

Level 8 Workbook
Confirmation Preparation Process – Year Two
Living the Sacramental Commitment
Sent Forth to Share Christ at Home, in the Parish, and in the World



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Level 8 Workbook

Confirmation Preparation Process – Year Two

Living the Sacramental Commitment

Sent Forth to Share Christ at Home, in the Parish, and in the World

Dear Confirmation Candidates and Families,

Welcome to the second year of our Confirmation preparation process!

Last year, you began a journey of discovering more deeply what it means to be a Catholic Christian. This year, that journey continues as you prepare to make an important personal commitment to Jesus Christ and His Church.

At Baptism, your parents made promises of faith on your behalf and accepted the responsibility of raising you as a child of God. Now, as you prepare for Confirmation, you are being asked to make those promises your own. Confirmation is an opportunity to say **yes** to God in your own voice and to choose, freely and intentionally, to live as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Throughout this year, you will have opportunities to deepen your relationship with Christ through **prayer, Scripture, the Sacraments, Mass, service, reflection, and participation in the life of our parish community**. You will learn more about the Holy Spirit and the gifts He gives us, and you will be challenged to recognize how those gifts can help you make good choices, serve others, and live your faith each day.

Your sponsor, your family, your catechists, and our parish community will walk beside you throughout this process. But ultimately, **your faith belongs to you**. No one else can make this commitment for you. Confirmation is not graduation from religious education, a requirement to be checked off, or simply another step toward another sacrament. It is a lifelong commitment to continue growing in your relationship with God and living as an active member of His Church.

As you work through this book, take time to think about what you believe, why you believe it, and how you want to live your faith. Be honest in your reflections. Ask questions. Pray. Listen. Allow yourself to grow.

And remember: **Confirmation is not the end of your faith journey. It is a new beginning**. The Holy Spirit strengthens us so that we can go forth into the world as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ — ready to love, serve, forgive, witness, and share the Good News.

We are blessed to accompany you on this important part of your journey. May this year bring you closer to Christ, deepen your faith, and open your heart to the transforming presence of the Holy Spirit.

With prayers for a blessed year of preparation,

Monsignor James P. Lisante
Pastor

Mrs. Donna Kesselman
Director of Religious Education

Our Confirmation Journey Continues

Choosing Faith, Living Faith, Sharing Faith

“Since we live by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit.” – Galatians 5:25

Confirmation preparation invites me to make my faith my own and to consider how God is calling me to live as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Throughout this year, each activity will help me deepen my relationship with Christ, prepare my heart to receive the Holy Spirit, and reflect on how I will live my faith beyond Confirmation.

The Steps Along My Journey

1. My Confirmation Covenant – Making My Commitment

I reflect on my faith and the commitment I am preparing to make.

2. My Sponsor – Walking With Me in Faith

I recognize someone who will encourage and support me on my journey.

3. My Confirmation Saint – Finding a Holy Example

I learn from a saint whose life inspires me to follow Christ.

4. Reconciliation – Returning to God’s Mercy

I experience forgiveness, healing, and the grace to begin again.

5. My Confirmation Conversation – Making My Faith My Own

I reflect on what Confirmation means and why I desire to receive it.

6. My Confirmation Retreat – Encountering Christ

I make time for prayer, reflection, and opening my heart to the Holy Spirit.

7. My Letter to the Pastor – Saying “Yes” to Confirmation

I express my desire to receive the Sacrament and live as a confirmed Catholic.

8. Christian Service – Putting Faith Into Action

I use my time and talents to serve others and share Christ’s love.

9. Mass Reflections – Listening for God’s Word

I reflect on the Gospel and homily and consider how God is calling me to live.

10. Special Faith Experiences – Growing Together in Faith

I encounter Christ through prayer, community, and shared experiences.

11. Living My Confirmation – The Journey Continues

Confirmation is not the end of my faith journey. **It is a new beginning.**

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As you continue this journey toward Confirmation, remember:

Confirmation is more than completing requirements. It is an invitation to grow in friendship with Jesus, listen for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and become the person God is calling you to be.

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
#1 Confirmation Covenant (Signed by candidate and parents. Make a copy for your records)	October 7, 2026
#2 Confirmation Information Form and Confirmation Fee \$100 Photo of student (3x5 or 4x6 headshot) for Confirmation Banner	December 9, 2025
#3 Testimony of Designated Sponsor	December 9, 2026
#4 Sponsor Interview	December 9, 2026
#5 Saint Report	December 9, 2026
#6 Confirmation Interview (in class)	January 2027, as assigned
#7 Reconciliation (in class)	January 27, 2027
#8 Letter to the Pastor	February 24, 2027
#9 Christian Service	February 24, 2027
#10 Mass Reflections(6 reflections)	February 24, 2027
#11 Confirmation Retreat – MANDATORY	December 16, 2026
#12 Special Events – MANDATORY	as scheduled

To resolve any potential discrepancies with our record keeping, please make a copy of all paperwork that you hand in. Otherwise, if our records indicate that it was not received, and you cannot provide another copy, you will not get credit for completing the activity.

Student's name _____ Teacher _____

Due: October 7, 2026

Activity 1: Confirmation Covenant

***"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you.
You will be witnesses to all the world." – Acts 1:8***

Candidate Commitment

As a baptized Catholic, I am continuing my journey toward receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. Through this sacrament, I will be strengthened by the Holy Spirit, rooted more deeply in my relationship with God the Father, united more closely with Jesus Christ, and given the grace to live as a faithful witness of the Gospel.

Confirmation is more than a ceremony or a final step in religious education. It is a lifelong commitment to follow Christ, participate fully in the life of the Church, and share His love with others.

As a candidate for Confirmation, I commit myself to:

- Approach my Confirmation preparation with an open heart, a willing spirit, and a desire to grow closer to Christ.
- Participate faithfully in Sunday Mass and continue to deepen my relationship with Jesus through prayer and the Sacraments.
- Attend all religious education sessions, retreats, and special events, giving my best effort and active participation.
- Treat my catechists, parish leaders, and fellow candidates with respect and kindness.
- Complete the requirements of the Confirmation preparation process as a sign of my commitment to God, my family, and my Church.
- Take responsibility for my own faith journey, understanding that my parents and sponsors can support and encourage me, but they cannot make this commitment for me.
- Use the gifts and talents God has given me to serve others and be a witness of Christ's love in my family, parish, school, and community.
- Continue to grow in prayer and seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit as I prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

As I make this commitment, I ask God to open my heart to His grace and guide me in becoming the person He created me to be. I trust that the Holy Spirit will strengthen me to live my faith with courage, joy, and love.

By signing this covenant, I acknowledge that I am making a commitment to God, my pastor, my parents, my Church, and myself. I accept responsibility for actively participating in my Confirmation.

Student's Signature _____

For the Confirmation Parent(s):

At my child's Baptism, I promised before God that I would raise my child in the Catholic faith and help him/her grow in a relationship with Jesus Christ. I recognize that parents are the first and most important teachers of faith, and I remain committed to supporting my child's journey toward Confirmation.

I promise to encourage my child through prayer, participation in Sunday Mass, involvement in the life of our parish community, and faithful example at home.

I understand that Confirmation is a commitment my child must personally embrace, and I will continue to support and accompany him/her as he/she prepares to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Parent's Signature: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Teacher's Name _____

Due: December 9, 2026

Activity 2: Preparing for Confirmation Confirmation Information Form

“There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one glorious hope for the future.” – Ephesians 4:4

As you prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, the Church celebrates the journey of faith that began at your Baptism and has continued through your participation in the Eucharist and the life of your parish community. Please complete this form carefully and return with the required items:

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Date of Baptism: _____

Church of Baptism: _____

Church Address _____

Church of First Holy Communion: _____

Church Address _____

Father's Name: _____

Mother's First and Maiden Name: _____

Confirmation Name Chosen: _____

Sponsor's Full Name: _____

Sponsor's Home Parish: _____

Parish Address: _____

Please submit the following required items with this form:

☐ Confirmation Fee: \$100.00

☐ Candidate photo (3x5 or 4x6 headshot) for the Confirmation banner displayed in the church on the day of the Sacrament. This photo helps us celebrate you as part of our parish family.

For Office Staff: Fee _____

Check # _____

Cash _____

Student's name _____ Teacher's Name _____

Due: December 9, 2026

Activity 3: My Confirmation Sponsor

A Companion on My Faith Journey

“Encourage one another and build each other up.” – 1 Thessalonians 5:11

A Confirmation sponsor is someone who walks beside you as you continue to grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ. A sponsor is called to be a model of faith, a source of encouragement, and a supportive presence during your preparation for Confirmation and throughout your life.

When choosing a sponsor, prayerfully consider someone who is a good listener, a trusted guide, and a person who will encourage you to live your faith with courage and joy. Your sponsor should be someone who is willing to grow in faith alongside you and share in this important moment of your journey.

The Catholic Church provides the following requirements for a Confirmation sponsor:

- A sponsor must be at least sixteen years old.
- A sponsor must be a fully initiated Catholic who has received Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist, and who strives to live in harmony with the teachings of the Catholic faith.
- A sponsor must be free to accept this role according to the laws of the Church.
- A sponsor cannot be the parent or step-parent of the candidate.

As you choose your sponsor, also consider:

- Someone who has a positive and supportive relationship with you.
- Someone who is willing to participate in your Confirmation journey through prayer, Mass, service, and other opportunities.
- Someone who will continue to encourage you in your faith after you receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Your sponsor is more than someone who completes a form or attends the Confirmation ceremony. Your sponsor is a living example who walks beside you, encourages you, and supports you as you continue to grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

On the back of this page, you will find the **Testimony of Designated Sponsor Form** for your sponsor to complete.

TESTIMONY OF DESIGNATED SPONSOR FOR SACRAMENTS OF BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION

Sponsors serve an important function for those receiving the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. Sponsors are not honorary titles; rather, they are fully initiated Catholics who actively support the newly baptized and confirmed by giving good example and instruction in the life of the Catholic faith.

Given the seriousness of the role a sponsor plays in the life of a newly baptized or confirmed Catholic, the ecclesial laws of the Church require that specific qualifications be met. As a potential sponsor, please provide the information requested below:

Baptism or Confirmation? Baptism Confirmation Date of Sacrament: _____

<i>Sponsor Information</i>
Sponsor's Name:
Sponsor's Address:
City, State, Zip:
Sponsor's Phone:
Sponsor's Email:
Name of Sponsor's Parish:
Address of Sponsor's Parish:
Name of Baptism/Confirmation Candidate:
Relationship to the Sponsor:
Name of Church where the Sacrament will be celebrated:
Address where the Sacrament will be celebrated:

Please affirm the following canonical requirements necessary to be a sponsor by acknowledging each statement as true with your initials:

	I have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Communion (<i>please provide copies of the sacramental certificates</i>).
	I am currently an active, practicing Catholic.
	I will be at least sixteen years of age when the Sacrament is celebrated (<i>If not, please ask your pastor to seek a dispensation from the Chancellor's Office</i>).
	I am free from all canonical sanctions (<i>such as excommunication, apostasy, or schism</i>).
	I am not the biological father or biological mother of the candidate.
	I am currently living a life of faith that is in harmony with the teachings of the Catholic Church and befits the role I will undertake as sponsor.
	For Married Catholics: I am validly married according to the laws of the Catholic Church.

By my signature, I solemnly swear before Almighty God that I fulfill all of the requirements described above, and I attest that I am willing and able to accept the role of sponsor in the Roman Catholic Church.

Signature of Intended Sponsor

Date

PLEASE RETAIN THIS DOCUMENT WITH THE PARISH FILE - DO NOT RETURN TO DIOCESAN OFFICES

Student's name _____ Teacher's Name _____

Due: December 9, 2026

Activity 4: My Confirmation Sponsor Interview

Learning From Someone Who Walks With Me

“For we walk by faith, not by sight.” – 2 Corinthians 5:7

Your Confirmation sponsor is someone who has been chosen to walk beside you as you continue to grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ.

This interview is an opportunity to learn from your sponsor's faith journey, experiences, and wisdom. Spend time talking with your sponsor and record their responses below. You may use the back of this page or an additional page if you need more space.

1. Prayer and Relationship with God

What does your prayer life look like? Do you have a favorite place or time to pray? Are there particular prayers or ways of praying that are meaningful to you? How do you continue your relationship with God during times when prayer feels difficult?

2. Your Confirmation Saint

What Confirmation name did you choose and why? What connection have you made with your saint? How has your saint inspired you or helped guide your faith journey?

3. Living Your Faith in Today's World

What challenges do you experience when trying to live out your Catholic faith in today's culture? What helps you remain faithful and continue following Christ?

4. Being Part of the Church Community

Confirmation calls us to become active members of our parish family. Beyond attending Mass and receiving the Eucharist, how do you participate in the life of your parish? What advice would you give me about continuing to grow in my faith and becoming an active member of my parish community after Confirmation?

Due: December 9, 2026

Activity 5: My Confirmation Patron Saint

Choosing a Saint Who Inspires Me

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name: you are mine.” – Isaiah 43:1

Throughout Scripture, we see that names are important. God knows each of us personally and calls us by name. At Baptism, you were welcomed into God's family and given your own name. At Confirmation, the Church continues the tradition of choosing a saint's name as a reminder of your commitment to follow Christ and grow in holiness.

Your Confirmation patron saint is a saint whose life inspires you, whose virtues you admire, and whose example can help guide you throughout your life. Saints are not chosen simply because we like their names. We choose saints because we want to learn from their faith and strive to become more like them.

A saint is someone in heaven who can pray for us and encourage us on our journey of faith. Your sponsor is a person on earth who walks beside you, while your patron saint is a heavenly example who inspires you.

As you prayerfully consider your Confirmation saint, you may choose:

- A saint who shares your first or middle name
- A saint who shares the name of a family member you admire
- A saint whose feast day is your birthday, baptism date, or another meaningful date
- A saint who is the patron of a hobby, activity, cause, or goal that is important to you
- A saint whose personality, struggles, or life experiences connect with your own

Take time to read about the saints you are considering. Ask God to guide you toward a saint whose story inspires you and helps you understand the person He is calling you to become.

Saint Reflection

Once you have chosen your Confirmation patron saint, write a one-page essay (front and back) about your saint. Your reflection should include:

- The saint's life story
- How the saint lived his or her faith
- What qualities made this person a saint
- What you admire about this saint's life
- How this saint is a role model for you
- Any special causes or groups this saint is the patron of
- Your personal connection to this saint and how his or her story inspires you

Your essay must be written in your own words. The purpose of this activity is to learn about your saint and reflect on how his or her example can help you grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ. Throughout your Confirmation journey, you will have opportunities to share what you have learned about your patron saint. Keep this information so you can continue reflecting on the saint you have chosen.

Activity 6: Confirmation Faith Conversation

Sharing My Faith Journey

“I have chosen you and appointed you so that you may go and bear fruit.” – John 15:16

Confirmation Faith Conversations Schedule:

January 6: Mr. Jonak

January 13: Mrs. Corradina

January 20: Mrs. Krotz and Ms. Krotz

January 27: Mrs. Straw and Mr. Petrocelli

The Confirmation Faith Conversation is an opportunity to share what you have learned, reflect on your faith journey, and talk about your understanding of the Sacrament of Confirmation.

This is not a test. It is a conversation with the Director of Religious Education about your relationship with God, your preparation for Confirmation, and your desire to continue growing as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

1. What is Confirmation? Why are you choosing to receive this sacrament?

Confirmation is a personal response to the gift of faith you received at Baptism. At your Baptism, your parents and godparents made promises on your behalf and welcomed you into the Church. Through Confirmation, you are affirming those promises in your own voice and choosing to continue growing in your relationship with God.

Through Confirmation, you:

- Strengthen your relationship with God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- Receive an increase in the Gifts of the Holy Spirit: wisdom, understanding, knowledge, right judgment, courage, reverence, and wonder and awe in God's presence.
- Commit yourself to living as an active and faithful member of the Catholic Church.
- Accept the call to share Christ's love through your words and actions.

Common Misunderstandings:

Confirmation is a gift from God and a lifelong commitment. We receive Confirmation because we desire to grow closer to Christ and live as His disciples.

Confirmation is not received because:

“I want to get married in the Church someday.”

Marriage and Confirmation are separate sacraments. Confirmation should be received because of your own desire to deepen your relationship with God and live your faith.

“I want to complete all my sacraments.”

The sacraments are not accomplishments to collect. They are gifts from God that strengthen us throughout our lives.

“I am finishing religious education.”

Faith formation is a lifelong journey. After Confirmation, we continue growing through prayer, Sunday Mass, Scripture, learning, and participation in the life of the Church.

“My parents or grandparents want me to do this.”

Confirmation is a personal choice. Your family has helped guide you in faith, but you are now choosing to affirm your Baptismal promises in your own voice.

“I am becoming an adult in the Church.”

Confirmation is not a milestone connected to age. It is a commitment to follow Jesus, live as His disciple, and allow the Holy Spirit to guide your life.

2. As a baptized and confirmed Catholic, how will you live out your faith in your daily life?

Some examples include:

- Attend Sunday Mass regularly and participate fully in the life of the Church.
- Pray regularly and continue developing your relationship with God.
- Make choices based on the teachings of Jesus and His Church.
- Treat others with love, kindness, and respect.
- Be a sign of Christ's love in your family, school, and community.
- Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and seek God's forgiveness.
- Serve others by sharing your time, talents, and gifts.
- Continue learning about your faith after Confirmation.
- Invite and encourage others to know and follow Jesus.

3. What name did you choose as your Confirmation name? Why did you choose this saint?

Be prepared to share:

- The name of your Confirmation saint.
- Why you chose this saint.
- The personal connection you made with this saint.
- What you learned about this saint from your Saint Reflection.
- How this saint inspires you to follow Christ.

Remember, the purpose of this conversation is not simply to demonstrate what you know. It is an opportunity to reflect on your faith journey and share how you are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Date: January 27, 2027

Activity 7: Reconciliation

Receiving God's Mercy and Healing

"I will forgive their wrongdoing and remember their sins no more." – Jeremiah 31:34

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (also called Penance or Confession) is a beautiful gift from God that allows us to experience His mercy, forgiveness, and healing in a personal way.

Through Reconciliation, we acknowledge our sins, receive forgiveness, and are strengthened to continue following Jesus. Many people describe this sacrament as a moment of peace and freedom because God lifts the burdens we carry and reminds us of His unconditional love.

When we celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we encounter the loving mercy of God through the ministry of the priest. Jesus gave His apostles the authority to forgive sins, and through this gift, priests continue Christ's ministry of forgiveness and reconciliation today.

Priests are bound by the seal of Confession and are never permitted to reveal what they hear during the sacrament. What is shared in Confession remains completely confidential.

As you prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, remember that the Holy Spirit strengthens us to recognize our need for God's mercy and to continue growing in holiness. Reconciliation restores our relationship with God and gives us the grace to begin again.

Remember that receiving Reconciliation is a lifelong practice of returning to God's love and mercy. Throughout our lives, we will experience moments when we need forgiveness, healing, and the opportunity to begin again. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is always available to welcome us back into a deeper relationship with God.

Each Confirmation candidate in Level 8 is required to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance and reflect upon the healing power of God's forgiveness during the Confirmation preparation process.

**Level 8 students are scheduled to receive the Sacrament of Penance on
Wednesday, January 27, 2027 during their regular class time.
Attendance is required.**

If a student cannot attend Reconciliation on January 27,
please contact the Religious Education Office to arrange a make-up opportunity.

Reflection Before Reconciliation:

While waiting to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, spend some quiet time preparing your heart.

What is one area of my life where I need God's forgiveness, healing, or guidance?

What is one way I want to grow closer to Jesus and make choices that reflect His love?

BEFORE CONFESSION, EXAMINE YOUR CONSCIENCE

How Much Do I Love God?

- *Do I pray to God? How Often?
- *Do I thank God for His goodness to me?
- *Do I use God's name with love? Have I used His name in the wrong way? Do I curse or swear?
- *Do I celebrate Sunday by participating at Mass EVERY Saturday evening or Sunday? Have I missed weekly Mass for any reason other something serious, such as illness?
- *Do I listen well to God's Word?
- *Do I tell God I am sorry when I have failed to love?
- *Do I ask God to help me?
- *Have I truly been the person God expects me to be?

How Much Do I Love Others?

- *Do I listen to and obey those who care for me?
- *Am I kind and loving to my family and others?
- *Have I hurt anyone? Do I make up with those I hurt? Do I call others bad names or make fun of them?
- *Was I too selfish to share things with others or to help them? Do I show respect for myself and others?
- *Have I been pure in thoughts, words and actions? Do I choose good friends? Am I faithful to them?
- *Am I careful not to waste God's gifts so that other people can enjoy them? Am I satisfied with what I have? Do I share with people in need?
- *Am I honest? Have I taken something that was not mine? Did I return it? Did I damage anyone's property?
- *Did I lie to anyone? Did I talk about others in an unkind way? Did I gossip or spread rumors?

PROCEDURE FOR CONFESSION

1. Make the sign of the cross and say: "BLESS ME FATHER, FOR I HAVE SINNED – This is my first confession."
2. Confess your sins – Say what you did wrong, and how many times.
3. Listen to what the priest tells you.
4. Say the ACT OF CONTRITION loud enough for the priest to hear you.
5. Say "THANK YOU FATHER"
6. Return to a quiet place and say the penance (prayers) the priest gave you.

ACT OF CONTRITION

O my God I am heartily sorry for having offended You, and I detest all my sins, because of your just punishment, but most of all because they offend You, my God, who is all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve with the help of Your grace, to sin no more and to avoid the near occasions of sin. Amen.

Activity 8: Letter to the Pastor

Requesting the Sacrament of Confirmation

“Here I am, Lord; I have come to do your will.” – Hebrews 10:7

As you prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, you are being invited to respond personally to God’s call to continue growing as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

At Baptism, your parents and godparents spoke on your behalf and promised to raise you in the Catholic faith. Through Confirmation, you now use your own voice to express your desire to continue this journey and receive the grace of the Holy Spirit.

Write a letter to our Pastor requesting the Sacrament of Confirmation. This letter is an opportunity to reflect on your faith journey, share what Confirmation means to you, and express your commitment to living as an active Catholic.

Use the following outline as a guide:

Dear Monsignor Lisante,

Paragraph 1: Introduce yourself. Share a little about yourself, your family, and your faith background.

Paragraph 2: Request the Sacrament of Confirmation. Explain why you desire to receive Confirmation and why you are choosing this sacrament for yourself. Share what Confirmation means to you and why you believe God is calling you to receive this sacrament.

Paragraph 3: Share about your Confirmation saint. Explain the name you chose for Confirmation, why you chose this saint, and what inspires you about this saint’s life and example.

Paragraph 4: Reflect on your preparation journey. Share some ways you have prepared for Confirmation. You may include your Christian service, retreat experience, Mass reflections, prayer life, or ways you have grown in your relationship with God.

Paragraph 5: Look toward the future. Describe how you hope to continue living as an active and practicing Catholic after Confirmation. Explain how you will allow the Holy Spirit to guide your choices, use your gifts and talents to serve others, and remain connected to your parish community.

Conclude your letter with your complete signature.

Your parents should witness your letter with their signatures. If possible, your sponsor may also witness your letter as a sign of support for your faith journey.

This letter must be written in your own words. Your parents, sponsor, or others may encourage and support you, but the words and thoughts should come from you.

The letter may be handwritten or typed and should be placed in an envelope. On the envelope, write:

To: Monsignor James P. Lisante

From: (Your Full Name)

Due: February 24, 2027

Activity 9: Christian Community Service

Living My Faith Through Service

“Serve one another with the gift each of you has received.” – 1 Peter 4:10

We are called to serve others because Jesus first served us. Throughout His life, Jesus showed compassion, love, and generosity to those around Him. As baptized Christians preparing to receive Confirmation, we are called to follow His example by using our time, talents, and gifts to serve our families, our parish, and our community.

Christian service is one way we live out our faith and put the Gospel into action. Through service, we become more aware of the needs of others and discover how God can work through us to bring His love to the world.

As part of the Confirmation Preparation Process, each Level 8 student will complete 10 hours of Christian Service between July 2026 and February 2027.

Christian service is an opportunity to give of yourself freely for the good of others. Service is offered with a generous heart and is not performed for payment, recognition, or personal gain. Service hours should benefit our parish community, local community, or school community. Helping your family, while important and expected, does not count toward this requirement.

Parish Outreach (through our office):

- donations to the Thanksgiving Food drive (1 hour for a full bag of food and 2 hours for a complete basket – Maximum 2 hours total)
- Greeting cards for nursing home residents: (1 hour for every 4 cards made, up to a maximum of 3 hours). The cards can contain any message to let these seniors know that he or she is loved and valued, and not forgotten. Themes can be a general “Happy Summer”, “Thinking of You”, or “God Bless You” or can they be for any holiday such as Veteran’s Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Valentine’s Day, Easter, etc.

Knights of Columbus (through our office):

- Participate in the Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest! **Everyone is asked to do this – the Knights are requesting a lot of posters!** (2 hours)

Other:

- Serve as an altar server or youth lector at Mass (1 hour for each Mass served)
- Assist in our Religious Education program – classroom or office
- Hand-make a painted rock for our program’s Kindness Rock Garden (3 rocks = 1 hour. Maximum 2 hours)
- Donation to our Christmas toy drive (1 hour)
- Clean your room, or another room in your house, with the goal of gathering items to donate to the poor.
- Assist a teacher at school with making photocopies, organizing the classroom, etc.
- Help a classmate or younger child (not in your family) with homework or studying (without pay)
- Help a classmate or younger child (not in your family) work on their sports skills (without pay)
- Volunteer for service activities offered through your public library or boy/girl scout troop
- Participate in a Walk to raise money for Breast Cancer or other illness (5 hours)
- Do yard work (rake leaves, shovel snow, gardening, etc), for an elderly or disabled neighbor (without pay)
- Volunteer time to clean up a local playground or park.

You are welcome to complete service activities beyond this list.

If you have another service idea, please contact the Religious Education Office for approval.

Remember: Christian Service is an opportunity to discover the joy of serving others and recognizing Christ in the people around you.

Student's name _____ Teacher's Name _____

Due: February 24, 2027

Christian Community Service

Where did you perform this service? _____

Date: _____ Number of Hours: _____

Give a brief description of the service you performed:

Signature of Adult Supervisor: _____

Where did you perform this service? _____

Date: _____ Number of Hours: _____

Give a brief description of the service you performed:

Signature of Adult Supervisor: _____

Where did you perform this service? _____

Date: _____ Number of Hours: _____

Give a brief description of the service you performed:

Signature of Adult Supervisor: _____

Student's name _____ Teacher's Name _____

Due: February 24, 2027

Christian Community Service

Where did you perform this service? _____

Date: _____ Number of Hours: _____

Give a brief description of the service you performed:

Signature of Adult Supervisor: _____

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Date: _____ Number of Hours: _____

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Where did you perform this service? _____

Date: _____ Number of Hours: _____

Give a brief description of the service you performed:

Signature of Adult Supervisor: _____

Activity 10: Mass Reflections

Encountering Christ in the Word and Eucharist

Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light for my path.” – Psalm 119:105

The celebration of Sunday Mass is the heart of our Catholic faith. When we gather as God's family, we encounter Jesus in the Word of God and in the Eucharist. We come together to worship God, strengthen our relationship with Jesus, and receive the grace we need to live as His disciples each day.

At Baptism, your parents promised to raise you in the Catholic faith and help you grow in your relationship with God. As you prepare for Confirmation, you are taking greater responsibility for your own faith journey by choosing to remain connected to God through prayer, the Sacraments, and participation in the life of the Church.

One way we live out the Word of God is by taking time to reflect on how it speaks to our lives.

For this activity in the Confirmation Preparation process, each candidate must write a reflection on the Gospel and homily for SIX Sunday Masses (or Saturday evening Masses) of your choice.

The following pages in this workbook are designated for your Mass Reflections.

Suggestions for Writing Your Mass Reflections:

- Bring a piece of paper with you to Mass to write down thoughts, words, or phrases that stand out to you during the Gospel and homily.
- Write down the Scripture reference of the Gospel reading (for example, Luke 5:1-5) so you can refer back to it when completing your reflection. Remember, the Gospel readings come from Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John.
- Talk with your family after Mass about what you heard in the Gospel and homily. Ask one another how God's Word connects to your lives today.
- Reflect on what God may be saying to you through the Scripture and the message shared at Mass.
- Complete your Mass Reflection while the Gospel and homily are still fresh in your mind.
- Your reflection should be written in your own words and should express your own thoughts and understanding.
- Your Mass Reflection must be based on a Mass that you personally attended. Online Masses or Masses attended by your parents without you may not be used.

Remember, Mass is not just something we attend; it is where we encounter Christ and receive the grace to live as His disciples throughout the week.

Activity 11: Confirmation Retreat:
Encountering Christ on the Journey Toward Confirmation
“Be still and know that I am God.” – Psalm 46:10

A Confirmation retreat is an important part of preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. The Diocese of Rockville Centre requires all Confirmation candidates to participate in a retreat as part of their preparation process.

Our Confirmation Retreat is scheduled for:

Wednesday, December 16, 2026
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM
Location: Church

Please note that we will begin **15 minutes earlier than our usual class time**. Students should arrive promptly at 7:00 PM and will be dismissed from the church at 8:30 PM.

A retreat is an opportunity to step away from the distractions of daily life, spend time in prayer and reflection, and allow God to speak to our hearts. It is a special opportunity to encounter Christ, reflect on your faith journey, and prepare your heart to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Parents are warmly invited and encouraged to attend. Parents who attend will be seated in the back of the church, while students will participate in the retreat with their Confirmation class. Sharing this experience together is a meaningful way to support your child's Confirmation journey and continue strengthening your family's faith.

To help create a prayerful environment:

- Please leave books and other distractions at home.
- Phones must be turned off and stored away during the retreat.
- Please use the restroom before the retreat begins to minimize interruptions.
- Gum chewing is not permitted.

Attendance is mandatory.
Please avoid late arrivals or early dismissals.

In the event that your child is unable to attend, please notify the Religious Education Office as soon as possible. Since this retreat is a diocesan requirement, arrangements must be made for your child to attend a Confirmation retreat at another parish.

Activity 12: Special Faith Experiences
Opportunities to Encounter Christ and Grow in Faith
“Come, follow me.” – Matthew 4:19

Throughout the school year, special faith experiences will be scheduled during regular class time. These experiences will take the place of the usual lesson and are designed to help candidates deepen their relationship with Christ, strengthen their faith, and continue preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

These opportunities may include prayer services, special presentations, guest speakers, service experiences, and other spiritual activities. Some experiences may also provide opportunities for parents and families to participate and share in their child's faith journey.

Tentative Special Events for the 2026–2027 School Year:

Wednesday, October 28, 2026 – All Saints Presentation

Wednesday, November 4, 2026 - All Saints Day Celebration and Bingo

Wednesday, February 24, 2027 - Blessed Mother Presentation

Additional opportunities may be added throughout the year. Advance notice will be provided for all special faith experiences.

Because these experiences are an important part of Confirmation preparation, attendance is required.

Excused absences will be considered on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the Religious Education Office.

My Confirmation Journey Continues

Strengthened by the Holy Spirit • Sent Forth to Share Christ



"You are the light of the world."

Matthew 5:14

*Go forth
and make disciples
of all nations.*
Matthew 28:19



CONFIRMED
IN CHRIST



FILLED WITH
THE HOLY SPIRIT



LIVING
MY FAITH



SERVING
OTHERS



SHARING
CHRIST



HEAVEN IS
MY GOAL



PRAYER



EUCCHARIST



SCRIPTURE



RECONCILIATION



PARISH LIFE



SERVICE

The journey doesn't end at Confirmation...
it begins. ♥

