

PARENT 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 Parent,

Today the parish community of Most Holy Redeemer is offering your child an opportunity to renew his/her Baptismal vows and to experience God's love and friendship in their lives.

"The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in common".

Acts 4:32

Four areas will be stressed as they prepare for Confirmation:

- Liturgy: regular attendance at Mass, developing a commitment to living out our faith by going to Mass
- Prayer: developing a routine and understanding of prayer
- Knowing the 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.

Jesus has invited your child 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 child's life. It is their choice.

- Their service is not just a job to be done. It is selflessly and lovingly helping those in need.
- They should reflect on how their service project is helping them 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 or your child. You have given of yourself in many ways and should continue with your child to grow in the commitment of Christian service.
- Your child's service hours must be journaled. They will write down their thoughts and feelings about each project after its completion.

Service projects will be listed and they will have many interesting avenues to choose from.

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. and if this commitment is not done honestly and in a Christian spirit it would mean that your child might not be 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 Parents

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

- **Worship together regularly at Sunday Mass**, sharing your reflection on the readings.
- 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.

"The home is the place where faith can best be nourished."

Confirmation Calendar

October 2, 2018	Confirmation Name and Sponsor Form Due (attached to Parent Letter)
October-February	Service Opportunities - See Confirmandi packet 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 7, 2019	Confirmation Retreat at Mercy Circle (tentatively 8:15-2pm)
February 2019	Confirmation Interviews-sign ups in January
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