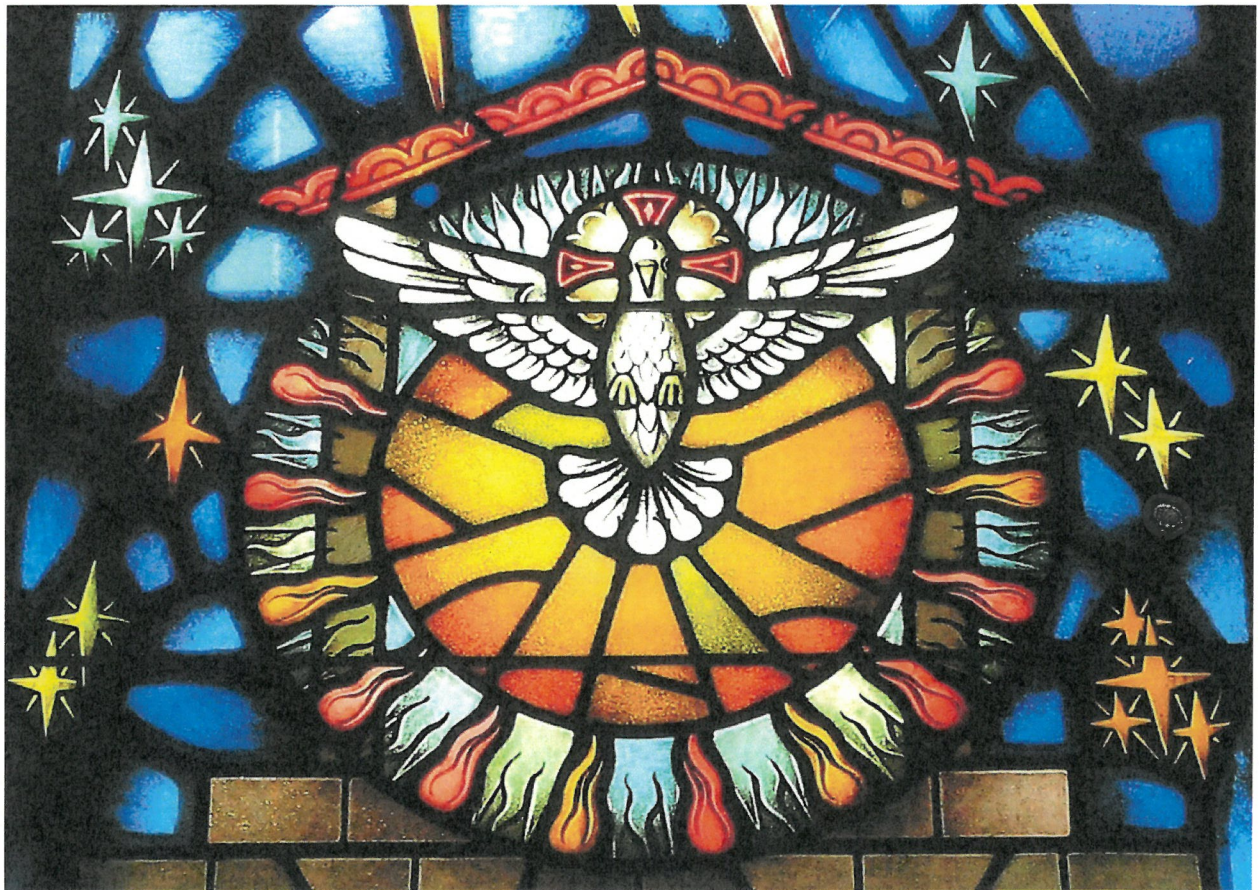


Confirmation Preparation Packet

SPRING 2025



“Just as Christ, after His baptism and the coming upon Him of the Holy Spirit went forth and defeated the adversary, so also with you. After holy Baptism and the Mystical Chrism (Confirmation), having put on the full suit of armor of the Holy Spirit, you are to withstand the power of the adversary, and defeat him, saying, ‘I am able to do all things in Christ, Who strengthens me.’” (St. Cyril of Jerusalem, 350 A.D.)

Checklist of Confirmation Preparation Requirements:

- ✓ Formation and Catechesis (Typically, 2 Years (7th and 8th grade or OCIT 1 and OCIT 2))
 - Participation in Monday Evening Religious Education OR
 - Enrollment in St. Veronica Catholic School OR
 - Other Catholic School Enrollment with Attendance Verification Letter OR
 - Homeschool Formation with Approval by the Pastor
 - See the Director of Religious Education for more information about obtaining approval.

Due in October 2024

- ✓ Application for the Reception of Confirmation (Due: October 18th, 2024)
- ✓ Sacrament Fee of \$60 (Due at time of RE Tuition OR School Enrollment OR October 18th, 2024)
- ✓ Birth Certificate (Due: October 18th, 2024)
- ✓ Baptismal Certificate (Due: October 18th, 2024)
 - (We must see the original with the parish seal before we can accept a copy.)
- ✓ OCIT 1 and 2 High School Confirmation Retreat Day (Grades 9-12 only)
 - October 19th, 2024, Mount St. Mary's and Seton Shrine in Emmitsburg, MD
 - High School Confirmation Retreat Permission Slip (Due October 14th, 2024)

Due in November 2024

- ✓ Permission Slip for Confirmation Retreat (Due: November 12, 2024)
 - Participation in 8th Grade Retreat
 - Saturday, November 23rd at St. Veronica from 12noon-6:15pm.

Due in December 2024

- ✓ Confirmation Saint Report (Due December 16, 2024)

Due in January 2025

- ✓ Confirmation Exam (RE students will take the exam, January 13th, 2025) (St. Veronica School Students TBD)
- ✓ Sponsor Certificate of Eligibility (Due: January 31st, 2025)

Due in March 2025

- ✓ Confirmation Interview with St. Veronica Clergy
 - St. Veronica School Students will have Interviews During Class (TBD)
 - All Others: March 3rd, 2025, and/ or March 10th, 2025 at 5:30pm
- ✓ Service Requirement Verification Form and Service Reports (Bring to your interview)
- ✓ Letter to Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio, J.C.D.

Due in April 2025

- ✓ Confirmation Rehearsal (Wednesday, April 9th, 2025 at 5:30pm in the Church)
 - Mandatory Rehearsal for all Confirmandi and Sponsors
- ✓ Confirmation Liturgy (Thursday, April 10th, 2025 at 7:00pm in the Church)
- ✓ Easter Vigil (Sacraments for students in OCIT 2) (Saturday, April 20, 2025)
 - Easter Vigil Rehearsal TBD

Important Confirmation 2025 Preparation Details:

MASS ATTENDANCE AND FREQUENT CONFESSION

Attendance at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation is a precept of the Church. The Child is asked to stop by and say hello to the Priest, and collect a holy card each Sunday, then show that card to their teacher or Catechist at their next class. Confession is offered several times a week at St. Veronica Parish. *The Sunday Eucharist is the foundation and confirmation of all Christian practice.* (Catechism 2182).

Application for the Reception of Confirmation Form

This form is your way of indicating your desire to have your child confirmed, and it must be filled out with all the vital information we need for your child to receive Confirmation.

Baptismal Certificate

Each candidate must submit the original of his/her Baptismal Certificate so that we can verify the seal before making a copy. If baptized outside of the United States of America, please allow ample time to retrieve a copy of the certificate from the parish of the Baptism. If you have previously submitted a Baptismal Certificate, please verify with the Religious Education Office that it is on file.

Birth Certificate

Each candidate must submit a copy of their Birth Certificate. This is a new requirement, and we will not have this document on file from previous years.

Confirmation Sponsor Certificate of Eligibility Form

The candidate is required to select a person to be his or her sponsor. The sponsor must meet the criteria listed on the "Sponsor Eligibility" page in this packet. The sponsor must fill out the Certificate of Eligibility Form from their parish and the pastor of his/her parish must sign it and affix the parish seal.

Confirmation Saint Name

Each candidate must choose a Confirmation name, whether the Baptismal name is kept or a new name is chosen. In choosing a Confirmation name, the candidate must choose a Saint's name. By doing so each candidate has a model for holiness and a patron and intercessor. Candidates may choose a saint of the same or opposite gender (for example: a girl choosing a female or male Saint's name).

Confirmation Exam

The Confirmation Exam Study Guide is enclosed in this packet. Please assist your child in preparing well for the exam which will take place in January. Contact us for more information. We also ask parents to let us know if specific test taking accommodation is needed for a student with a disability.

Confirmation Interviews

Each candidate will be personally interviewed by St. Veronica Clergy. Candidates should bring their corrected Confirmation exams, completed Service Requirement Forms and letter to the Bishop, to the interviews. For Religious Education students, those attending Catholic schools other than St. Veronica, and students being homeschooled in religious education, the **interviews are scheduled for March 3rd and March 10th, during class time.** St. Veronica School students will have interviews during school hours.

Confirmation Rehearsal

There will be a mandatory rehearsal for all confirmandi on Wednesday, April 9th, 2025 from 5:30pm -6:45 p.m. Each candidate's sponsor and/or parent are required to attend the practice session.

Confirmation Liturgy

Confirmation will take place on **Thursday, April 10, 2025 at 7:00 PM.**

Confirmandi and Sponsors must be at Church no later than 6:00 PM.

Confirmation Reception

Following the Confirmation Mass, there will be a reception with the Bishop and parish priests for all candidates, their families, and friends in the parish hall. St. Veronica will be providing cake and punch for the reception. Candidates are asked to each bring a food item to share and drop it off in the kitchen at 6:00pm prior to the Confirmation Liturgy.

Please plan to bring the food item below to share, according to your last name:

A-F- Tray (Fruit Tray, Veggie Tray, or Cheese/meat and Crackers Tray)

G-N- Entree (finger sandwiches, meatballs, Spring Rolls Chicken Wings, etc)

O-S Snack (Chips and Salsa, Pretzels and hummus, etc)

T-Z Desserts (Cookies, Brownies, Pastry (we will have cake)

Dress Code for Confirmation Liturgy

The dress should reflect the solemn celebration. Young men are required to wear dress pants, dress shoes (no sneakers), a dress shirt with a collar, and a tie. A jacket is optional. Young men should not wear earrings.

Young ladies are required to wear ***modest*** dress clothes, such as a dress or skirt, and dress shoes. Dresses and skirts should be no shorter than the top of the knee. Sleeveless is permitted but not strapless. The neckline of the dress, blouse, or sweater should be conservative, and please, no sparkles or sequins. All candidates will wear robes and robes will stay on until preparing to leave the reception to travel home. *This modest dress code applies to sponsors and proxies as well.*



Application for the Reception of the
Sacrament of Confirmation-2024-2025
(Sacramental Record Information)

Name of Student: First Middle Last

Confirmation Saint Name Selected

For Confirmation Robe: Height: _____ feet _____ inches
(Confirmation is in the Spring, parents please keep in mind growth spurts! 😊)

Father's Full Name: Father's Phone # Father's email:

Mother's Full Maiden Name Mother's Phone # Mother's email:

Family Residence Address:

City State Zip

Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth: _____
city, state (country if outside U.S.)

Date of Baptism: _____ Church of Baptism: _____

Church of Baptism Address: _____

City State Zip

(If the Church of Baptism is out of the US, contact the Parish Office.)

Age at time of Confirmation: _____ years

Has the child received First Penance? _____ First Holy Communion? _____

How is your child receiving preparation for Confirmation?

_____ Homeschooling (with Pastor's approval, please schedule an interview with the DRE)

_____ St. Veronica Religious Education

_____ Catholic School (School Name: _____)

_____ Other (Please explain: _____)



Are you parishioners at St. Veronica Catholic Church? _____

What is your St. Veronica Envelope #? _____

Additional Documents Needed:

Please return this form in hard copy to the Religious Education Office along with the following documents:

1. Child's Birth Certificate (if not already submitted at the beginning of the school year)
2. Child's Baptismal Certificate (if not already submitted at the beginning of the school year)

We must see the original Baptismal Certificate with the parish seal. Please attach a copy of the Baptismal Certificate to this application. (We can make a copy for you if you present the original.) If your child was baptized at St. Veronica, please indicate the date above. No Baptismal certificate required.

Confirmation Sponsor Information: *A Sponsor Certificate of Eligibility is mandatory and must be issued within 6 months of Confirmation. Confirmation is April 10th, 2024, so Sponsor Eligibility Certificates must be dated after October 10th, 2024. Please contact the Sponsor's parish early to request this document as it may take several weeks to obtain. Please submit the original hard copy of the document with a parish seal to the Religious Education Office no later than February 1st, 2024.*

Sponsor's Full Name

Phone #

Sponsor's email

Sponsor's Parish (name, city, state)

Child's relationship to Sponsor

Sponsors Must:

- Be a Catholic in good standing.
- Have received Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist.
- Be 16 years of age or older.
- Not be the father or mother of the child to be confirmed.
- Be a practicing Catholic who attends Mass faithfully on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, fulfill his or her Easter duty and live up to the moral teachings of the Catholic Church.
- If married, be validly married in the Catholic Church.
- Be aware of the serious responsibility of being a sponsor and be willing to support the person he or she is sponsoring by prayer and by Christian witness.

Name of Person **to be Confirmed** (Please print)

St. Veronica Catholic Church--Chantilly, Virginia
Confirmation Sponsor Certificate of Eligibility
Due: January 31, 2025

Name of Confirmation **Sponsor** (Please print)

I hereby certify that:

- ☐ I have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist.
- ☐ I am 16 years of age or older.
- ☐ I am not the father or mother of the child to be confirmed.
- ☐ I am a practicing Catholic; I attend Mass faithfully on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, fulfill my Easter duty and live up to the moral teachings of the Catholic Church.
- ☐ If married, I am validly married in the Catholic Church.
- ☐ I am aware of the serious responsibility of being a sponsor and I promise to give support to the person I am sponsoring by my prayer, and by the Christian example of my daily life.

☐ I am a registered and participating member of the following parish:

Parish

City & State

Sponsor's Signature:

CERTIFICATION BY SPONSOR'S PASTOR:

I certify, to the best of my knowledge, that the above-mentioned person is eligible to be a Confirmation Sponsor.

Sponsor's Pastor's Signature

Date

Sponsor's Parish Name

Parish Seal (must be present)

Confirmation Retreat Permission Slip 2024-2025**T-SHIRT SIZE** __________
Participant's Name (Please print)_____
Home Phone_____
Address_____
City/State/Zip_____
Parent's Name_____
Primary Phone_____
Secondary Phone

Safety: As the participant, I agree to follow all procedures, safety precautions, and rules and regulations set forth by the Diocese and the Parish.

Signature of (Youth) Participant_____
Date

Parental Permission and Liability Release: As parent/legal guardian of the participant names above, I give my permission to participate fully in **St. Veronica Confirmation Retreat, November 23rd, 2024, 12noon-6:15pm**. I agree to indemnify and hereby release the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge of the Catholic Diocese of Arlington and his successors in office, as well as the Catholic Diocese of Arlington and all Diocesan clergy, employees, volunteers, and participating parishes and schools from any and all liability, claims, demands for personal injury, sickness and death, as well as property damage and expenses of any nature whatsoever which may be incurred by the undersigned of the participant resulting from said participant's involvement in the above mentioned event (including transportation to and from the event). Furthermore, I on behalf of the participant hereby assume all risk of personal injury, sickness, death, damage, and expenses resulting from said participant's involvement in the above-described event.

Informed Consent to Medical Treatment: I request that in my absence the above-named minor be admitted to any hospital or medical facility for diagnosis and treatment when a condition or injury arises that is serious enough that a reasonable person would seek care right away. I request and authorize physicians, dentists, and staff, duly licensed as Doctors of Medicine or Doctors of Dentistry or other such licensed technicians or nurses, to perform any diagnostic procedures, treatment procedures, operative procedures and x-ray treatment of the above minor. I have not been given a guarantee as to the results of examination or treatment. I authorize the hospital or medical facility to dispose of any specimen or tissue taken from the above-named minor. I assume full responsibility for all costs of such treatment. Further, should it be necessary for the participant to return home due to medical, disciplinary, or other reasons, I do hereby assume responsibility for the participant's transportation home and any costs related thereto.

Photo, Press, Audio, and Electronic Media Release: I authorize the Catholic Diocese of Arlington, its parishes, its schools and/or the Arlington Catholic Herald to use and publish my child's photograph, video and/or audio recording along with their name identifying them for educational, news stories, illustration and/or marketing purposes.

Health Information_____
Primary Health Provider_____
Phone Number_____
Insurance Company_____
Policy Number_____
Emergency Contact Name_____
Relationship_____
Phone Number_____
Alt. Phone Number_____
List any medical conditions that may affect the participant's involvement in this event:_____
List any allergies:

I understand and hereby agree to the terms and conditions of the participant's involvement in the above-described event, and I freely execute this Acknowledgement with full knowledge of its content.

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian_____
Date

Guidelines for Works of Mercy Service Projects

As you prepare for Confirmation, it is vital that you understand the need to serve your fellow man, as well as your brothers and sisters in faith. The Works of Mercy are powerful ways to serve all people.

“Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited... Then the righteous will answer him ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick... and visit you?’ And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.’” (Matthew 25:34-40)

You must perform a total of **6 separate tasks** that require at least **an hour each or more** of your time relating to **3 different Corporal Works** and **3 different Spiritual Works**. Write a brief 1-2 paragraph summary of each Work you perform.

You must list the service projects that you have completed on the service verification form. A Parent’s signature or the signature of the person who was the recipient of the service is required to verify the service. You will also need to submit a “Works of Mercy Service Project Report” for each opportunity. You’ll bring the verification form and 6 Service Project Reports with you on the day of your interview.

Choose 3:

Corporal Works of Mercy

1. Feed the hungry
2. Give drink to the thirsty
3. Clothe the naked
4. Visit the sick
5. Shelter the homeless
6. Visit the imprisoned
7. Bury the dead

Choose 3:

Spiritual Works of Mercy

1. Admonish the sinners
2. Instruct the ignorant
3. Counsel the doubtful
4. Comfort the sorrowing
5. Bear wrongs patiently
6. Forgive all injuries
7. Pray for the living and the dead

Ideas for Works of Mercy Projects

The Corporal Works of Mercy:

Feed the Hungry/

Give Drink to the Thirsty:

- Participate in a Food Drive (i.e. collect canned goods)
- Work in a Soup Kitchen (w/ parental assistance)
- Make dinner for the family or a shut-in
- Help make snack bags for Parish March for Life and Virginia Pro-Life Day bus riders

(Many parish groups need help. Some suggestions: help with various service projects performed by the Knights of Columbus; making sandwiches for a homeless shelter with our Saint Mother Teresa Outreach Program; volunteering to assist at various receptions and dinners.)

- Clothe the Naked:**
- Do a Family Clothing Drive; Coat Collection
 - Collect Baby clothing and diapers/wipes and blankets to support a Pregnancy Help Center or Mary's Comfort Home in Springfield, VA
- Visit the Sick:**
- Visit a Nursing Home; Offer your service (without pay) to an elderly neighbor to do special projects such as mowing, shoveling of snow, raking leaves, or weeding.
 - Help out a sick person in your family or neighborhood
- Shelter the Homeless:**
- Participate in a Blanket Drive
 - Participate in a Walk for the Homeless
 - Collect bathroom supplies for Christ House
 - Help make sandwiches for a homeless shelter
- Visit the Imprisoned:**
- Collect books to donate to a prison library
- Bury the Dead:**
- Visit a Cemetery and pray there for the faithful departed
 - Assist with a bereavement Luncheon
 - Attend a funeral
 - Attend a Service (at a Burial Site) or Mass on the National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children in September

The Spiritual Works of Mercy:

- Admonish the Sinners:**
- Gently correct someone who is misguided.
 - Pray for the conversion of sinners
 - Be an Advocate and Witness for Life by participating in Virginia Pro-Life Day in Richmond
 - Make Pro-Life Signs for the Parish to use in the March for Life, Virginia March for Life, 40 Days for Life
- Instruct the Ignorant:**
- Help a younger sibling with homework
 - Help a younger sibling to learn prayers
- Counsel the Doubtful:**
- Lend encouragement to someone who is "down."
- Comfort the Sorrowing:**
- Make a card for someone who is ill or who has lost a loved one.
- Bear wrongs patiently:**
- Discuss an occasion when you "turned the other cheek."
- Forgive all injuries:**
- Make peace with those with whom you struggle or have problems
- Pray for the living and the dead**
- Pray regularly as a family
 - Offer prayers for the souls in purgatory
 - Attend a Holy Hour; engage in Eucharistic Adoration
 - Pray for Vocations with the Vocations Crucifix for one week
 - Pray and witness for an hour (or more) during the 40 Days for Life Vigil Day at Falls Church (Fall and Lent/Spring Campaigns each year)
 - Pray and witness for an hour at the Life Chain in Manassas on Respect Life Sunday in October

Works of Mercy Service Project – Sample Sheet

Your Works of Mercy Project must consist of activities relating to both the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. Below is a sample of what a full report on the different Works of Mercy you perform might look like. A summary like this would be acceptable for the completion of your Works of Mercy Project.

Corporal Works of Mercy:

1. **Feed the Hungry** – I helped with one of the Lenten Suppers at St. Veronica's on a Friday during Lent. I prepared bread on plates for people to eat. I also helped serve salad to people. This activity helped me understand what it is like to serve others. The people who prepare these suppers put a lot of effort into it. They do this during Lent to remind us of Jesus when he fasted 40 days in the desert. The small sacrifice of not eating meat on Fridays during Lent reminds us of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross.
2. **Visit the Sick** - I did two things relating to this. First, my family visited my Grandparents in New Jersey. My grandma always tells us what is wrong with her. We listen to her and try to cheer her up. We have to move a little slower with my grandpa because he is blind in one eye. I take time to listen to both of them. Second, my mom and I went to Fairfax Hospital once. We visited some children there. We brought pinwheels for them to play with. Some of the children have trouble with their lungs, and blowing on the pinwheels helps strengthen them. It's also fun too. Doing this helped me understand Jesus better because out of love, He visited those who were sick too.
3. **Bury the Dead** – On Christmas Eve, we visited the graves of my grandparents in Maryland. It was a very emotional event for my dad. He cried because they were his parents. When it was time to go, we had to help him walk away from their graves. While we were there we said prayers for them. After we left, I helped comfort my dad. This helped me understand how much you can really care about another person, even after they have died. Also, it shows how you can still keep in touch with them through prayer.

Spiritual Works of Mercy:

1. **Instruct the Ignorant** - I helped my little brother with his religious education homework for a few weeks. He needed help learning some of his prayers, as well as learning about some of the things that Jesus taught. Doing this helped me see how God helps people know about Him by working through the people who already know and follow Him. It's a good feeling to know that God is working through me in order to make good things happen.
 2. **Comfort the Sorrowing** - I did two things relating to this. First, I found out my uncle was sick and that he had to have tests at the hospital. I made a get-well card for him and decorated it myself. He called me to say that he had received it and that he appreciated it. Second, in school, I have spent a few weeks talking and listening to another student whose best friend had accidentally been killed by a car. Both these activities helped me understand why it is important to be thankful for our blessings and to thank God every day for them because we do not know when bad things will happen to us.
 3. **Pray for the Living and the Dead** – My parents and I went to Eucharistic Adoration at the Adoration Chapel at St. Veronica's. We spent an hour there. We prayed for people who needed guidance and knowledge, like the people in government and our teachers, and we also prayed for the souls in Purgatory to help ease their suffering. This helped me see the value and need for prayer in our daily lives because it not only helps us love other people better, it also helps us grow closer to God.
-

Due March 3, 2025 - Bring to Confirmation Interview

[illegible]

Works of Mercy Service Project Report

(Due March 3, 2025)

The confirmation candidate must write a brief 1-2-paragraph summary of each Work project. This is a format, which may be copied.

Additional forms are available in the RE Office.

Student Name _____

Religious Education Class

Please refer to the **Reference Page and Sample Sheet for suggestions on different works.*

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

(May use additional sheets as necessary)

Confirmation Saint Report Guidelines

Saint Report (Due: December 16, 2024)

The Confirmation candidate is required to write a five-paragraph, double-spaced report on the life of the saint whose name they have chosen as the Confirmation name. The report must include:

- + The reason the candidate chose the saint.
- + A biography of the saint's life, including the date and place of birth and death
- + Feast day of the saint
- + Something about their life that inspires the candidate.
- + What are they a patron of?
- + Are there devotions to the saint?

There must be a minimum of 3 works cited. Excellent sources: www.ewtn.com/saintsholy, www.newadvent.org/cathen, www.catholic.org, www.catholicsaints.info, Wikipedia is not to be used as a source. Do not plagiarize directly from the internet or any source. The report should be the words of the candidate.

Reports must be:

- ☐ Handwritten neatly or typed
- ☐ Be at least 5 paragraphs in length
- ☐ Have a cover page that includes: The name of the saint, the name of the Confirmation candidate, and the name of the Teacher/Catechist
- ☐ Have Works Cited at the end, use the format your school requires (MLA, for instance.)
- ☐ The reports must not be plagiarized (copying someone else's work) or written by parent.

CONFIRMATION LETTER HINTS AND SUGGESTIONS

The confirmation letter to the bishop should have the following features:

1. It should be in the form of a standard business letter. With so much communication carried on by texting and social media today, having an opportunity to write a real, genuine, correct and proper business letter with real sentences and correct grammar is beneficial.

The letter should be addressed to

The Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio, J.C.D.
Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA
PO Box 4469
Washington, DC 20017

The salutation should be either "Dear Archbishop Broglio" or "Your Excellency."

2. Here is one idea for a suggested internal structure:

a. Paragraph 1: The student should introduce themselves in the first paragraph, tell where they go to school (or are homeschooled), the name of the Catholic parish to which they belong, and maybe a bit about their family (siblings, parents, etc.) *Be brief.*

b. Paragraph 2: The student should describe why they want to be confirmed. Ideas like becoming a soldier of Christ, and being strengthened in the Faith for the challenges of the world, are some good, solid thoughts for the nature of this discussion.

c. Paragraph 3: Describe who their confirmation saint will be, and why they chose the saint.

d. Paragraph 4: A closing paragraph.

e. Complimentary close and signature. ("Sincerely" is always a good idea.) Type your name, then sign above your typed name, in ink.

This structure is not mandatory; it is just a suggestion. The whole letter must fit on one side of one page, and be **typed single-spaced in 12-point Times New Roman font.**

****IMPORTANT NOTE**:** The **letter is not mailed to the Bishop**, please, **but is turned in here at St. Veronica.** We will gather all the letters (from Religious Ed., St. Veronica Catholic School, other Catholic Schools, and homeschool) into one large package, and mail them, as one group, to Bishop Burbidge in advance of confirmation.

SUGGESTED FORMAT OF A BUSINESS LETTER TO THE BISHOP

125 Anything Street
Oak Hill, VA 20171
[Date of letter, 2023]

The Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio, J.C.D.
Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA
PO Box 4469
Washington, DC 20017

Your Excellency [may substitute “Dear Bishop Burbidge” if you wish]

¶ 1: The student should introduce themselves in the first paragraph, tell where they go to school (or are homeschooled), the name of the Catholic parish to which they belong, and maybe a bit about their family (siblings, parents, etc.) Be brief.

¶ 2: The student should describe why they want to be confirmed. Ideas like becoming a soldier of Christ, and being strengthened in the Faith for the challenges of the world, are some good, solid thoughts for the nature of this discussion.

¶ 3: Describe who your confirmation saint will be/why you chose him/her

¶ 4: A brief closing paragraph.

Sincerely,

Sally Smith

[The whole letter must fit on one side of one piece of paper. Do not go overly long.]

Confirmation Exam Study Guide—2024-2025 (consolidated)

1. **What is a sacrament?** A sacrament is an outward sign instituted by Christ to give grace.
2. **What are the seven sacraments?** Baptism, Penance, Holy Eucharist, Confirmation, Marriage, Holy Orders, and Anointing of the Sick.
3. **What is Baptism?** Baptism is the sacrament that gives our souls the new life of grace by which, we become children of God and heirs of Heaven.
4. **What are the “Sacraments of Initiation”?** The sacraments of initiation are Baptism, the Holy Eucharist, and Confirmation.
5. **What are the “Sacraments of Healing”?** The sacraments of healing are Penance (Confession) and Anointing of the Sick.
6. **What are the “Sacraments of Service”?** The sacraments of service are Marriage and Holy Orders.
7. **What is original sin?** The first sin committed by Adam and Eve, which we all inherit, and which is washed away by the sacrament of Baptism.
8. **What are two important lessons of the fall of Adam and Eve?** First, that we humans need saving; and second, that we’re worth saving, because we are still good (but flawed), still made in the image and likeness of God.
9. **What do we call God’s relationship with the human race?** God’s relationship with the human race is called Salvation History.
10. **What is the Holy Eucharist?** The Holy Eucharist is a sacrament and a sacrifice. It is the whole Christ-Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity-under the appearances of bread and wine.
11. **What is transubstantiation?** The complete change of the substance of bread and wine into the substance of Christ’s body and blood by a validly ordained priest during the consecration at Mass, so only the appearance of bread and wine remain.
12. **What are three conditions necessary for the reception of the Holy Eucharist?** First, to be in the state of grace; second, to recognize and to consider whom we are about to receive (faith in Jesus’ Real Presence); third, to observe the one-hour Eucharistic fast. (CCC 1385,1387)
13. **What is the origin of the word “Eucharist”?** Eucharist is from a Greek word meaning “thanksgiving.”
14. **What are the three purposes of marriage?** The three purposes of marriage are the procreation of children, the mutual sanctification of the spouses, and the education of children.
15. **What is Confirmation?** Confirmation is the sacrament through which the Holy Spirit comes to us in a special way and enables us to profess our faith as strong and perfect Christians and soldiers of Christ.
16. **Who is the usual minister of Confirmation?** The Bishop
17. **Is the Sacrament of Confirmation necessary? Why?** The Sacrament of Confirmation is necessary for the completion of Baptismal grace.
18. **What is sanctifying grace?** Sanctifying grace is a supernatural gift from God, which gives new life to the soul, a sharing in the life of God Himself.
19. **What are the three sacraments that can only be received once? Why?** Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders. These sacraments leave an indelible mark on the soul that is everlasting.
20. **What is the matter of Confirmation?** The matter of the Sacrament of Confirmation is the anointing with chrism on the forehead with the Sign of the Cross, which is done by the laying on of hands.
21. **What is the form of Confirmation?** The form of the Sacrament of Confirmation are the Bishop’s words, “[Saint Name], Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit”.
22. **What is the significance of choosing a saint’s name as your Confirmation name?** The candidate takes a saint’s name to remind him that he is to place himself under the protection of a patron saint, whom he chooses as an advocate before God, and whose exemplary life he or she will try to follow.
23. **Who can receive the sacrament of Confirmation?** Every baptized person not yet confirmed can and should receive the sacrament of Confirmation.
24. **What is Sacred Chrism? When is it blessed?** Sacred Chrism is a mixture of olive oil and balm. Sacred Chrism is blessed by the Bishop on Holy Thursday at the Chrism Mass.

25. **What is the significance of the gesture of the Bishop extending his hands over the whole group of candidates for Confirmation?** Since the time of the Apostles, this gesture has signified the gift of the Holy Spirit. The bishop invokes the outpouring of the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit.
26. **What are the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit?** Wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord.
27. **What do the Bishop and the candidate say during the anointing with chrism?**
Bishop: (Name) be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit
Candidate: Amen
Bishop: Peace be with you
Candidate: And with your spirit.
28. **What are the three theological or divine virtues?** Faith (enables us to accept all that God has revealed as true). Hope (enables us to trust in God to grant us eternal life in heaven) and Charity (enables us to love God above all and our neighbors as ourselves.) (CCC 1812-1829)
29. **What are the four cardinal virtues?** Prudence (helps us to know and choose the good in varying circumstances of life). Temperance (helps us to dominate our instincts and desires for pleasure), Justice (allows us to give God and our neighbor what is rightly owed to them) and Fortitude (strengthens our resolve to choose good over evil). (CCC 1804-1805)
30. **What is the principal difference between the cardinal virtues and the theological virtues?** The cardinal virtues help us to relate to other people; the theological virtues help us to relate to God.
31. **What is mortal sin?** Mortal sin is an act of disobedience to the law of God in a serious matter, done with full knowledge and deliberate consent. (CCC 1857)
32. **What is venial sin?** Venial sin is an act of disobedience to the law of God in a lesser matter, or in a matter in itself serious, but done without full knowledge or consent. (CCC 1862)
33. **What is a sacrilege?** A serious mistreatment of people, places, or things that have been consecrated to God. A sacrilegious Communion means that someone has received the Blessed Sacrament while being in the state of mortal sin.
34. **Who forgives our sins in the sacrament of Penance?** Christ forgives our sins in the sacrament of Penance through the priest.
35. **What does the Latin expression *in persona Christi* mean?** The words *in persona Christi* mean that as a result of his ordination, a priest is empowered to minister in the place of Christ.
36. **What is the "seal of Confession"?** The "seal of confession" is the guarantee that the priest to whom we confess our sins will never reveal confessed sins to anybody.
37. **What is the central mystery of Christian faith and life?** The central mystery of Christian faith and life is the mystery of the Most Blessed Trinity. Christians are baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. (CCC 232-237) There are three Divine Persons in one God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. (CCC 253-255)
38. **What is the Blessed Trinity? (define)** The name we give to God that expresses our belief in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Christians profess their Faith in one God, who is three different Persons. This is a mystery that can never be fully understood by the limited human mind.
39. **What are the symbols of the Holy Spirit?** Symbols of the Holy Spirit include wind, fire, and water.
40. **What are the Four Last Things?** The four last things are death, judgment, heaven, and hell.
41. **What is the particular judgment?** The particular judgment is when everyone will be judged at the moment of death (CCC 1022)
42. **What is the general judgment?** The general judgment is at the end of the world when Christ will judge all people. (CCC 1038)
43. **What is Purgatory?** Purgatory is where those that are saved but still in need of purification after death pass through on their way to heaven. (CCC 1030)
44. **What is hell?** Hell is where the damned will be punished with eternal separation from God. (CCC 1035)
45. **What are the two main parts of the Holy Mass?** Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

46. **Is the Sacrifice of the Mass the same sacrifice as the sacrifice of the Cross?** The Sacrifice of the Mass is the same sacrifice as the sacrifice of the Cross; the only difference is the manner of offering it. (CCC 1366-1372)
47. **What is the Incarnation?** The Incarnation is the truth that God became man. The Incarnation refers to the conception and birth of Jesus, the Son of God became man through Mary. (CCC 456,461)
48. **Why did Jesus Christ come into the world?** Christ came into the world to show us the love of God, to show us how we should reconcile ourselves to God, and to show us how to live.
49. **What are the two natures of Our Lord?** Our Lord is one person with two natures; one nature is human, while the other is divine. He is fully God and fully man.
50. **What is the Immaculate Conception?** The Immaculate Conception is when Mary was conceived without original sin. (CCC 491-492)
51. **What is the Assumption?** Mary was assumed body and soul into heaven. (CCC 966)
52. **What is the Ascension?** The Ascension was when Our Lord, Jesus Christ, rose to heaven and returned to the Father, 40 days after his Resurrection.
53. **Who is the "New Eve"?** The Blessed Virgin Mary is the "New Eve." Unlike Eve, who disobeyed God, the Blessed Virgin Mary said "yes" to God when the angel appeared to her to tell her she was to be the mother of the Savior. By her obedience, she became the "New Eve."
54. **What is the Communion of Saints?** The relationship which exists between all members of the Church, whether they are in heaven, in purgatory, or on earth. They consist of the Church Triumphant, Church Suffering, and the Church Militant. (CCC 954-959)
55. **Who are Saints?** Saints are men and women the Church recognizes for their heroic virtue. They are witnesses, intercessors, and examples of faith.
56. **What are the four marks of the Church?** The four marks of the Church are **One**—(Catholics everywhere profess one faith, receive the same seven sacraments, worship in the same way, and are united under the authority of the successor of Peter, the Pope), **Holy**—(The Church is holy because Christ sanctified his bride the Church, and made her holy through the Holy Spirit. Through Christ and with Him, the Church sanctifies her members and we achieve holiness by the grace of God at work in her), **Catholic**—(The Church is universal because she received from Christ the fullness of the means of salvation and has been sent by him to gather the whole human race into one People of God), and **Apostolic**—(The Church is apostolic because she is founded on the apostles, because she faithfully guards the deposit of faith, and because she is guided by Peter's successors of the apostles).
57. **Whom did Our Lord name to be the man who would be the first leader of His Church?** Our Lord chose St. Peter to be the first leader of His Church when He said to St. Peter, "You are Peter, and upon this rock, I will build my Church."
58. **What event marked the beginning of the Church?** The Apostles received the Holy Spirit, and the Church officially began at Pentecost.
59. **What are the two modes of transmission of Divine Revelation?** The two modes of transmission of Divine Revelation are Sacred Tradition and Sacred Scripture. Sacred Tradition and Sacred Scripture, taken together, are sometimes called the "Deposit of Faith." (CCC 76, 83, 107)
60. **Who is the primary author of sacred scripture?** God is the primary author of sacred scripture.
61. **What is the living, teaching office of the Church?** The living, teaching office of the church is the Magisterium. (CCC 85)
62. **What is the Paschal Mystery?** The Paschal Mystery is Christ's work of redemption accomplished principally by his Passion, death, Resurrection, and glorious Ascension. The Paschal Mystery has two aspects: by his death, Christ liberates us from sin and by his Resurrection he opens for us the way to new life. (CCC 1067, 654)
63. **What are the 12 fruits of the Holy Spirit? (CCC 1832)**
 1. Charity
 2. Chastity
 3. Faithfulness
 4. Generosity

5. Gentleness
6. Goodness
7. Joy
8. Kindness
9. Patience
10. Peace
11. Modesty
12. Self-control

64. What are the Seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching?

1. Right to life and dignity of the human person
2. Call to family, community, and participation
3. Rights and responsibilities
4. Option for the poor and vulnerable
5. The dignity of work and the rights of workers
6. Solidarity -we are one human family
7. Care of God's Creation

65. List the Ten Commandments

1. I am the Lord thy God, Thou shalt not have strange gods before Me.
2. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.
3. Keep Holy the Lord's Day
4. Honor your Father and Mother
5. Thou shalt not kill
6. Thou shalt not commit adultery
7. Thou shalt not steal
8. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor
9. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife
10. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's goods

66. List the Precepts of the Church

1. To attend Mass on all Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation
2. To confess our sins at least once a year
3. To receive Holy Communion at least during the Easter season
4. To fast and abstain on the days appointed
5. To contribute to the support of the Church

67. List the Holy Days of Obligation in the United States in order of liturgical year.

1. The Immaculate Conception—December 8
2. Christmas—December 25
3. Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God—January 1
4. Ascension Thursday—40 days after Easter
5. The Assumption—August 15
6. All Saints' Day—November 1

68. List the Corporal Works of Mercy (CCC 2447)

1. To feed the hungry
2. To give drink to the thirsty
3. To clothe the naked
4. To shelter the homeless
5. To visit the sick
6. To visit the imprisoned
7. To bury the dead

69. List the Spiritual Works of Mercy (CCC 2447)

1. To instruct the ignorant
2. To counsel the doubtful
3. To admonish the sinner
4. To bear wrongs patiently
5. To forgive all injuries willingly
6. To comfort the sorrowful
7. To pray for the living and the dead

70.

66. List the Eight Beatitudes (CCC 1716-1719)

1. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven
2. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
3. Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
4. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for justice, for they shall be satisfied.
5. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.
6. Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God.
7. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.
8. Blessed are they who suffer persecution for the sake of justice, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven.

67. The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, Our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into Hell, the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from thence, He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

68. List the Mysteries of the Rosary:

The Joyful Mysteries

The Annunciation
The Visitation
The Nativity
The Presentation
The Finding in the Temple

The Sorrowful Mysteries

The Agony in the Garden
The Scourging at the Pillar
The Crowning with Thorns
The Carrying of the Cross
The Crucifixion

The Luminous Mysteries

The Baptism of Our Lord
The Wedding Feast at Cana
The Proclamation of the Kingdom
The Transfiguration
The Institution of the Eucharist

The Glorious Mysteries

The Resurrection
The Ascension
The Descent of the Holy Spirit
The Assumption of Mary
The Coronation of Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth

69. The Mysteries of the Rosary are a meditations on whose life? The Mysteries of the Rosary are a meditation on events in the life of Christ.

70. Be prepared to answer specific situational questions related to the following apologetics topics:

- The Eucharist
- The Bible
- Apostolic Authority (Peter and the Papacy)
- Marian Doctrines

1. Define the mystery of the Trinity. (Catechism of the Catholic Church) (CCC 253-255)

The Blessed Trinity is the central mystery of our Catholic faith. There are three Divine Persons in one God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

2. Where can we find the teachings of the Catholic Church? (CCC 95)

The teachings of the Catholic Church can be found in Scripture, Tradition (precepts of the faith continuously transmitted from the Apostolic Church to the present day) and the Magisterium (teaching authority of the Church).

3. What is Scripture and how do we as Catholics understand it? (CCC 101-141)

Scripture is the inspired word of God as found in the Bible in human words.

4. What are the four Marks of the Church? Briefly explain. (CCC 813-870)

The four marks of the Church are One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic

The Church is **one** because of her source, foundation, and bonds of unity in Christ.

The Church is **holy** because she is united with Christ, Who through the Church sanctifies all people making possible holiness in life.

The Church is **catholic** in that the Church is universal (all people in all times and all places)

The Church is **apostolic** because she can trace her teaching and authority back to the Apostles and thus to Christ.

5. When did Jesus' disciples first experience the gift of the Holy Spirit? How does Sacred Scripture describe the event? (CCC 731-732)

The Holy Spirit came upon the disciples on the feast of Pentecost, fifty days after Easter. "When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim" (Acts 2: 1-4).

7. What are the three central teachings of our Church concerning the Blessed Virgin Mary? (CCC 490-493, 966)

The three central teachings of our Church concerning the Blessed Virgin Mary are:

The **Immaculate Conception** (Mary was conceived without original sin), **Perpetual Virginity** (Mary was and remained a virgin—before, during and after the birth of Jesus), **The Assumption** (Mary was assumed body and soul into heaven)

II. Worship – We encounter God through prayer and the Sacraments both as the Body of Christ and as individuals who have been baptized into life in Christ

3. How is Christian initiation brought about through the Sacraments? (CCC 1212)

Christian initiation is accomplished by means of the Sacraments which establish the foundation of the Christian life. The faithful born anew by Baptism are strengthened by Confirmation and nourished by the Holy Eucharist.

6. Why does the Bishop anoint in the form of the cross? (CCC 1303)

The Bishop anoints the forehead in the form of a cross to remind us that we belong to Christ and that we must defend our faith with gratitude for Christ's redeeming death on the cross.

7. What is the Paschal Mystery? (CCC 1067, 654)

The Paschal Mystery is Christ's work of redemption accomplished principally by his Passion, death, Resurrection, and glorious Ascension. The Paschal Mystery has two aspects: by his death, Christ liberates us from sin and by his Resurrection he opens for us the way to new life.

8. How is Christ present in the Eucharistic species? (CCC1374, 1375)

Jesus Christ is present in the Eucharistic species in a unique and incomparable way. He is present in a true, real, and substantial way in His body and blood, together with His soul and divinity.

9. What is Prayer? (CCC 2558-2565)

Prayer is turning the heart toward God. When a person prays, he enters into a living relationship with God.

10. What are the various ways to pray? (CCC 2699-2721)

The various ways to pray are vocal prayer, meditation, and contemplative prayer. All three ways of prayer presuppose recollecting one's mind and heart.

1. Name the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. Describe briefly. (CCC1831)

The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit are Wisdom, Understanding, Knowledge, Counsel, Fortitude, Piety, and Fear of the Lord.

Wisdom helps us to know God's will for our lives.

Understanding enables us to appropriate the faith to make it our own.

Knowledge allows us to come to know God better, that we may have a personal relationship with Him.

Fortitude helps us to be courageous in the defense of our faith.

Counsel aids us in making right judgments.

Piety assists us in being more prayerful, reverent, and holy.

Fear of the Lord is a holy and healthy awe and reverence for God, the creator of heaven and earth.

3. What is conscience? How do we develop a well-informed conscience? (CCC 1776-1780, 1783-1788, 1795-1797, 1799-1800) Conscience is our God-given capacity to understand the law of God written on the heart of every human being. In building our relationship with God, we form our conscience in harmony with the teachings of Christ through the Church and through fervent prayer. An upright and true moral conscience is formed by education and by assimilating the Word of God and the teaching of the Church. It is supported by the gifts of the Holy Spirit and helped by the advice of wise people.