

What is Confirmation?

Confirmation is one of the Sacraments of Initiation. You are baptized into Christ through Baptism, the first Sacrament of Initiation. Then you experience being nourished at Christ's table with the Body of Christ when you receive Holy Communion. Now in the Sacrament of Confirmation you will receive the full outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In these sacraments you are united with Christ and His Church, the Body of Christ.



The Effects of Confirmation

In Confirmation, we receive the 7 "**Gifts of the Holy Spirit**". These gifts listed below are based on Isaiah 11:2-3.

Wisdom: Wisdom allows a person to see God's work in the world and in our life. The wonders of nature, historical events, and the ups and downs of our life take on a deeper meaning and purpose because we can see them from God's point of view.

Understanding: Understanding allows us to comprehend how we need to live as followers of Jesus. This understanding allows us to sort through all the messages of our culture and not be confused by them.

Right Judgment: Right judgment allows us to discern right from wrong as taught by Jesus.

Courage (Fortitude): Courage allows us to overcome fear and be willing to take risks as followers of Jesus. Fortitude is the strength to endure and continue on even in the face of trial, ridicule, and persecution.

Knowledge: Knowledge allows us to understand God's revelation especially as revealed in Holy Scripture. Knowledge also gives you a hunger to learn more about Scripture and the Tradition of the Church.

Reverence: Reverence allows us to have a deep respect for God and what belongs to God. Reverence or piety also allows us to recognize our total reliance or dependence on God which allows us to come humbly before God in worship.

Fear of the Lord (Wonder and Awe): Wonder and Awe of God allows us to be aware of the power, glory, and grandeur of God. We are able to see the perfection of God's knowledge, goodness, love and power.

When we live a life in and through the Holy Spirit, the following Fruits of the Spirit will manifest themselves within our lives. (Galatians 5:22-23)

The 9 "**Fruits of the Spirit**" are **love (charity), joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control**. The catechism also includes **goodness, chastity, and modesty** to make a total of 12.

Journal notes

Due: October 21, 2019

TEACHING AND PRACTICES OF THE CHURCH

In this session, you will be looking at the basic beliefs of the Catholic Church as stated in the Nicene Creed and explore your personal and community viewpoints on faith.

Creed

1. A creed is a summary of basic beliefs.
2. Creeds were written to express beliefs and to confront false teachings and false understandings of beliefs.
3. A creed is a proclamation and reinforcement of our faith as a community of believers.
4. The Trinitarian Creed was the first creed of the early Church.
5. Early baptismal creeds were adapted by the early Church to make the creeds we use today, including the Apostles' Creed and the Nicene Creed.
6. The Nicene Creed was written in 323.

Directions

1. First read through the Creed.
2. Then read the Creed a second time and draw a line under the statements you understand and with which you agree.
3. Then read the Creed a third time and draw a circle around statements that are confusing or with which you disagree.
4. Discuss with your Sponsor.



Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial (*one in being*) with the Father,
through Him all things are made.
For us men and for our salvation
He came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate
of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.
For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
He suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and His kingdom will have no end.
And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
And one, holy, Catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Viewpoints on Personal Faith

1. Faith is personal and unique; it's a special relationship between yourself and God.
2. Faith is a gift from God; not something we earn.
3. God loves, cares and speaks within the depths of our being.
4. Over a lifetime, we gradually become more aware of His presence and listen to the Spirit guiding us on the journey of life.
5. We gradually accept God's unconditional love and forgiveness and respond with acceptance, trust and love.

Directions

Read and reflect on the viewpoints below and mark.

Disagree = 1 2 3 4 =Important

Discuss each of these statements in light of your own viewpoints.

My personal experience of faith reflects:

- my life is a gift from God who created and continues to sustain me
- my God is a comforting, encouraging presence
- God guides and directs my life
- an awareness of my own sinfulness and sorrow for sin
- an inner call to serve someone in need
- that I am lovable and valuable to God
- wonder and awe at God's creation
- a need to become closer to God and spend more time with Him in prayer
- strength to face each day since God will see me through
- trust in God's unconditional love and forgiveness
- reverence for God's power
- my own unworthiness of God's constant forgiveness and love
- a feeling of being oppressed by God, of being asked too much
- a big question mark, a feeling that I don't really know God and don't know how

Summarize your personal experience of faith: "Faith for me is . . ."

Describe how you would like to grow in faith:

Viewpoints on the Faith of the Community

1. The faith of the parish community shows itself in the attitudes, values, words, and actions of the members.
2. Community members can build or weaken the faith of one another.

Directions

Read and reflect on the viewpoints and mark.

Disagree = 1 2 3 4 = Highly Evident

Discuss each of these viewpoints in light of your own viewpoints.

The Christian people I know in this parish:

__are aware of God's presence

__pray and read the Bible

__participate in weekly worship

__live and act like Jesus

__trust, love and care for each other

__treat one another with respect

__respect the reputation of others and avoid gossip

__respect parish leadership

__show a willingness to forgive and ask for forgiveness

__share with and care for the poor and underprivileged

__show a willingness to profess their faith openly and defend it when necessary

How do you see evidence of faith the parish community?

Indicate how you would like to see the community grow in faith:



Discovery of Faith in People/Events/Feelings

- A. Examples of discovering God's presence in people
 - 1. Family
 - 2. Parish/Church
 - 3. School
 - 4. Neighborhood
- B. Examples of discovering God's presence in events
 - 1. Birth/New Life
 - 2. Love
 - 3. Forgiveness
 - 4. Sadness
 - 5. Suffering
 - 6. Death
- C. Examples of God's presence in nature
 - 1. Sunrise/Sunset
 - 2. Changing of the seasons
 - 3. Wind/Water/Fire
- D. Examples of discovering God in prayer/scripture/worship
 - 1. Personal Prayer
 - 2. Scripture
 - 3. Worship and the Community

Other examples of discovering God's presence

Journal notes

Due: November 18, 2019

PRAYER AND SPIRITUAL LIFE

Prayer is essential for a personal relationship with God, (Father, Jesus, and Holy Spirit) and for the guidance and strength to live the Christian life.

The emphasis is on a reflective awareness of God's presence and the development of a personal style of prayer.

Prayer helps us to center our lives and live out of our center.

Prayer gives us the wisdom and strength to discover our priorities and live out of those priorities.

In itself, prayer is simple and evokes from the personality of each person.

The challenge is taking time to pray and making it a daily habit.

Deepening Personal Prayer and Faith

1. Each of us needs to develop a personal prayer style that fits.
2. Discipline is needed to develop inner resources to become a prayerful person.
3. Some of these resources are listed below for your reflection.
4. Ask yourself, "Do I use these aids to get closer to God?"

I use this opportunity to deepen my spiritual life:

Never = 1 2 3 4 = Daily

1. ___ talking things over with Jesus in my own way
2. ___ being still in a quiet place
3. ___ reflecting on the events of life
4. ___ reflecting on nature and the gifts of creation
5. ___ reflecting on scripture and how it connects with my life
6. ___ talking about the faith with another person
7. ___ praying memorized prayers
8. ___ participating in week-end worship with the community
9. ___ celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation
10. ___ listening to music
11. ___ exercising
12. ___ dancing



Sharing About Prayer

My personal description of God is

An experience I have had of God's presence

The purpose of prayer for me is

My best time for prayer is

My favorite place for prayer is

Prayer has helped me to

Obstacles I find to prayer are

- lack of trust in God
- inability to find time
- lack of external quiet
- lack of inner quiet, inner turmoil
- use of alcohol and other drugs
- lack of rest and leisure time
- turmoil in relationships
- selfishness and lack of concern for others
- other

Low = 1 2 3 4 = High

Goals I have for improving my prayer life are:

Breaking Open the Word

Read and reflect on two or more of these scripture passages.

Psalm 51:1-9	Prayer for Forgiveness
Matthew 6:5-8	Teaching About Prayer
Matthew 6:13	The Lord's Prayer
Matthew 6:19-21	Treasure in Heaven
Matthew 6:25-34	Dependence on God
Matthew 7:7-11	Answers to Prayers
Matthew 18:19-20	The Power of United Prayer
John 17:1-26	The Prayer of Jesus

Scripture passage:

1. What word, phrase, or image stands out for you?
2. What feelings does it evoke: excitement, joy, fear, anger, sadness, guilt, confusion?
3. What message does it have for you about sharing faith?

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Sharing Prayer

Based on the sharing above, write a short prayer using the following format:

address to God, Jesus or the Holy Spirit; statement of praise, request, and conclusion.

Be quiet for a minute and reflect on the presence of the Holy Spirit in your midst.

Share your prayers together.

Join hands and pray the Lord's Prayer.

Our Father, who art in heaven

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Journal Notes

Due: December 16, 2019

LITURGICAL AND COMMUNAL WORSHIP

1. Communal worship is a celebration of the presence of Jesus in the sharing of community, in proclaiming and listening to the Word, and in the blessing, breaking, giving and receiving of the Eucharist.
2. The presence of the community assures us that we are not alone.
 - A. Others are with us on our Christian journey with its joys and pains.
 - B. Together we seek wisdom, strength and support.
3. In proclaiming and listening to the Word, we are consoled, inspired, and challenged to new growth.
4. In blessing, breaking, giving and receiving sacred bread we become what we eat—the Body of Christ, united in mind and heart.



“The one who comes to me will never be hungry; anyone who believes in me will never be thirsty.” John 6:35

Exploring Motivations for Participating in Mass

People attend Mass for various reasons.

1. Some feel a sense of obligation, fear or punishment and hope of reward.
2. Others attend for social and family approval.
3. People also attend out of gratitude for God's presence and gifts and to seek inner wisdom, strength, and support.

Rate your reasons for attending Mass: **Not a reason = 1 2 3 4 = Important**

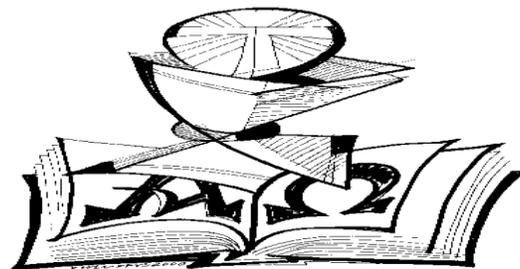
Reason

- to go to Heaven
- to avoid feeling guilty for not attending
- obligation
- to avoid upsetting my parents
- to give a good example
- to be with and worship with others
- to spend time in a quiet reflective environment
- to experience the presence of Jesus
- to hear God's word in the readings and homily
- to gain wisdom and strength to live the Christian life
- to thank God for the many gifts of life
- other

Rate reasons for not wanting to attend Mass: **Not a reason = 1 2 3 4 = Important**

Reason

- not a priority and value
- to avoid boredom
- to work
- no one else in my family goes
- my friends do not go
- out of town many weekends
- do not want to be in a crowd
- other



Participation in a Liturgy

Attend a Mass together.

Date: _____

Church: _____

After the Liturgy, rate and discuss the worship experience

Low = 1 2 3 4 = High

Gathering Rite: Gathering Procession and Song/Greeting/Sprinkling Rite or
Penitential Rite/Opening Prayer

I was greeted; I felt welcomed, and I felt that I belonged to this community.

I welcomed and greeted others.

I sensed the presence of Jesus in the priest and community as they shared.

Liturgy of the Word: Hebrew Scripture/Psalm Response/Epistle/Alleluia Verse/Gospel/
Homily/Profession of Faith/Intercessions

I could easily hear the readings as they were proclaimed.

I was inspired with the Psalm Response and Alleluia Verse as it was sung.

I understood the homily; it connected with my life and challenged me to grow.

Liturgy of the Eucharist: Preparation of Gifts/Prayer Over Gifts/Eucharistic Prayer/
Communion Rite (Lord's Prayer, Sign of Peace, Breaking of Bread,
Communion, Prayer After Communion)

I had the experience of bringing the gifts of bread and wine to the altar.

I felt a sense of unity in the Lord's Prayer and Sign of Peace.

I felt the presence of Jesus in sharing in the sacred bread and sacred wine.

Sending Rite: Blessing/Sending

I felt strengthened to go forth to love and serve others, to be Christ to the world.

Breaking Open the Word

Read and reflect on two or more of these scripture passages.

Matthew 26:26-30

The Lord's Supper

Mark 14:22-25

The Lord's Supper

Luke 22:14-20

The Lord's Supper

1 Corinthians 11:23-30

The Lord's Supper

John 20:19-23

The Bread of Life

Jesus took up His life to love, forgive and serve others.

Jesus took up the bread which was to become His Body.

At Mass, we take up the gifts of bread and wine.

How do you take up your life and set it in the direction of love?

Jesus blessed and thanked God, His Father, for the many gifts of life.

At the Last Supper, Jesus blessed the bread and wine to become His Body and Blood.

At Mass, we bless the bread and wine in the Eucharistic Prayer.

How do you bless and thank God?

What gifts are you especially grateful for?

Jesus was broken through suffering many times in His life.

Jesus broke the bread and shared it with the apostles.

At Mass, we break the bread as a sign that we are one in mind and heart;
that we should never say or do anything to hurt one another.

How have you been broken; how have you suffered?

Jesus gave His life for others; He loved and forgave without conditions.

Jesus gave the apostles the bread of life and the cup of salvation.

At Mass, we give and receive the sacred bread and sacred wine.

How have you given of yourself for others?

Jesus took up His life to love, forgive and serve others.
Jesus took up the bread which was to become His Body.
At Mass, we take up the gifts of bread and wine.
How do you take up your life and set it in the direction of love?

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Jesus gave the apostles the bread of life and the cup of salvation.
At Mass, we give and receive the sacred bread and sacred wine.
How have you given of yourself for others?

Summarize your attitude toward attending Mass. Has this always been your attitude? If no, how has it changed and why?

Journal Notes

Due: January 20, 2021

STEWARDSHIP: SERVICE & SUPPORT

Saint Paul had difficulty with the Corinthian community in parading their gifts and focusing on themselves.

He emphasized the gifts are given by God for the building of the community.

The focus is not on ourselves, but how we love and serve others.

Jesus tells us that the “yoke is easy and the burden light” if whatever we do is done out of love for others.

It is serving others out of unconditional love that brings peace and joy.

Most of us need to take time to discover our gifts and talents; and it is other people that empower us to share with others.

Exploration of Talents

Write the gifts and talents that you believe you and your have which could help others and build the parish and community.

Share your responses and affirm one another in the gifts God has given you.

Write your past and present experiences of parish involvement. Note the pains and joys, the ups and downs of getting involved.

Write and share how to support your parish community with a positive attitude.

We ask each candidate to participate in a Faith in Action project. Share your insights and feelings in doing this project and others like it.

Note how sharing your gifts may have gifted you in return.

What do you ask of the church?

Part of the belonging to a church is to have our needs and wants met, especially our spiritual needs.

What do you need or want from the church? **Not needed = 1 2 3 4 = Important**

- to help me develop an awareness of God's presence
- to provide spiritual leadership to help me grow closer to God
- to celebrate with me the important events of life
- to provide a sacred space where I can worship God
- to provide energizing worship experiences
- to help me learn to pray and worship better
- to help me experience a sense of community
- to teach me about my faith
- to help me raise my children in the faith
- to help me prepare for the sacraments
- to pray with me when I am sick and dying
- to challenge me to overcome the patterns of sin and live a moral life
- to experience the forgiveness of Jesus
- to console me and help me in times of loss
- to show me the ways to serve the poor, sick, lonely, suffering
- to prepare me to share my gifts and talents
- to include me in the decision-making process of the church

Write a short summary of what you need most from the church.

How can you go about getting these needs and wants met?

Breaking Open the Word

Read one of these scripture passages about service.

John 14:15-17;25-27

The Holy Spirit Supports in Service

Acts 2:1-13

The Gift of the Spirit at Pentecost

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Variety and Unity of Gifts

What word, phrase, or image stands out for you?

What feeling does it evoke inside: trust, joy, peace, fear, anger, sadness, confusion?

What messages does it have for you about sharing gifts?



Reflecting on the Beatitudes and the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy

The Beatitudes and Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy give us a blueprint of Jesus' way of life and a road map for living.

Read through these spiritual treasures;

note connections and applications to your own life and share them with each other.

Beatitudes

Blessed are the poor in spirit;

the reign of God is theirs. _____

Blessed are the sorrowing;

they shall be comforted. _____

Blessed are the gentle;

they will receive all that God promised. _____

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for justice;

they will be satisfied. _____

Blessed are the single hearted;

they will see God. _____

Blessed are the peacemakers;

they shall be called the children of God. _____

Blessed are those who are treated unfairly for doing right;

the reign of God is theirs. _____

Corporal Works of Mercy

Feed the hungry. _____

Give drink to the thirsty. _____

Clothe the naked. _____

Visit the imprisoned. _____

Shelter the homeless. _____

Visit the sick. _____

Bury the dead. _____

Spiritual Works of Mercy

Help sinners. _____

Teach the ignorant. _____

Give advice to the doubtful. _____

Comfort those who suffer. _____

Be patient with others. _____

Forgive injuries. _____

Pray for the living and the dead. _____

Closing Prayer

Pray the following prayer together.

*God our Creator, through your son, Jesus,
you freed us from sin through the waters of Baptism,
and offered us new life
as members of the Catholic community of faith.*

*We know that new life is life in the Spirit,
a Spirit who is holy,
a Spirit who is with us always.*

*As we continue our preparation for Confirmation,
we seek greater awareness
and openness to the same Spirit.*

*We pray, God of Wonder and Mystery,
that our heart and mind be like tilled soil
awaiting new seeds of growth in the Spirit.*

*Open our mind to the Spirit's gifts
of wisdom and understanding,
of right judgment and courage,
of knowledge and reverence.
Kindle in our hearts wonder and awe in your presence.*

*We ask all of this in the name of Jesus
who walked faithfully in the Spirit
and showed us the way of love.*

Amen!

Journal Notes

Due: February 17, 2021

LIVING CHRISTIAN VALUES

A value

is someone or something good or worthy, desirable or useful,
creates a force or pull upon us,
leads us in a certain direction,
motivates us to act in a certain way.

A value is chosen from alternatives after considering the consequences.

It must be prized or cherished; it is done with happiness and publicly affirmed.

A value must be acted upon and performed repeatedly.

Value indicators are:

goals which give direction and meaning to life,
aspirations—dreams for the future
beliefs and convictions—what we strongly believe in
attitudes—positive and negative
interests—what we enjoy and get excited about
feelings—excitement, joy, fear, anger, frustration, sadness, guilt, confusion
activities—what we do reflects our values

worries, problems, obstacles—what we worry about can reflect the values underneath

Reflection on Values

Reflect on these values and check the ones that are most attractive.

Self-sufficiency Wealth (money) Helping others Freedom
 Family Loyalty to country Equality Good Health Patience
 Respect of others Status Power Security Kindness
 Physical attractiveness Self-respect Love Inner peace
 Sense of accomplishment Knowledge Long-term friendships
 Humility Openness Genuineness Opportunities for adventure
 Self-control Prayer Happiness Understanding myself
 Trust in God Maturity Worship Academic ability
 Approval of others Forgiveness Affirmation Relaxation
 Self-direction Travel Fine arts Reading Transportation

List three primary values and why they are primary for you.

List four secondary values and why they are important for you.

Note which values are both cherished (believed in strongly) and operative (lived out). Note the signs that these values are operative in your life. (For example, if God is a value, I take time in my life for prayer and worship.)



Spiritual Growth

Below are areas for self-discipline.

Put a plus sign (+) where you are usually in charge of your life.

Put a minus sign (-) where you could use more discipline.

Rapport with:

__self: diet, rest, exercise, freedom from addictions

__family

__church leaders and members

__employers and employees at work

__teachers and classmates at school

__friends

Write behaviors that create a struggle for you.

Choose the one that you believe would be the best place for you to grow. Share what actions could be taken to improve.

Obstacles to Spiritual Growth

Check areas that are obstacles for you to living and growing as a Christian.

__Lack of love and appreciation of oneself

__Fear of embarrassment

__Fear of rejection

__Fear of being labeled "pious"

__Negative criticism of self and others

__Lack of unconditional love and forgiveness of others

__Inability to relax and be at ease

__Lack of inner direction

__Laziness, lack of motivation

__Lack of responsibility

__Not knowing how to progress

__Not thinking about the consequences until it is too late

__Other _____

What is the greatest obstacle to growth and how could you improve?

Breaking Open the Word

Reflect on one or more of these scripture passages.

Luke 12:22-24	Dependence on God
Luke 18:18-30	Riches and Renunciation
Luke 19:11-27	Ten Gold Coins
Matthew 5:1-12	The Beatitudes
Matthew 5:16-16	Salt and Light
Matthew 5:21-23	Teaching About Anger
Matthew 5:27-29	Teaching About Adultery
Matthew 5:38-42	Reconciliation
Matthew 5:43-48	Love of Enemies
Matthew 6:1-4	Teaching About Almsgiving
Matthew 7:1-5	Not Judging Others
Matthew 7:12	The Golden Rule

What word, phrase or image stands out for you?

What feeling does it evoke inside: excitement, joy, fear, anger, sadness, guilt, confusion?

What message does this passage have for you?

Closing Prayer

The Laying on of Hands

Rite of Confirmation

(Pray the following prayer together.)

All powerful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
by water and the Holy Spirit
you freed your sons and daughters from sin
and gave us new life.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us
to be our helper and guide.

Give us the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of right judgment and courage,
the spirit of knowledge and reverence.
Fill us with the spirit of wonder and awe in our presence.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen!

LIVING CONFIRMATION
COMPLETION/EVALUATION/RECOMMENDATION

Confirmation – A Personal Choice

Confirmation is a public commitment to living the faith in the Catholic Church.

It is an affirmation of the choices made by our parents at Baptism.

Some of these choices are listed below.

Each section includes a basic choice and some of the ways you could live that choice.

Read each statement and rate to what degree it has become your choice:

Not Important = 1 2 3 4 = Important

I choose to be an active member of the church by:

- supporting church members and leaders
- serving on a committee
- joining parish organizations
- helping with parish activities
- upholding church laws
- financially supporting the parish and church
- other _____

I choose to participate fully in parish worship each weekend by:

- praying, singing, listening as a member of the assembly
- helping to plan liturgies
- being a liturgical minister
- other _____

I choose to continue to deepen my personal relationship with God by:

- developing an awareness of God's presence each day
- praying daily
- reading and reflecting on scripture
- receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation
- other _____

I choose to give service to those who need me by:

- helping the elderly, sick, homebound, and those in need
- giving food and clothing to those in need
- being a friend and support to lonely people
- teaching religion, being a catechist helper or volunteer
- helping younger children
- other _____

I choose to continue to study my Catholic religion by:

- joining a discussion group
- seeking advice when needed
- using Christian books, magazines, tapes, and videos
- listening attentively to homilies, talks, and presentations
- other _____

I choose to live a moral life and Gospel values by:

- making God important in my life
- respecting God's name, day, buildings, etc.
- obeying authority, upholding the law
- respecting all forms of life, including my own
- being honest, truthful, upright
- respecting property
- other _____

I choose to witness my faith publicly at all times by:

- being proud that I am a Catholic
- modeling a Christian life
- defending my faith if it is undermined and ridiculed
- living according to Jesus' teachings and values
- acting reverently
- using God's name reverently
- other _____

I choose to be open to the action of the Holy Spirit by:

- praying for the Spirit's guidance and strength
- developing the gifts of the Spirit
- remembering that I am the temple of the Holy Spirit; that the Spirit lives within me
- other _____

Assessment of Maturity

Listed are qualities that a mature person possesses to some degree.

These are also the qualities within the person who is growing spiritually.

No one possesses all of these qualities, fully, but they represent a standard by which we can evaluate how we are growing as a person.

Read and reflect on each quality and rate the degree to which the quality is operative in your life.

Not Important = 1 2 3 4 = Important

Discuss areas of strength and areas for growth.

- capacity to accept failure
- balance between thoughts and feelings so that neither controls us totally
- respect for the past, present and future
- ability to recognize the uniqueness of all people
- a sense of humor
- compassion – the ability to identify with others' feelings
- love for children
- appreciation for beauty
- ability to meet others without suspicion
- ability to recognize the splendor of the commonplace – acceptance of some routine
- enthusiasm and excitement
- ability to draw the best out of people
- openness to mystery – realizing I don't know it all
- acceptance of the need for authority
- perseverance
- ability to forgive others
- belief that people are basically good at heart
- capacity for worship – ability to see the sacred part of life
- capacity for solitude and silence
- ability to adapt to change
- commitment to physical well-being

Summarize your strengths.



Summarize your areas for growth.

TIPS FOR WRITING YOUR LETTER:

1. Before you write your letter to Bishop Ricken spend some time in prayer asking the Holy Spirit for guidance and direction.
2. Create a rough draft—this will be done in class on March 10th, but you should have an idea of what you want to include in your letter before writing this draft.
3. Share your ideas for a letter with your sponsor.
4. Remember this letter must be typed
Font style 8.5 X 11 paper
12 point
5. Use standard 8.5 X 11 paper (white)
6. Sign your letter before handing in your rough draft.
7. Letter to Bishop is due no later than March 18th, 2020.



Candidate's Letter of Request to the Bishop

Date

Dear Bishop Ricken,

- Request to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation
 - State your reasons for wanting to be Confirmed
 - Highlight aspects of the Confirmation preparation journey that were especially helpful to you
 - Describe how you plan to live as a Confirmed Catholic
- Devote one paragraph for each of the topics listed above.

Sincerely in Christ,

Name Signed

Name Printed