



Faith Formation

Confirmation Parents,

Welcome to the 2017-18 faith formation year! We are so excited that your child is embarking on a journey that will ultimately help them grow stronger in their Catholic faith. As a Confirmation student, our program here at Holy Family will give them the knowledge of the Sacrament that they are receiving and give them the tools to expand our faith community!

I wanted to make sure that I gave you a little insight as to the documents that are enclosed within this packet. Each of these pages outlines the requirements that each Confirmation student has here at Holy Family. Please take the time to review all of these references because missing a single requirement could be detrimental to candidates receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.

I just wanted to quickly mention two things that are not talked about in the packet. Our attendance policy for both Confirmation programs is that students are only permitted to miss **2 classes per year**. Also, Confirmation 2 students and sponsors are required to attend an evening of reflection and prayer with Father Manno on February 6th. If the Sponsor cannot make this event, a parent or family member can stand in proxy. This event will take place at Holy Family Church from 6:30pm-7:30pm.

We are so excited that your child is joining us through this journey of faith. Once again, please review all of the materials in this packet and if you have any questions my door is always open. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Christopher Spilka
-Confirmation Coordinator

chris@holysyr.org / 315-488-3139 ext 22

Confirmation 1

Responsibilities

RESPONSIBILITY TO COMPLETE

DEADLINE

Retreat (@ Holy Family) October 29, 2017 (11am-5pm)

Community & Parish Service (10 Hours) March 11, 2018

Schedule 2017-18 (Please Meet in Church Hall)

Sunday, 10-11:30AM

September 24

January 7

October 1

January 21

October 15

February 4

October 29 (Retreat, Please meet @ HF, 11am)

February 11

November 19

March 4

December 10

March 11

December 17

March 18

Confirmation 2

Responsibilities

<u>RESPONSIBILITY TO COMPLETE</u>	<u>DEADLINE</u>
Retreat (@ Holy Family)	November 4, 2017 (12pm-6pm)
Sponsor Form	November 19, 2017
Letter to the Bishop	January 21, 2018
Confirmation Name & Saint Project	January 21, 2018
Candidate & Sponsor Evening of Reflection & Prayer @ HF Church 6:30-7:30	February 6, 2018
Community & Parish Service (10 Hours) (Please include brief paper outlining community service)	March 11, 2018

Schedule 2017-18 (Please Meet In Church Hall)

Sunday, 11:45AM-1:15PM

September 24	January 21
October 1	February 4
October 15	February 11
November 4 (Retreat, Please meet at HF @ 12pm)	March 4
November 19	March 11
December 10	March 18
December 17	
January 7	April 18 (Confirmation Rehearsal 7pm-8pm)
	April 19 (Confirmation Ceremony, 7pm)

SPONSOR CERTIFICATE

A Sponsor must be a practicing, confirmed Catholic, who is at least 16 years of age. He/She may **NOT** be the Candidate's mother or father. A godparent is a good choice. The Candidate is encouraged to choose someone close by. The Sponsor should be a person who is prayerful, open, dependable, loving and is comfortable sharing his or her faith with young people.

RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SPONSOR

The Sponsor represents the support and prayers of the entire Church. He/She will be the Candidate's "spiritual friend." In this program the following is asked of the Sponsor:

1. Accompany the Candidate to the Evening of Reflection on **February 6, 2018 @ 6:30pm-7:30pm**
2. Attend Confirmation rehearsal on **April 18th, 2018 at 7pm**
3. Attend the Liturgy of Confirmation on **April 19th, 2018 at 7pm**
4. Meet with the Candidate regularly throughout this year of preparation.
5. Share your faith story with the Candidate.
6. Pray for and with the Candidate.
7. Continue to be there for the Candidate and lend spiritual support after the Confirmation ceremony is over.

Please PRINT

Confirmation Candidate's Name: _____

Sponsor's Information

Name: _____ Relationship to Candidate: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Name of Sponsors Parish: _____

Parish's City, State: _____

Name of Pastor at Sponsor's Parish: _____

Signature of Pastor at Sponsor's Parish: _____

*****This form MUST have a parish seal for it to be valid.*****

**Please return this form completed, no later than
November 19th, 2017**

I agree to serve as a sponsor for this Confirmation Candidate. I understand my role as described on the Sponsor Information sheet, which I have received from the Candidate and read. I agree to attend the required sessions with my candidate, unless not possible for extraordinary reasons – in which case a family member proxy will stand in my place. I agree to cultivate a relationship with my candidate during this year of preparation for his/her Confirmation and to serve as a spiritual support during this important time in his/her life, as well as in the years to come.

SIGNATURE OF SPONSOR

DATE

SPONSOR INFORMATION SHEET

****KEEP THIS COPY FOR YOUR REFERENCE****

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1. Accompany the Candidate to the Evening of Reflection on **March 15, 2018, 6:30-7:30**
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3. Attend the Liturgy of Confirmation **April 19th, 2018 at 7pm**
4. Meet with the Candidate regularly throughout this year of preparation.
5. Share your faith story with the Candidate.
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**PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM NO LATER THAN:
November 19th, 2017**

It may be returned by the Candidate or mail.

Holy Family Parish
Attn: Faith Formation
127 Chapel Drive
Syracuse, NY 13219

315.488.3139 ext 22 / chris@holyfamilysyr.org

Should you have any questions, please feel free to call or email at any time. Please know that our prayers are with you as we begin this spiritual journey together!

CANDIDATE LETTER TO THE BISHOP

- Letter should be typed and addressed “Dear Bishop”
- Opening paragraph should introduce yourself to the Bishop, state that you are a Candidate for Confirmation and then tell a little bit about yourself: the Church you belong to, the school you go to, the community you live in
- The next few paragraphs should talk about your Journey to Confirmation: your formation sessions, your life experiences, the retreat, the food drive
- Select one of the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit and explain how you will be a “Witness to Christ” using that gift
- Ask to be confirmed: Based on my journey this past year, I feel that I am ready to be sealed with the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and accept the new and more challenging responsibilities that come with this Sacrament.

I respectfully request to be Confirmed on April 19th,
2018

- Sign your name.
- There is no minimum requirement for this letter. Please remember that the Bishop has never met you and the more you can tell him about your faith journey the better.

SERVICE PROJECT INFORMATION

Each Candidate is responsible for completing ten hours of service: We recommend that the hours be divided as follows: 5 hours of service at Holy Family Parish and 5 hours within the community. Service is giving of one's time where payment is not received for work completed. It is recommended that the candidate begin working on this responsibility sooner rather than later! Please use the tracking sheet to record dates, locations, hours completed and a signature of the person for whom the Candidate volunteered. These hours are due no later than **March 11th, 2018**.

Note: Community Service does not count if it is done for parents! That's called chores, not service!

Suggestions

(Outside of the Parish)

Peer Tutoring
Community Service Clubs at School
Visit Senior Centers
Food Pantry / Soup Kitchen
Grass Cutting
Snow Shoveling
Help Neighbor with work
YMCA
Working with Disabled Children

(Within the Parish)

Soup Kitchen
Food Drives
Nursing Home Visits
Core Member with Edge Middle School Program
Faith Formation Assistant
Lector
Altar Server
Elizabeth Ministry Bake Shoppe
Sing With Choir
Thanksgiving , Christmas & Easter Food Sorting

If you have any questions regarding any service projects, please call or email us at any time!

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Community Service Confirmation Reflection Paper (THIS ONLY PERTAINS TO CONFIRMATION 2 CANDIDATES)

As a Confirmation student you have the obligation to complete 10 service hours for both of your Confirmation years. For your second year, we would like to hear all about it! As a reflection of your work, we would like you to write a one page paper briefly outlining your community service experience. We recommend that you touch on the following questions:

- 1) What did you do?
- 2) Why is community service so important?
- 3) What did you learn?

One of the main reasons we ask Confirmation 2 Candidates to fulfill this obligatory paper is because we use these reflections to nominate our recipient for the “Deacon Whipple Community Service Award”. This prestigious honor recognizes a specific candidate that is a perfect representation of Deacon Whipple, and his incredible vision of touching our community through public service.

Due Date: March 11, 2018

Confirmation Name & Saint Project

Full Name of Saint: (Example: St. Francis of Assisi)_____

Date of Birth: _____ Date of Death: _____

Date of Canonization: _____

City and Country where he/she lived or worked: _____

Patron Saint of: _____

Symbol: _____

If a particular symbol is not associated with your Saint, please write down the symbol you think best characterizes your Saint:

What is Remarkable about this Saint's life?

Do you face any of the same challenges that this saint faced in his/her life? How can studying the life of this saint help you to face your challenges?

What qualities do you admire about this Saint?
