

CONFIRMANDI 2021

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 are listed on the attached sheets, 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

Tuesday, October 13, 2020	7:00 p.m. Parent/Sponsor/Candidate meeting - Church Confirmation Name & Sponsor Form Due
October, 2020	Saint Project (assigned in class)
November 16, 2020	Saint Projects Due
November 23, 2020	Sponsor Interview Due (assigned in class)
December 14, 2020	2 Service Projects & 2 Service Reflections Due (details will be given at meeting)
Friday, December 4, 2020	9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Confirmation Retreat (see attached details & Permission Form)
Monday February 1, 2021	2 Service Projects & 2 Service Reflections Due (details will be given at meeting)
February 2021	Confirmation Interviews
Thursday, February 25, 2021	6:00-7:00 p.m. Confirmation practice in church (student only)
Sunday, February 28, 2021	1:00 p.m. Confirmation Mass , Bishop Robert Casey, presiding Reception following in Briody Hall (<i>tentative</i>)

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 complete four service projects and corresponding reflection papers by Monday, February 1, 2021.

Students will be asked to complete service projects to participate in activities that reflect the Works of Mercy. We have decided to modify the service projects for our present situation. Students should complete the service projects by the due date. Parents can sign for completed projects. Students are to complete any **4 Types of Service** listed and **4 Service Reflection Papers** before Confirmation.

Due to the pandemic, students may do service for family members, neighbors, etc. During this time, students are not required to serve at a community organization. Some ideas for projects are babysitting for free, walking/letting out a dog, mowing the lawn, raking leaves, making masks, making cards, baking cookies/making dinner for someone who is ill, etc. Parents, grandparents, neighbors, etc. can sign for completed projects. Projects that were completed before the pandemic or other organized projects that have been offered through the school are also allowed. Below are additional opportunities in which we encourage each Confirmandi to participate in:

1. GROUP SERVICE (Minimum 2 Hours - does not include time for Mass)

Students **choose 1 of the 4 dates to attend**. Project includes attendance at Mass, a service project. Sign-up will take place in class. A **Service Reflection Paper** (attached) will need to be done for each project and returned to your teacher/catechist.

- Saturday, October 24th 4:15 pm -7:15pm Adamich Hall
- Saturday, November 14th 4:15 pm -7:15 pm Adamich Hall
- Saturday, December 12th 4:15 pm -7:15 pm Adamich Hall
- Saturday, January 23rd 4:15 pm -7:15 pm Adamich Hall

2. PARISH SERVICE (Minimum 2 Hours)

In light of Covid-19, we ask that you be creative as many in-person service opportunities are not allowed at this time. 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 **each** project and returned to your teacher/catechist. **Limit 20 students per session:**

- Thursday, October 29th 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm Adamich Hall
- Sunday, November 22nd Time TBD School Parking Lot
- Saturday, December 12th 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm Adamich Hall
- Saturday, January 28th 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm Adamich Hall

3. INDEPENDENT SERVICE (Minimum 6 Hours)

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.

- **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

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated at Most Holy Redeemer Church on Sunday, February 28, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. I will let you know more details about Confirmation as soon as they become available.

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?

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What did you learn from the experience?

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What did you like or dislike about the experience?

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(Must be handed in after service is completed)