

St. Edward the Confessor Sacramental Preparation

Grade 8 Year Two Workbook 2019-2020

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Projects

- # 1: **Choose your Sponsor** – Companions on the Journey
- # 2: **Confirmation Name and Saint Essay** – A Witnesses to Faith
- # 3: **Called to Prayer** – Deepening Our Faith
- # 4: **Request for Confirmation** – Letter to the Pastor
- # 5: **Called to Serve** – Parish and Community
- # 6: **Called to Worship** – We Celebrate

Check List

- ✓ Please return the **Confirmation Information Sheet** with your packet.
- ✓ Include your first and last name on each page.
- ✓ Each page should include the project number and title.
- ✓ Reflections should be typewritten.
- ✓ Completed work should be stapled together with the exception of the Letter to the Pastor requesting Confirmation (see page 6 for details).
- ✓ The completed workbook is due in class on Sunday, April 26 or Monday, April 27, 2020.

Confirmation perfects Baptismal grace; it is the sacrament which gives the Holy Spirit in order to root us more deeply in the divine filiation, incorporate us more firmly into Christ, strengthen our bond with the Church, associate us more closely with her mission, and help us bear witness to the Christian faith in words accompanied by deeds (ccc. 1316).

Confirmation, like Baptism, imprints a spiritual mark or indelible character on the Christian's soul; for this reason one can receive this sacrament only once in one's life (CCC, no. 1317).



Confirmation Information Sheet

Upon completing your main projects this year, please fill out the information on this page. Please **print clearly and legibly** so that our office staff can read it.

The information on this page is what is needed by our office in order to finish preparations for Confirmation.

Your Full Name: _____

Chosen Saint Name: _____

Sponsor's Full Name:

Relationship to Sponsor: _____

Sponsor's Parish: _____

Approximate Height for Confirmation Robes: _____



*Candidates for Confirmation, as for Baptism, fittingly seek the spiritual help of a sponsor
(CCC, no. 1311).*

Project # 1 Choose your Sponsor – Companions on the Journey

In preparation for the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation, each candidate must choose a sponsor.

To be qualified to be chosen as a Confirmation sponsor an individual must:

- 1) Be at least sixteen years old (by date of Confirmation).
- 2) Have been initiated in the Catholic Church through the three Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist, and be in good standing with the Church.
- 3) Display a visible commitment to living out the Catholic faith and have the ability and intention to carry out his or her responsibility as a spiritual guide in your life.

For this project, please interview your sponsor. Please return the interview and include the full name of your sponsor, your relationship to your sponsor, and your sponsor's home parish.

Sample questions for the Sponsor Interview:

How did your sponsor feel when you asked him or her to be your sponsor?

What is the most important part of being a sponsor?

How does he or she see themselves as fulfilling this role?

What does it mean to lead a good Catholic life?



Anointing with oil has all these meanings in the sacramental life. The pre-baptismal anointing with the oil of catechumens signifies cleansing and strengthening; the anointing of the sick expresses healing and comfort. The post-baptismal anointing with sacred chrism in Confirmation and ordination is the sign of consecration. By Confirmation Christians, that is, those who are anointed, share more completely in the mission of Jesus Christ and the fullness of the Holy Spirit with which he is filled, so that their lives may give off "the aroma of Christ" (CCC, no. 1294).

Project # 2 Confirmation Name and Saint Essay – A Witness to Faith

One of the traditional practices in the Church at the time of Confirmation is choosing a name that will remind you of the commitment you will make at Confirmation.

Your prayerful reflection will help you determine that name. You may want to choose the name of a saint who represents the type of Christian you wish to be. You may want to recommit yourself to your baptismal name, especially after you have reflected on its meaning and discovered some of the great people who shared your name in Christian history.

Whether you decide to pick a new name or stay with your baptismal name, you will want to explore quite thoroughly the root meaning of the name, for Scripture says, "Yahweh calls each of us by name."

For this project, include the saint's feast day, place of birth, year of birth, year of death, family information, occupation, and a few reasons as to why he or she became a saint. Please include a Works Cited or sources page. Then answer the questions below.

**How did this saint live out the Works of Mercy?
How is this saint a good role model of faith?**

Your essay should be at least one page long and include a drawing or picture of your saint.

Use the internet and library to help with your research. Catholic.org/saints and catholicsaints.info are good places to start.

Preparation for Confirmation should aim at leading the Christian toward a more intimate union with Christ and a more lively familiarity with the Holy Spirit - his actions, his gifts, and his biddings - in order to be more capable of assuming the apostolic responsibilities of Christian life. To this end catechesis for Confirmation should strive to awaken a sense of belonging to the Church of Jesus Christ, the universal Church as well as the parish community. The latter bears special responsibility for the preparation of confirmands. (CCC, no. 1309).



Project # 3 Called to Prayer – Deepening Our Faith

In preparation for the reception of Confirmation, each candidate should strive to strengthen his or her own faith by participating in a communal prayer service or bible study.

For this project, attend and reflect on one of the events listed. Then answer the questions below.

- Parish Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration - Every Friday from 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- Our Lady of Fatima Devotional Rosary – First Saturday of the Month after 5 p.m. Mass
- Family Rosary: October 21st or December 2nd at 6:30 p.m.
- Parish Lenten Mission: March 2nd, 3rd, 4th at 7:30 p.m. (You may attend only one night.)
- Family Stations of the Cross: March 16th at 6:30 p.m.
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- 1. What did you attend?**
- 2. When was this event?**
- 3. Describe what happened.**
- 4. How do you feel this helped to strengthen your faith?**



A candidate for Confirmation who has attained the age of reason must profess the faith, be in the state of grace, have the intention of receiving the sacrament, and be prepared to assume the role of disciple and witness to Christ, both within the ecclesial community and in temporal affairs (CCC, no. 1319).

Project # 4 Request for Confirmation – Letter to the Pastor

Date

Dear Father Mike,

Write a letter to Fr. Mike listing your reasons for requesting the Sacrament. Tell Father Mike about your service projects and indicate to him why you believe that prayer, attending Mass each Sunday and Christian Service is a necessary and vital part of being a Confirmed Catholic. Write about your Confirmation Name and why you chose it.

Sincerely,

Your Signature

This project is a letter to Fr. Mike requesting Confirmation. The format of your letter should mirror the example above. Your typed letter should be well thought out. Place the letter in an envelope with your name on it.

- Have your parent/parents witness the letter with their signature(s).**
- Have your sponsor witness the letter with his or her signature.**

Candidates Letters of Request are presented to the Pastor and the parish community during a weekend celebration of the Eucharist.

The date of the Mass to be announced. Details will be emailed.



Project # 5 Called to Serve – Parish and Community

In Matthew's Gospel, a man asked Jesus, *"Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?"*

We call Jesus' answer the Great Commandment.

Jesus said to the man, *"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind."*

Jesus also told the man, *"You shall love your neighbor as yourself."*

For this project, please log your service, by listing the service performed, number of hours served and the supervisor or parent signature and return with the information below.

- 1. Do you think you showed love for God by what you did as service? Explain.**
- 2. How did your service show your love for "neighbor"?**
- 3. What might you do in the future to serve others?**
- 4. What are some of the ways you could serve the parish? Be specific.**

The following are suggestions for service: Volunteer as a Counselor's Helper or assist with activities for Vacation Bible School (June); Become an Altar Server; Join the Youth Choir, Instrumentalist or Chorus, at the 9:30 a.m. Family Mass or the Vision Youth Ministry Choir at the 7 p.m. Mass; Volunteer as a Catechist's Aide in the Grade 1-6 Religious Education program on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays from 4:15 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Sunday mornings from 10:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.; Help the local Community by participating in service projects sponsored by the Scouts or School.

For this project each candidate is asked to participate in service projects consisting of a minimum of 15 hours each, in both grades 7 and 8, for a total of 30 hours.

The Service Project can be a combination of activities for our parish community or local community and must be done during your Sacrament preparation year.



Project # 6 Called to Worship – We Celebrate

The Eucharist is "the source and summit of the Christian life (CCC no. 1324).

The Sunday Liturgy (Mass) is the gathering of the faithful to pray and give praise to God. During the liturgy, we hear the Word of God proclaimed. The Celebrant (priest or deacon) shares his thoughts on the Word so that we may take the Word with us as we leave Mass. One way for us to truly live out the Word of God is to spend time reflecting on what those words mean to us.

Each Candidate, with the help of their parent(s), must write a Reflection on the Gospel and Homily for four (4) Sunday Masses during the year: a Mass during Advent, a Christmas Mass, a Mass during Lent and an Easter Mass.

Suggestions on how to reflect on the Mass:

Review the Scripture before and after Sunday Mass by visiting the web site at www.usccb.org and then clicking on the calendar; Bring a small pad with you to Church and write down some thoughts or words you hear in the Gospel and Homily; Discuss the Scripture readings and the homily with your family on the way home.

When you get home write down the Scripture reference so you can refer to it when you are writing your reflection. Work on the Reflection while it is fresh in your mind.

For this project, each Reflection should include the time and date of the Mass you attended, the Presider (Priest), Scripture Reference (such as, Luke 5:1-5 - this is always listed in the bulletin) and answer these questions:

- 1. What do you think the message of the readings were?
(The homily will help you with this.)**
- 2. What do you feel God is saying to YOU at this moment in your life's journey?**