

CONFIRMANDI 2019

As a member of Most Holy Redeemer Parish in Evergreen Park, I desire to affirm my belief in Jesus and His Church through the Sacrament of Confirmation.

As I enter into this final phase of preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation, bless me and give me the willingness to do all that is required of me.

I pledge to the best of my ability to take part in the learning sessions and activities that are a part of the program of preparation.

I accept the responsibility to open my mind and heart to the activities of the Holy Spirit during this time of preparation. I ask this in Christ's name.

Amen



Dear Confirmandi,

Jesus has invited you to follow Him, to walk in His footsteps, and to reach out to others as He did, with care, concern, healing, and hope. Confirmation can be a missed opportunity or a highlight, a turning point of your life. It is your choice.

Four areas will be stressed as you prepare for Confirmation:

- Liturgy: regular attendance at Mass and developing a commitment to living out your faith by going to Mass each Sunday
- Prayer: developing a routine and understanding of prayer
- Knowing my faith: knowing our beliefs as stated in the Creed
- Christian service: practicing the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy

Guidelines For Service

Christian love is manifested in service to other people. Jesus came as one who serves. He declared that, at the end of time, he will judge us on how well we have served him through other people. A vital part of the candidates' preparation for living a full Christian life is developing a habit of service.

- Your service is not just a job to be done. It is selflessly and lovingly helping those in need.
- You should reflect on how your service project is helping you take on the mind and heart of Christ, fulfill the needs of others, and build up the Christian community.
- The giving of service is not new to you. You have given of yourself in many ways and should continue after your Confirmation and all through your life.
- A journal of your service hours is to be kept. Write down your thoughts and feelings about each project after its completion.

Service projects will be listed, and you will have many interesting avenues to choose from. Areas that will be open for service are church and community. Those preparing you for Confirmation can answer any questions about service opportunities.

The performance of service hours and the reflection upon such work are an integral preparation for the life of loving service that adult Christians must embrace. Therefore, the honest completion of these hours is necessary for Confirmation. If this commitment is not fulfilled honestly and in a Christian spirit, it will mean that you are not ready for the Sacrament of Confirmation and will have to wait another year. We thank you for your cooperation in this Spirit-filled endeavor.

In Christ,

Fr. Hyland and Staff

The Role Of The Sponsor

Sponsors are those who will help the Confirmation candidate live his or her baptismal promises. It is the responsibility of the sponsor to:

- Encourage confirmandi to attend weekly Mass and accompany them when possible.
- Help the candidate understand and appreciate the Sacrament of Confirmation and have the right intentions for receiving it.
- Help the candidate prepare for Confirmation by encouraging him or her to attend Sunday Mass, to pray, to participate in the sacraments—especially the Eucharist, and to become actively involved in the life of their parish community.
- Assist in the faith sharing component of Confirmation.
- Present the candidate for Confirmation and continue to assist the confirmed person in living a Christian life.

The Role Of The Parents

Parents have a responsibility to create a Christian environment in the home. They should:

- Worship together regularly at Sunday Mass.
- Set a good example and encourage their child to lead a life of active Christian service.
- Serve their family out of love.
- Build an atmosphere of trust and understanding.
- Continue to nurture their child in faith.

Parents have a responsibility to help young people prepare for Confirmation. They should:

- Encourage their child to reflect thoughtfully on the Liturgy each week.
- Assist in the faith sharing component of the sacrament when sponsors are unavailable.
- Pray with their child and discuss various aspects of faith and the special meanings of Confirmation.
- Take part in special catechesis for parents to help renew their own faith so they can more effectively guide their child.
- Volunteer to drive for the special service outings their children will be involved in.
- Participate in service hours with their child.

Confirmation Calendar

October 2, 2018	Confirmation Name and Sponsor Form Due (attached to Parent Letter)
October-February	Service Opportunities - See attached for mandatory projects
October 29, 2018	Saint Project Due (assigned in class)
November 19, 2018	Sponsor Interview Due (assigned in class)
December 3, 2018	2 Service Projects & 2 Service Reflections Due
February 11, 2019	2 Service Projects & 2 Service Reflections Due
February 2019	Confirmation Interviews-sign up will take place in January
February 7, 2019	Confirmation Retreat at Mercy Circle (tentatively 8:15am-2pm)
February 21, 2019	Thursday, 6:00-7:00pm Confirmation practice in Church (students only)
February 24, 2019	Sunday, 1pm Confirmation Mass Bishop Rojas Reception following in Briody Hall

All information and packets can be found at www.mostholyredeemer.org

SERVICE PROJECTS

Through the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy, we are called to Feed the hungry... Give drink to the thirsty... Clothe the naked... Shelter the homeless... Visit the sick... Visit the imprisoned... Bury the dead. Counsel the doubtful... Instruct the ignorant... Admonish the sinner... Comfort the sorrowful... Forgive injuries... Bear wrongs patiently... Pray for the living and the dead.

Each Confirmandi will be asked to participate in the following service activities that reflect the Works of Mercy. Students must complete the 4 Types of Service listed and 4 Service Reflection Papers before Confirmation.

1. HANDS ON SERVICE – Minimum 6 hrs

You must complete “**Hands On**” Service. A “Hands On” Project is doing service for someone or group you would normally not deal with (nursing home patients, special needs children or adults, homeless people at a shelter; young children for special occasions). **Vacation Bible School Leader** satisfies this required project.

Some organizations that provide these types of opportunities are listed below. Students may utilize these or find their own opportunities. A **Service Reflection Paper** (attached) will need to be completed for the “Hands On” service and returned to your teacher/catechist.

- **Homeless Shelter* ~ “Hands On”**

Activity: Prepare, and clean-up after serving a meal to the homeless

Southwest Chicago Pads
3121 W. 71st Street, Chicago, IL

Pilgrim Faith United Church of Christ
9411 S. 51st Ave., Oak Lawn, IL

- **Oak Lawn Park District ~ “Hands On”**

Activity: Help with special recreation programs

Contact: Melissa Ferruzza

Oak Lawn Park District www.olparks.com *volunteer form must be completed on site.
708.857.2200

- **Ronald McDonald House/Meals From The Heart ~ “Hands On”**

Activity: Bring and serve meals to current residents of Ronald McDonald House
Must book a few months in advance. Student must be accompanied by an adult

www.ronaldhousechicago.org “Get Involved”

4410 W 93rd St.

Oak Lawn, IL

708.423.5285

- **Park Lawn School ~ “Hands On”**

Park Lawn is a non-profit organization in Illinois offering a variety of programs and services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Park Lawn’s mission is to provide services that promote independence, choice and access to community living for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Activity: Opportunities on sight at the Oak Lawn facility to assist with projects and events

www.parklawn.com

Contact: Volunteer Coordinator Cathy Fixel

cfixel@parklawn.com

- **Feed My Starving Children ~ “Hands On or Independent”**

Activity: Help turn hunger into hope with your own two hands by packing nutritious meals for starving children around the world. You can sign up to volunteer at one of the permanent sites located in Aurora, Illinois (open 6 days a week year-round) OR sign up to volunteer at one of the MobilePack events which are short-term volunteer opportunities that happen all over the United States.

www.fmsc.org



Saturday, November 17 and February 9th OPTIONAL

Bus Trips will be going to The Aurora Feed My Starving Children Location.

We have 30 total spots reserved for students and parents who would like to join us. The cost is \$10 per person. We will leave MHR at approximately 8am and return at approximately noon.

Sign up will take place in class. We need 1 adult chaperone per 4 students.

2. GROUP SERVICE - MANDATORY

Students **must choose 1 of the 4 dates to attend.** Project includes attendance at Mass, a service project in Adamich Hall, followed by a pizza social. Sign-up will take place in class.

Limit 20 students per session. A **Service Reflection Paper** (attached) will need to be done for this project and returned to your teacher/catechist.

- October 20th 4:15pm-7:15pm Adamich Hall
- November 3rd 4:15pm-7:15pm Adamich Hall
- December 1st 4:15pm-7:15pm Adamich Hall
- January 12th 4:15pm-7:15pm Adamich Hall

3. PARISH SERVICE -Minimum 2 hrs

Students must do service for our parish. MHR Carnival volunteer (last summer), Bin Helper for SOR, and other projects done specifically for our parish will satisfy this required service.

The projects listed below offer some opportunities that will also satisfy this requirement. Sign-up will take place in class. A **Service Reflection Paper** (attached) will need to be done for this project and returned to your teacher/catechist. **Limit 20 students per session.**

- Parish Project October 25th 4:30pm-6:30pm Convent Community Room
- Parish Project November 8th 4:30pm-6:30pm Convent Community Room
- Parish Project January 17th 4:30pm-6:30pm Convent Community Room
- Parish Project February 7th 4:30pm-6:30pm Convent Community Room

4. INDEPENDENT SERVICE – Minimum 4hrs

Students must do service for the community, their school or a neighbor, but it does not need to be “Hands On”. Some organizations that provide these types of opportunities and other project ideas are listed below. Students may utilize these or find their own opportunities. A **Service Reflection Paper** (attached) will need to be done for this service and returned to your teacher/catechist.

- **Evergreen Park Youth Commission**

Activity: Various activities for the Youth Commission
Date: TBA
Contact: Youth Commission Director, Pyeisha Allen pallen@evpkadm.org
708.229.3377

- **Greater Chicago Food Depository**

4100 W. Ann Lurie Place, Chicago, IL
773.247.3663
www.chicagosfoodbank.org

- **Neat Repeats Resale**

Shops in Worth and Orland Park financially supports the Crisis Center for South Suburbia. For over 29 years, all of the sales have benefitted hundreds of women and children in crisis and victims of domestic violence.

Activity: Help in the stores and to donate men’s, women's and children's fall and winter clothing and seasonal items.
Please call for more info:
Orland Park - 708-364-7605, 9028 W. 159th Street
Worth - 708-361-6860, 6602 W. 111th Street

- **Share Your Sole Foundation**

Activity: Help sort and pack shoes
Pullman Industrial Center
12110 S. Cottage Grove, Chicago, IL 60628
Contact: Mona Purdy
708.448.4469
Call to make arrangements; parent or sponsor required to attend.
Email infoshareyoursoles.org for information and sign up.

- **Community Service***

Activity: Offer your services to a neighbor in need on a **regular basis** by:
1) Raking leaves
2) Shoveling snow
3) Taking out the garbage
4) Running small errands
5) Baby sitting free of charge
6) Small household tasks

Activity: Help with a Charity Event at your school or within the community.

*Community service must be approved by Director of Religious Education or MHR teachers.

Service Reflection 1

Name of Candidate _____

Name of Organization/Project _____

Date Completed _____

What population did you serve and what needs did you address for them?

What did you learn from the experience?

What did you like or dislike about the experience?

(Must be handed in after service is completed)

Service Reflection 2

Name of Candidate _____

Name of Organization/Project _____

Date Completed _____

What population did you serve and what needs did you address for them?

What did you learn from the experience?

What did you like or dislike about the experience?

(Must be handed in after service is completed)

Service Reflection 3

Name of Candidate _____

Name of Organization/Project _____

Date Completed _____

What population did you serve and what needs did you address for them?

What did you learn from the experience?

What did you like or dislike about the experience?

(Must be handed in after service is completed)

Service Reflection 4

Name of Candidate _____

Name of Organization/Project _____

Date Completed _____

What population did you serve and what needs did you address for them?

What did you learn from the experience?

What did you like or dislike about the experience?

(Must be handed in after service is completed)