

**St. Leo *the* Great Catholic Church**  
**2023 Confirmation 2024**

*Candidate & Sponsor Assignment & Discussion Activity*

**DUE: At Student's Confirmation Interview**

*Turn all 4 sheets together, on or before your March deadline.*

**Confirmation Sponsor/Candidate Packet #1**

**Opening Prayer— Prayer to the Holy Spirit**

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, enkindle in us the fire of Your love, send forth Your Spirit, and we shall be created, and You will renew the face of the Earth.

**Questions:**

Why is Confirmation important to us and society in general?

Why do we bother with Confirmation? Isn't Baptism enough?

**Information:**

Some common misconceptions about the Sacrament of Confirmation are the ideas that Confirmation is an ending: we don't have to go to CCD class anymore; or that the sacrament can be earned. Here are the facts: Confirmation is the beginning. You are choosing to follow Jesus. You are becoming a soldier for Christ and His Church: the Catholic Church. Your "armor" or protection is INFORMATION about Jesus and His church. Your job is to continue to learn and gain knowledge to help you spread the gospel and defend the beliefs of the Catholic Church. Can we earn this sacrament? Every sacrament is a gift from God. There is nothing we can do to earn that gift as we are actually chosen by God. He gives it freely to each of us. We are called to learn about that

gift, which is why we attend class. We are called to orient ourselves to the one giving the gift (God). We are called to be thankful that God loves us so much that He bestows on us the greatest gifts!

*Additional (Read information from the YOU CAT. Points 203-207)*

### **Discussion**

How do I become a soldier? (Sponsor please give examples from your personal experiences trying to be a soldier). How can we utilize Courage, knowledge, and kindness.

### **Closing Prayer— Anima Christi**

Soul of Christ, sanctify me. Body of Christ, save me. Blood of Christ, inebriate me. Water from the side of Christ, wash me. Passion of Christ, strengthen me. O good Jesus. Hear me; Suffer me not to be separated from thee; From the malignant enemy defend me; In the hour of my death call me, And bid me come to Thee, That with Thy saints I may praise Thee for ever and ever. Amen

## Confirmation Sponsor/Candidate Packet #2

### Opening Prayer

O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations, through Christ our Lord, Amen.

### Questions

Why was I born?

What is my purpose in life?

Why the Catholic Church, and not another Christian church?

### Information

Why were you born? According to the Baltimore Catechism, your sole purpose is to know God, to love God and to serve God and to be happy with Him in this life and the next. All Christians, regardless of their denomination can get to Heaven, but the Catholic Church provides us with 3 very important things—

**A. The Most Direct Route**—Do you want to go to Silas Creek down I-40 or via China? He gives us a guidebook, a road map, to follow with the precepts of the Catholic Church. The more we follow His rules and plan, the happier we become. His commandments are not about restricting us, they are about freeing us. Do we want our lives to be a path that is long, sorrowful, dangerous, and complicated? Why not go to heaven by the easiest route possible?

**B. The Means to Follow the Direct Route**--We are given all the graces of the Church through the sacraments. These graces make it possible for us to follow the precepts of the Church when others might say the “rules and regulations” are impossible to obey in today’s modern society. Without the grace of the sacraments, we humans could never follow the “guidebook”. We would, very simply, fail.

**C. The only church started by Jesus Christ Himself**—The Catholic Church was started by Christ Himself, not some guy with his own ideas. God did not start a church that needed updating over the centuries. He can foresee all. This is why He gave us such a perfect gift with the Catholic Church. We do not have a faith based on just the Bible. No, we have the perfect balance with the Bible, the catechism and the Magisterium. If you had a choice of a stool with one or three legs, which would you choose?

### **Discussion**

Do you understand your purpose and it's very real alternative? Do you really think God was so shortsighted as to not see our modern society and its changes over the centuries? Do you want a peace-filled life or not? Why wouldn't you choose the better plan for yourself? How can Confirmation turn it into my success?

### **Closing Prayer**

Psalm 51; 12- Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me...

## Confirmation Sponsor/Candidate Packet #3

### Icebreaker:

What is my purpose in life?

Do I wish to go to Heaven?

How can Confirmation lead me to Heaven?

### Opening Prayer

St. Augustine's Prayer to the Holy Spirit - Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit, that all my thoughts may be holy. Act in me, O Holy Spirit, that my work may be holy. Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit, that I may love but what is holy. Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy. Guard me, O Holy Spirit, that I may always be holy.

### Question

Why do we have to attend Mass every Sunday and Holy Day of Obligation? How do I fix not getting anything out of Mass; it's boring.

### Information

Eucharist means Thanksgiving. We do not attend Mass for us, we attend Mass because we owe everything we have to God and he asks so little of us. He created us, knows and loves us better than anyone and is overjoyed when we visit Him. We are at Mass to praise and adore Him; the one who made us. What can you give at Mass? You can help the community of believers by participating and praying for them. The more you give at Mass the more you will receive in return.

## Discussion

What does it mean to be truly grateful? What are we grateful for? How can gratitude change our attitude in times of sorrow or difficulty? Can you easily arrange your schedule for a friend?

## Closing Prayer

Act of Contrition: O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins, because of Thy just punishment, but most of all because they offend thee, my God, who are all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace, to confess my sins, to do penance, and to avoid the occasion of sin. Amen.

## Confirmation Sponsor/Candidate Packet #4

### The Activity:

Look at the list below and choose an activity for you and your sponsor to do together. If your sponsor lives far away, try to do your activity at the exact same date and time, but just in different cities. Some of the activities you could do together on the telephone.

Go to Mass

Go to Adoration

Go to Confession

Recite the Liturgy of the Hours

Say the Divine Mercy Chaplet

Complete a Plenary Indulgence (Like Confession + Rosary + Mass!)

Do a Service Project & and after your outing have a discussion with your sponsor.

Discuss what you learned about each other in this activity. Could you continue to participate in this activity on a regular basis? Would you be willing to try other things on the list?

### Activity Follow-up Sheet

How could you and your sponsor continue to have outings of this nature after your Confirmation?

How did this experience affect your relationship with your sponsor?

What did you learn about yourself?

How did this encounter prepare you for the sacrament of Confirmation?

***All responses and discussion answers can be typed or hand-written. Please include ALL work along with the packet with your NAME & SPONSOR's NAME. Please take this seriously AND take advantage of this time with your SPONSOR!!***