM _____

I, _____ grant permission for my child, _____
(Parent/ Guardian Name) (Child's Name)

to participate in the Confirmation Retreat that requires my child to ride a bus to a location away from the parish site. This activity will take place under the guidance and direction of parish employees and volunteers from Mary, Queen of Peace Parish, Mandeville, La. A brief description of the activity follows:

TYPE OF EVENT: Confirmation Retreat

DESTINATION OF EVENT: Camp Abbey

INDIVIDUAL IN CHARGE: Jewell Bayhi

TIME OF ARRIVAL and DEPARTURE: Meet at Camp Abbey 8:45am AM on SATURDAY, September 15 and be picked up at Camp Abbey on SATURDAY NIGHT AT 9:00pm by Parents

MODE OF TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM EVENT: Parent vehicles

As parent and/or legal guardian, I will remain legally responsible for any personal actions taken by the above named minor ("participant").

I agree on behalf of myself, my child named herein, or our heirs, successors, and assigns, to hold harmless and defend Mary, Queen of Peace, Mandeville, Louisiana, its officers, director and agents, and the Archdiocese of New Orleans, chaperone, or representatives associated with the event, arising from or in connection with my child attending the event or in connection with any illness or injury or cost of medical treatment in connection therewith, and I agree to compensate the parish/location, its officers, directors and agents, and the Archdiocese of New Orleans, chaperone, or representatives associated with the event for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses arising in connection therewith.

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

MEDICAL MATTERS: I hereby warrant that to the best of my knowledge, my child is in good health, and I assume all responsibility for the health of my child. (Of the following statements pertaining to medical matters, sign only those that are applicable.)

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TREATMENT: In the event of an emergency, I hereby give permission to transport my child to a hospital for emergency medical or surgical treatment. I wish to be advised of any further treatment by the hospital or doctor. In the event of an emergency if you are unable to reach me at the above numbers, contact:

NAME & RELATIONSHIP: _____ **PHONE:** _____

FAMILY DOCTOR: _____ **PHONE:** _____

FAMILY HEALTH PLAN CARRIER: _____ **POLICY #** _____

SIGNATURE _____ **DATE:** _____

OTHER MEDICAL TREATMENT: In the event it comes to the attention of the parish/location, its officers, directors and agents, and the Archdiocese of New Orleans, chaperones, or representatives associated with the activity that my child becomes ill with symptoms such as headache, vomiting, diarrhea, minor sore throat, I want to be called.

SIGNATURE _____ **DATE:** _____

MEDICATIONS: My child is taking medication at present. My child will bring all such medications necessary, and such medications will be well labeled. Names of medications and concise directions for seeing that the child takes such medications, including dosage and frequency of dosage are as follows:

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

No medication of any type, whether prescription or non-prescription, may be administered to my child unless the situation is life threatening and emergency treatment is required.

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

I hereby grant permission for non-prescription medication (Such as aspirin, tylenol, cough syrup) to be given to my child if deemed appropriate.

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

SPECIFIC MEDICAL INFORMATION: The parish/location will take reasonable care to see that the following information is held in confidence.

ALLERGIC REACTIONS (Medications, foods, plants, insects, etc.)

IMMUNIZATIONS: Date of last tetanus/diphtheria immunization _____

Does child have a medically prescribed diet? _____

ANY PHYSICAL LIMITATIONS?

Is child subject to chronic homesickness, emotional reactions to new situations, sleepwalking, bedwetting, fainting, etc.? _____

Has child recently been exposed to a contagious disease or condition, such as mumps, chicken pox, measles? If so, date and disease or condition. _____

You should also be aware of the following for my child (include any specific diet or foods your child may need)